

## **The Growth 54**

Chapter 54 - 6: Frenzied Li Min

From Li Hao's perspective, it's actually very difficult to evaluate the current civilization structure of the Skeletons.

Are they a tribe?

But apart from living together year-round, they don't have anything that could be called a "leader".

But if you say they're not a tribe?

In terms of productivity and production structure, the Skeletons are no different from humans in the tribal stage.

At least, before the concept of "slaves" emerges, the Skeletons are unlikely to enter slave or feudal societies.

As for whether the concept of "slaves" could arise among the Skeletons?

Given the Skeletons' low demands for productivity and the existence of the Immortals, this possibility is very small.

Anyway, Li Hao doesn't see the future development direction of the Skeletons.

Not to mention, there's also the extremely special branch known as "Li Min" among the Skeletons.

Although these Skeletons may be extreme, they are indeed the most passionate and reform-driven existence in the current Skeleton community.

Under Shuli's leadership, the Li Min have always been fighting on the front lines of the entire race.

Whether facing ferocious beasts or dealing with extremely harsh environments...

Li Min are fearless, even somewhat enjoying it.

The "Bone Replacement Technology" was born under such circumstances, a technological crystallization unique to the civilization of the Skeletons.

[Artifact: Bone Replacement Technology]

[Type: Technology]

[Quality: Ordinary]

[Function: Allows the replacement and modification of existing bones to gain a stronger physique and abilities.]

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It's important to note that not all successfully revived Skeletons have resilient bones and suitable forms for survival.

For a considerable time, those Skeletons who only revived part of their skulls were not even recognized as members of the Skeletons.

Without a torso and mobility, those possessing only a "Central Bone" would quickly face death.

Until the first Li Min succeeded in transplanting the bones of other creatures to themselves.

Those incompletely revived "malformed individuals" were finally formally accepted by the Skeleton race.

Additionally, to facilitate communication, the Immortals creatively designed a cavity vibrating vocal organ, similar to a whistle, for them.

This gave the previously silent and obedient Skeletons the ability to actively communicate with the Immortals.

For ordinary Skeletons, the significance of [Bone Replacement Technology] might end here.

However, for the Li Min, [Bone Replacement Technology] seemed like a door to a new world, making them aware of their own strength.

It's no longer just about transplantation and replacement, but crafting a brand new form most suited for combat.

The mightiest warrior under Shuli, possibly the strongest among the Skeletons—Xiong Pi—is exactly what he did.

The name Xiong Pi was chosen from Shuli's impression of the most powerful beast.

And Xiong Pi indeed lives up to the name; his exaggerated combat performance even leaves Li Hao somewhat speechless.

The original Xiong Pi was just a frail little skeleton.

At that time, he was not as robust as an average Skeleton.

But to be worthy of the name Shuli gave him, Xiong Pi constantly challenged the fiercest beasts and ventured into the most dangerous zones.

Over time, Xiong Pi crafted a combat body for himself using the bones of the fiercest beasts.

Xiong Pi's current form somewhat resembles Li Hao's impression of a "Centaur".

The upper body features a flexible human-like torso, while the lower body boasts beast-like explosiveness.

No one would doubt the formidable combat strength of Xiong Pi in such a form.

The string of the fiercest beasts' teeth hanging from his neck is the best trophy of proof.

But what truly astonished Li Hao was Xiong Pi's "weapon".

Perhaps for more convenient combat, Xiong Pi equipped his humanoid upper body with four arms.

Two of them are for everyday convenience, structured similarly to human joints, ensuring flexibility.

On the other hand, Xiong Pi's other two arms appear somewhat ridiculous to Li Hao.

Entirely abandoning the functionality of daily living, the scythe-like right arm is purely designed for extreme lethality.

The structure is more complex and precise than any other part of the body, resembling a "cylinder" for the gigantic left arm.

The scythe-shaped right arm is easy to understand, serving as Xiong Pi's melee weapon.

Complemented by his build, weight, and speed.

Even the fiercest beasts dare not act recklessly before him.

The cylindrical left arm is a bit more complex to explain, acting as Xiong Pi's long-range attack method.

Through cultivating a special Explosive Insect, Xiong Pi made his left arm the habitat of these insects.

When faced with a crisis, Xiong Pi would trigger these Explosive Insects to self-detonate, propelling the sharpened bones in the "bullet nest" at the enemy.

Besides lacking the firepower of modern firearms, it's almost like a skeletal version of a "revolving machine gun".

Against carbon-based lifeforms, any flesh and blood penetrable by sharp bones can hardly withstand Xiong Pi's bombardment.

Li Hao is 100% sure that this is not a structure that a "brainless" brute like Xiong Pi could have created.

He can only say that the Immortals, who inherited parts of Li Hao's thinking and knowledge, truly have no self-awareness in some aspects.

Introducing such a simplified "modern weapon" during the primitive tribal era is an understatement of the deterrence this weapon brings, even calling it a Dimensional Strike.

Fortunately, the Skeletons themselves are not a species with strong desires.

Otherwise, what Li Hao might witness upon returning to this world is a feudal era filled with ongoing wars and endless conflicts.

Even so, Li Hao finds it hard to envision the upcoming "civilization road" that the Skeletons will take.

The only consolation is that, despite Xiong Pi's immense battlelust, he always remembers Shuli's teachings and never initiates attacks on weaker creatures.

When facing intelligent kindred, Xiong Pi is as naive as a fool.

Because of this, true wisemen with foresight among the Skeletons often proactively hire Li Min like Xiong Pi to lead them into unexplored realms to discover the unknown.

In this regard, Shuli has never been stingy.

As long as those Skeletons willing to explore unknown regions are ready to leave behind their wisdom and technological crystallization, he doesn't even mind escorting them personally.

From this perspective, Shuli has actually integrated better into the Skeletons than his kindred.

Although Shuli doesn't care about this himself.

Yet in the minds of a significant portion of the Skeletons, his reliability has surpassed that of other Immortals who have taught them for long periods.