

## The Growth 704

Chapter 704 10: Universal Literacy Campaign

—Bai Ze Monster Map·Dunhuang Fragment.

—At night, seeing a flash of fire, there are dozens of small children below, wearing fire crowns on their heads. This creature has two names, the top is You Guang, and the bottom is Wild Child.

—Seeing them, there are many plagues and deaths in the world, eight brothers in total.

You Guang and Wild Child are the followers of the Ancient Corpse God·Ju Bi.

Perhaps because his head was broken off by a strong enemy in his previous life, Ju Bi particularly favors this clan born from soul fire and corpses, like You Guang and Wild Child.

You Guang and Wild Child seem like two different beings, but in truth, they are one.

They cultivate by absorbing Plague Qi and Death Qi, and throughout their lives, they only pursue plague and death.

Every night, groups of You Guang and Wild Child appear in plague-ridden places, becoming synonymous with plague and death.

However, most You Guang can only manifest in flame form and cannot transform into human shapes.

After all, their bodies are Wild Children, and individually transforming the flames into other shapes is utterly meaningless to common You Guang.

"So, which of you now is the decision maker?"

Glancing at the flame face atop the young boy's head, Shu Hai curiously asked.

The You Guang of the young Wild Child was a gift from the Gods, so who exactly holds the dominant power, it or the boy himself?

"Generally, we discuss together."

"But if something is completely incomprehensible, I usually do the analysis and judgment."

The You Guang atop the young Wild Child wavered slightly, answering in a somewhat steady voice.

"Alright!"

"Then let's discuss the matter at hand!"

Shu Hai lightly tapped the ground with his foot, and a complete set of table and chairs appeared between the two.

Though manifesting a set of table and chairs in the center of the temple seemed slightly disrespectful and casual.

Considering the usual madness of the Immortals, Shu Hai's behavior was quite courteous — at least he knew to sit down to talk.

"Did you come specifically to find us this time?"

Even though he anticipated it, Wild Child involuntarily asked this question.

Since his return to the Mountain and Sea Realm, the Mountain and Sea Civilization had sent people to "Between Yin and Yang" more than once.

However, in most cases, those people couldn't even truly enter "Between Yin and Yang" to effectively communicate with Wild Child and You Guang.

"Yes, I heard that you refused to go to a nearby school to study?"

As soon as Shu Hai asked this question, Wild Child and You Guang fell silent.

The two tried hard to recall, seemingly, apparently, it seemed that someone indeed came to discuss this issue with them not long ago.

Unfortunately, Wild Child and You Guang could not grasp the concept of "school" at all.

Coupled with the unfriendly attitude of the other party, they were directly expelled from "Between Yin and Yang."

"It seems that was indeed the case..."

In the end, it was You Guang who nodded, while Wild Child wore a confused expression typical of most young boys.

"Why?"

"Why did you refuse to go to school?"

"Don't you know that by learning, you can acquire a lot of knowledge and skills, thereby integrating better into the Mountain and Sea Civilization?"

This was not only Shu Hai's question, but also a question from the high-levels of the Mountain and Sea Civilization who sent him.

Among the followers of the Ancient Gods who integrated into the Mountain and Sea Civilization, Wild Child and You Guang were among the few that outright refused to join the civilization.

If it weren't for the decent reputation of the Corpse of Ju Bi among the Old Gods of Mountains and Seas.

The Mountain and Sea Civilization might even suspect that this God was deliberately setting traps for them.

After all, this involved the Mountain and Sea Civilization's "Nationwide Literacy Program," where there were no additional charges, and they even provided various subsidies and support for those who came to learn.

These subsidies and supports included but were not limited to various implants that facilitated learning, as well as comprehensive growth and cultivation plans that were extremely beneficial for these individuals' futures.

"Why study more knowledge and skills?"

It wasn't You Guang who asked this, but Wild Child, who had come back to his senses.

"We have our own heritage and Gods, there's no need to learn your knowledge!"

This was not just a simple statement; there was even a slight sense of resistance and rejection in Wild Child's words.

"Do you think the same?"

Slightly tilting his head, Shu Hai looked at the silent You Guang and asked.

"Actually... I also think there's no need for it..."

Under Shu Hai's almost scrutinizing gaze, You Guang hesitated to answer.

"We have our independence, and you promised earlier to let us keep our traditions."

Upon hearing this, Shu Hai immediately laughed, even somewhat wantonly.

"Haha, so that's what you think?"

"You seem to be well-protected by your Gods, thinking this return to the Mountain and Sea Realm is just a simple move?"

Before You Guang and Wild Child could rebuke, Shu Hai stopped laughing and said.

"I have interacted with many Mountain and Sea Ancient Race members who returned, but your thoughts and views are the most arrogant."

"Do you think your heritage is enough?"

"Do you think this return is led by your Gods?"

"Do you think the Mountain and Sea Civilization is like the native civilizations of the worlds you've encountered before?"

"The race that controls Plague Qi and brings death, isn't this the reason most civilizations keep their distance from you?"

With a slight pause, Shu Hai's following words directly revealed the most genuine thoughts in You Guang and Wild Child's hearts.

"All you've mentioned were just excuses."

"You're merely refusing to integrate into the Mountain and Sea Civilization!"

"You're afraid, afraid that the Mountain and Sea Civilization will take your heritage secrets, afraid that you won't remain the superior race that brings death and fear."

"Because you know better than anyone..."

"In today's Mountain and Sea Realm, you're just one of the many races."

Watching Wild Child tremble, unsure if it was out of anger or fear, Shu Hai continued smiling.

"I actually don't care about all this, because you're really too insignificant."

"The secret methods you pride yourself on are merely of some research value in the eyes of the Mountain and Sea Civilization."

"You think you can bring plagues and death, but who knows that the power of civilization has long maximized the weakening of plague spread."

"In front of the Mountain and Sea Civilization, you have no advantages and no bargaining value."

Hearing Shu Hai's undisguised contempt, the boyish Wild Child immediately retorted.

"In that case, why do you insist on integrating us into you?"

"If you really think we're worthless, why not just let us maintain the status quo?"

With a slight rise at the corners of his mouth, Shu Hai surprisingly did not answer Wild Child's question.

"Maintain the status quo?"

"From the moment your Gods chose to return, you already have no qualifications to say such words."

Slowly standing up, Shu Hai casually waved away the table and chairs in front of him, then turned and walked toward the outside of the temple.

"Perhaps we've been too polite before, causing you to have some illusions."

"In fact, I'm here this time not to seek your opinion, nor to discuss with you what to do next."

"I'm just notifying you that getting every intelligent individual to learn literacy is the bottom line of the Mountain and Sea Civilization."

"You have to agree whether you agree or not."