

The Growth 734

Chapter 734 16: The Absent Moon God

Today, the Mountain and Sea Realm has a moon, but no Moon God in the true sense of the word.

This is certainly not because no one in the Mountain and Sea Realm wants to become the Moon God or because no one is qualified to be the Moon God.

On the contrary, there are many existences in the Mountain and Sea Realm attempting to advance to the status of "Moon God," leading to many conflicts and contradictions because of this.

Unfortunately, due to the special status of the moon in Mountain and Sea Civilization, no one is able to advance to become the true Moon God.

For in the ancient myths of the Mountain and Sea Civilization, the sun and moon are the eyes of the Creator.

Even if someone truly possesses the power of the Moon God, it is impossible to convince all the Mountain and Sea people that they are the eyes of the Creator.

Moreover, no deity in the Mountain and Sea Realm would be foolish enough to spread such rumors and faith.

After all, the Creator of the Mountain and Sea Realm actually exists.

No one would offend a truly supreme Creator to become the Moon God.

However, there is a rumor that in another parallel space-time of the Mountain and Sea Realm, the great Creator once endowed an unknown existence with the Divine Format of a Moon God.

According to legend, it was a winged serpent similar to Sun God·Hua She.

However, that winged serpent was not truly a snake species but a dragon with angel wings.

In view of this, the vast majority of Mountain and Sea People believe the Moon God of the Mountain and Sea Realm was born long ago, but is in another parallel space-time managing the Mountain and Sea Realm for the Creator.

One day, that ancient Moon God will return to the Mountain and Sea Realm and become the true Moon God.

By then, the Creator's gaze will eternally linger on the Mountain and Sea Realm and protect all the Mountain and Sea People.

As an outstanding member of the Golden Toad Race, Chan Meng does not believe in this legend but firmly believes in another myth passed down from the mouths of the Old Gods of Mountains and Seas.

With the return of the Old Gods of Mountains and Seas, various ancient myths that had once disappeared from the Mountain and Sea Realm began to spread anew.

This includes the myth of "Golden Toad Holding the Mortar, Jade Rabbit Pounding Medicine."

In the ancient times of the Mountain and Sea Realm, there were once two moons.

One belonged to Moon God Chang Xi, who resided in the Moon Palace year-round, with the Golden Toad and Jade Rabbit serving at her side.

After Moon God Chang Xi departed, that moon also disappeared from the Mountain and Sea Realm, leaving only the Golden Toad and Jade Rabbit to guard the lonely Guanghan Palace, awaiting the arrival of the next Moon God.

The daughter of Fu Xi and wife of Da Yi ascended to the Moon Palace in this situation, becoming Moon God Heng'e.

Until the demise of the Candle Dragon, when the Mountain and Sea Gods gradually left, the entire world entered its final decline.

All the Mountain and Sea People understood that if it were not for the coming of the Creator, the Mountain and Sea Realm might have disappeared among all the heavens and myriad realms.

In this situation, the newborn Mountain and Sea People would record and sing of those ancient myths but never considered those deities from the myths as their own.

Chan Meng similarly did not acknowledge those deities who once abandoned the Mountain and Sea Realm, but he believes in the myth of "Golden Toad Holding the Mortar, Jade Rabbit Pounding Medicine."

This belief is certainly not without reason or cause.

According to the tracing and research of Mountain and Sea Civilization, before the Creator descended, there were once some lives that migrated to the abandoned Moon Palace Divine Kingdom to escape the world-ending catastrophe.

Although no one knows the final fate of these lives.

But quite a bit of evidence proves that the Golden Toad Race is very likely their descendants.

Only with the evolution of life processes and the birth of Mountain and Sea Civilization.

The original Golden Toad Race long ago shed its original appearance, transforming into the human-like Golden Toads of today.

In fact, under the influence of convergent evolution, the life of Mountain and Sea Civilization has been unconsciously evolving towards the form of the Immortal.

Thus, the humanoid form is the most common evolutionary trend in Mountain and Sea Civilization.

However, the humanoid form of the Golden Toad Race differs from the normal humanoid shape; besides having normal four limbs, they also hide a third arm.

This coincides precisely with the image of "Three legged Golden Toad" in ancient mythology.

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[Foolish, there is simply no so-called 'Three-legged Golden Toad' in this world!]

Basking in the moonlight, Gu Tu's voice suddenly echoed in Chan Meng's mind.

As the daughter of Moon God Chang Xi, one of the twelve Moon Rabbits—Gu Tu expressed an attitude of disdain towards such far-fetched mythological legends as the "Three-legged Golden Toad."

[To really trace back, that was merely a form the brothers assumed to avoid their father's sight and accompany their mother.]

[The Three-legged Golden Toad never existed; in this world, there is only the Three-legged Golden Crow, the incarnation of the sun!]

As for this voice suddenly appearing in his mind, Chan Meng had long been accustomed to it.

Each time the moon rose, while bathing in the moonlight, he would hear this voice calling itself "Gu Tu."

Thanks to the tradition of the Golden Toad Race, Chan Meng did not have any deep feelings for his brothers and sisters, instead viewing them as stepping stones on his path of growth.

Only this voice that had always accompanied him as he grew was a unique and intimate friend in Chan Meng's heart, someone with whom he could share anything that happened.

"The reason a myth is a myth and not classified as history is precisely because of its uncertainty and self-interpretation."

Calmly exercising, Chan Meng was not at all influenced by the owner of the voice.

"No matter what the original truth was, when a legend takes root in people's hearts, the concept of 'myth' naturally arises."

"Do you think I am chasing the truth?"

"No, I'm just looking for a way out, a way out for the Golden Toad Race."

After a slight pause in his tone, Chan Meng continued to speak.

"I don't care about the truth behind the myth, just as what you describe may not be the actual truth either."

"Shortly after Moon God Heng'e's birth, you left the Mountain and Sea Realm with your Father God..."

"And yet the legend of the Golden Toad and Jade Rabbit persisted until the disappearance of Moon God Heng'e."

"Perhaps the original 'Three-legged Golden Toad' was your brothers' transformation, but the Golden Toad and Jade Rabbit during Moon God Heng'e's era aren't necessarily the same."

"Life will find its path, and convergent evolution is an unimaginable miracle."

Leaving no room for Gu Tu's rebuttal, Chan Meng's voice was calm yet firm.

"My ancestors may not have been the Three-legged Golden Toads from the moon, but there was certainly a Three-legged Golden Toad in the Moon Palace that truly existed."

"From the various ancient relics unearthed around the world, we have found evidence of the real existence of the Three-legged Golden Toad. This point is undeniable."

As Chan Meng spoke, he slowly extended his third arm.

It was a robust and sturdy three-fingered arm that was concealed in Chan Meng's abdomen, without distinction between left and right.

Faintly, it seemed that one could see the moonlight converging within this three-fingered arm—a shape of a Golden Toad manifesting in the moonlight.

[Indeed, just an obstinate foolish mortal!]

Breaking off communication with Chan Meng in anger, Gu Tu had never felt so stifled.

The current civilization of the Mountain and Sea not only lacks any sense of reverence towards the gods, but is even attempting to dissect the essence of gods and myths.

If this continues, Gu Tu feels that let alone being reborn with Chan Meng, she will likely be trapped in this body forever.