

The Growth 754

Chapter 754 12: The Price of Immortality

"Ooh!"

As the continuous, agonizing, sharp wails kept echoing in Dongjun's ears.

The overwhelming aura of death swiftly enveloped the entire void layer, accompanied by a tremor that felt like it could collapse the place.

Whoosh!

Flapping his wings again, Dongjun delved deeper towards the direction of the sound.

Soon, Dongjun saw the source of the wailing, the tremor, and the life stream mingled with the aura of death.

It was a decayed colossal beast, indistinguishable from a zombie.

With enormous, spiraling horns and sinewy limbs covered in scales...

Just lying there, it exuded a domineering and authoritative aura that enveloped half of the void layer, giving a distinctly majestic feeling.

"Ooh!"

Though the colossal beast was wailing, it made no breathing movements.

No, it was more than just not breathing...

Dongjun couldn't even hear a heartbeat that normal creatures should have, as if it had truly perished.

"Are you in pain?"

With a bit of confusion, Dongjun approached the beast.

Due to the enormous size difference between them, Dongjun seemed tiny, like an ant, before the beast.

"Do your eyes still function normally? Can you see me now?"

It was only when Dongjun voluntarily transformed into a human form and lingered by its pupils that the beast gradually ceased its wailing.

It was apparent that the beast's eyes had lost normal biological function.

Its enormous pupils couldn't reflect Dongjun's image, and even the slightest movement seemed dying and decayed.

Theoretically speaking, this beast was dead beyond dead.

Yet ironically, despite being a beast that should have thoroughly perished, it drags its decayed body, clinging to life.

If one were to describe the current state of this beast.

It's like a cooked octopus, already served on the table, even eaten a couple of bites, yet still writhing and twitching on the plate, filled with evilness.

"Who...are...you?"

Just as Dongjun thought the beast couldn't communicate, a deep voice unexpectedly emerged from its throat.

It's not the speech of a normal creature, but a decayed voice forcefully vibrated from the beast's throat.

[You don't have to strain; we can communicate mentally.]

Dongjun's face showed compassion, fully understanding the beast's current predicament.

[What happened to you?]

[Is there anything you need me to help with now?]

When Dongjun asked so kindly, the beast's wails suddenly became mournful.

Its eyes, which had lost normal biological attributes, spilled out thick liquid like pus.

[Kill me...please kill me!]

In direct mental communication, the beast's voice sounded surprisingly youthful.

Upon hearing this voice, Dongjun involuntarily froze for a moment.

Because this youthful voice clearly belonged to a teenage girl.

Realizing this, the compassion on Dongjun's face turned heavy.

[Did the Divine Lamp turn you into this?]

Suppressing the anger in his heart, Dongjun patiently and gently asked.

He swore, if all this was caused by that Divine Lamp.

Even if it's a Divine Artifact of the Creator, he would destroy this "Source of Ultimate Evil".

[No...it's nothing to do with Great Blue, it's my fault...]

The beast hastily denied Dongjun's suggestion, its voice showing the peculiar panic of a teenager in trouble.

[I made the wrong wish myself, Great Blue advised me...]

With the beast's recounting, the events that occurred to it gradually unfolded before Dongjun.

.....

Just as Dongjun speculated.

Before becoming a beast, the girl was an ordinary Mountain and Sea People.

The girl's greatest distinction from other Names of the Mountains and Seas lay within her race, which was extremely rare, with perhaps fewer than a hundred members in total.

In the official records of the Mountain and Sea Civilization, this rare race does not even have a formal name and is categorized in a very special class - Metamorphosis Species.

Metamorphosis Species, as the name suggests, are those that undergo transformation development, experiencing secondary or even multiple metamorphoses.

The most renowned race in this class is the Golden Toad Race, whose juveniles and adults have completely different appearances.

To be precise, the Canglong Race could barely be classified as a branch of Metamorphosis Species.

However, the girl's race was even more unique, capable of undergoing up to five metamorphoses.

And this was just the recorded number of metamorphoses in the Mountain and Sea Civilization, not the limit of the species.

Every metamorphosis brings earth-shattering changes, with disparities between individuals even greater than those between other races.

Due to the race's speciality and the rarity of individuals...

The girl had always relied on her parents for survival, rarely seeing her kind.

However, metamorphoses for Metamorphosis Species are never smooth.

Even the mighty Canglong faces risks when summoning thunder into themselves, let alone the rare and exceptional Metamorphosis Species.

The girl's mother, during her final metamorphosis, underwent uncontrollable genetic mutation, transforming into a fearsome Fierce Beast.

Although the City Guardian arrived timely and restrained the grotesque Fierce Beast.

The Fierce Beast still killed the girl's father and later died from malignant genetic collapse.

That day, the girl lost her father and mother, fostering an unprecedented fear of death.

Subsequently, the girl spent a considerable time at the Security Institute.

The Security Institute is a unique institution of the Mountain and Sea Civilization, serving as a combination of an orphanage, relief center, and various welfare agencies, specifically established to handle cases like the girl's.

After all, with the diverse Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas, some special races don't value offspring.

Either due to the enormous number of offspring...

Or due to lengthy growth cycles of individuals...

Or due to inherent aggression within these races...

Overall, the girl's situation wasn't unique in the Security Institute.

Thus, when the girl successfully completed her first metamorphosis, she was enrolled in a school for education through the Security Institute's arrangement.

Perhaps due to her past experiences.

The girl differed from her peers, and she firmly set her goal to become an Ascender from the start.

While her peers still wondered about their futures, the girl had already embarked on the path to pursue immortality.

To become an Ascender, advance to a Demigod, and then a true God...

This was the life goal the girl arranged for herself, a path to completely escape death.

Though there may be interludes or hesitations, the girl always firmly believed in her path, unwilling to meet a tragic end like her parents.