

## **The Growth 78**

Chapter 78 - 6: The Impoverished True God (1/5)

Half an hour later.

Under the escort of staff from the 749th Bureau, the unconscious Moloka was taken into the police car.

"So... are we just being robbed?"

He Bo touched his empty pockets, never having regretted his habit of carrying cash around so much before.

Clearly, we've entered the era of electronic payments, yet he stubbornly preferred cash.

To be honest, He Bo was beginning to suspect whether that Fire God was deliberately targeting him, otherwise how did it find the pocket where he hid his cash so quickly?

"Isn't it just two thousand bucks? I'll reimburse you when we get back!"

With a nonchalant pat on He Bo's shoulder, Yazi wore an expression that reeked of generosity with someone else's money.

"Reimburse?"

"That's only if it can be reimbursed!"

"How should I fill out the reimbursement reason?"

"Redeemed the Bureau's most wanted criminal from a Fire God?"

"And that most wanted criminal was valued so cheaply at just two thousand bucks?"

If Huo Dou asked for even a bit more, He Bo could shamelessly apply for special operations funds from the higher-ups.

"Relax! At worst, I'll transfer it to you privately afterward!"

"More than this little thing, I'm now more curious about the origins of that Fire God."

"Do you think he really needs money, or is he just doing us a favor?"

Facing Yazi's perplexity, He Bo couldn't help but ponder.

"Probably... he really needs money!"

"After all, if he was simply doing us a favor, he wouldn't have rummaged even my inner pocket for a few hundred bucks of cash."

He Bo could tell from Huo Dou's every move that the other party was truly broke.

After all, before joining the 749th Bureau, He Bo himself had experienced poverty, so he knew very well the difference between actual poverty and pretending to be poor.

"And judging from his refusal of bank cards and electronic payments..."

"Either he's very concerned about exposing his identity, or he simply doesn't have a bank card or phone."

Wearing a somewhat strange expression, He Bo recalled Yazi's previous analysis once again.

"I think... the latter possibility should be higher."

In He Bo's understanding, if Huo Dou truly didn't want to be exposed, then he shouldn't have shown up in the first place.

Not even to mention chasing down the avatars of Yazi and Moloka all night yesterday, completely annihilating those avatars.

"Hmm, I think so too."

Nodding in strong agreement, Yazi also thought the same.

"Then do you think there's a possibility..."

"Could we somehow make that Fire God become our 'external support'?"

At these words, He Bo's expression twitched again, and he instinctively felt an ominous feeling rising within.

"What are you trying to do?"

With a sly smile on his face, Yazi just patted He Bo on the shoulder and whispered.

"Carrying cash is indeed a good habit!"

"Next time we go on a mission, remember to bring more."

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Meanwhile, inside Li Hao's apartment.

"Carrying two thousand bucks with him, that guy called He Bo is really rich!"

Excitedly counting the cash in his hand, Li Hao's current demeanor didn't resemble someone who possesses an entire world's True God status at all.

Actually, you can't blame Li Hao for not being worldly; he's been sensitive to "money" through two lifetimes of poverty.

Especially now, he's a high school senior, and he hasn't even gotten his ID yet.

With this extra two thousand bucks, it means Li Hao's living expenses for this semester are basically covered.

The most important thing is, with this extra income, Li Hao can finally buy some things he wants.

For example, a computer he's been longing for a while.

Li Hao hasn't forgotten his idea of converting the Chronicles of Time from books into a computer.

After all, he is a progressive youth living in a modern society.

Compared to flipping through books to find information, Li Hao truly prefers using a computer.

As for whether two thousand bucks can buy a usable computer?

Li Hao thinks that if he's not picky, scavenging for parts to assemble a decent desktop should be doable.

"Too bad I can't buy online, so I can only check out the nearby computer city."

Li Hao's current phone is bound to his elder sister's ID information.

Although his elder sister has always been generous, never minding if Li Hao spends a little of her pocket money.

But having lived through two lives, he ultimately has his own boundaries.

To avoid alarming his family, online shopping was first ruled out from his options.

"Huo Dou, I'm heading out next, I'll leave the house to you."

Taking his phone and keys, Li Hao turned around and instructed Huo Dou before leaving the house.

"Woof! Woof!"

Watching Li Hao leave, Huo Dou's tail wagged wildly, just like any loyal and simple-minded dog.

"Flatterer!"

At this moment, Hua She, who had appeared in the real world unbeknownst to them, looked at Huo Dou with disdain.

Of course, she was also summoned by Li Hao specifically for house-sitting.

It's not that Li Hao distrusted Huo Dou; it's just that Hua She was quite suited to manage the household in all aspects.

Especially after Li Hao had animated all his commonly used items, a mere Huo Dou obviously couldn't intimidate all the "Charm."

Or to be more precise, given Huo Dou's intelligence, it's already considered high IQ if it doesn't get fooled around by those "Charm" creatures.

After all, the Huo Dou recorded in ancient books always guarded against external threats, and was undoubtedly loyal internally.

"Everyone settle down!"

"Don't think you can do whatever you please just because the God of Gods is not home!"

Suddenly turning to glance at a certain book on the bookshelf, Hua She chastised with a commanding tone imbued with divine authority.

Rustle...

The books, which were just about to jump out of the shelf, trembled in fear, and the eyes that peered open on their cover quickly closed again.

Along with this, other restless "Charm" also immediately reverted to their original form, not daring to make any disturbance.

"Woof?"

It was only then that Huo Dou reacted and stared at Hua She with a tilted head, looking puzzled.

"What are you looking at? Never seen a snake scold someone, huh? Silly dog!"

Having no interest in bantering with Huo Dou, Hua She, after lightly cursing, slithered onto a table lamp to enter a semi-dormant state.

In this place symbolized as the {Fallen Area} where the Gods' tales meet their end.

All entities and powers that do not belong to this world are greatly weakened.

Therefore, while Hua She was a monstrous being in the Mountain and Sea Realm, here, she requires a long rest to even slightly use her Divine Power.

Only Li Hao, this Mysterious Creature, can retain his God identity and capabilities to the greatest extent.

In essence, though Li Hao is not a revived Ancient God, he resembles an Ancient God more than any actual revived Ancient God.

Even Hua She, who is gradually restoring her past Power, can only rely on Li Hao's Power to appear briefly on Earth.

After all, though many Ancient Gods have revived through time.

How many among them could regain a Divine Kingdom of their own?

Trapped in the {Fallen Area}, they are destined to watch themselves fade away, until time eventually erases every trace of their existence.