

The Growth 83

Chapter 83 - 11: Born Leader (1/5)

Starting a war is easy, but ending one is extremely difficult.

Even with the prestige of the Immortals, wanting to end a war filled with hatred and slaughter is not an easy task.

The deep-seated hatred between the Skeletons and the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas has long been etched into their very bones.

At this time, when even the Immortals were at their wit's end, a true leader emerged among the Skeletons for the first time - Gu Sheng.

In fact, Gu Sheng had been active on the front lines since the beginning of the war.

From the first war between the Skeletons and the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas to the final "Battle of Jiuli," Gu Sheng's presence never disappeared.

However, its appearance on the front lines was not for slaughter, but for salvation.

Whether Skeletons or the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas, they all recognized this "Mysterious Creature" that frequently saved people from mountains of corpses and seas of blood.

The bemusement of the Skeletons, the hatred of the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas...

Gu Sheng had more than once been attacked by those it had saved.

As a result, Gu Sheng once again demonstrated a formidable combat power completely inconsistent with its character and behavior at this moment.

— Clearly not a Prophet, yet possessing inscrutable powers like a Ghost God.

— Clearly not an Immortal, yet able to perform Exorcism like an Immortal.

In an extremely short period, Gu Sheng's existence became known to both sides of the war simultaneously.

Regarding this, both the Skeletons and the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas tacitly chose to ignore this "Mysterious Creature."

This situation continued until the later stages of the war, when dozens of tribes mastering Bone Replacement Technology decided to launch a full-scale attack, even starting to target the Immortals who had always been helping the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas.

Gu Sheng, who always harbored hopes for peace, finally stood up and used the prestige it had accumulated over hundreds of years to call for an end to the war.

In a group of Skeletons without any class concepts, Gu Sheng's behavior could hardly be described as anything other than "Mysterious Creature."

Ironically, Gu Sheng's actions gained the support of a considerable number of Skeletons who were already war-weary.

The word "leader" appeared in the history of the Skeletons for the first time.

Like a small snowball rolling in the snow.

The anti-war wave stirred by Gu Sheng eventually formed an avalanche big enough to affect the entire war situation.

Apart from those who had personally experienced that battle, no one could clearly describe how tragic that great battle was back then.

Everyone only knew the final outcome - the "Battle of Jiuli" was a great decisive battle without a winner.

The Skeletons and the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas both suffered heavy losses, and both sides chose to lay down their arms and recuperate.

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Crack!

As the Skeleton Gate above him slowly opened.

A Ke slowly crawled out of his home, bathing in the morning sunlight.

Crawling out of the gate alongside A Ke was also a four-legged Bone Beast, slightly larger than him.

For the Skeletons nowadays, Bone Beasts are no longer just tamed livestock.

Living together, eating together, sleeping together...

The status of Bone Beasts among the Skeletons has almost equated to that of family.

After all, for the naturally born and raised Skeletons, "family" has always been a concept promoted to them by the Immortals.

They only knew it was a term closer than clan members, yet they had never personally experienced the emotion called "kinship."

The appearance of the Bone Beast was, in a sense, a sign of the Skeletons gradually moving towards civilization.

"You're late again, A Ke!"

Standing on an open ground not far from A Ke.

Another Skeleton, who had been waiting for a long time, waved his bone arm, his words filled with dissatisfaction.

"Well, the 'Water Drop Clock' at home is broken, didn't notice the time."

Pulled tighter the black robe shrouded over his body, A Ke, baring only a skull, replied softly.

"You've used the same excuse four times, next time try a more reliable reason."

If the Skeletons had eyes, A Ke surely would have seen this Skeleton rolling his eyes almost to the sky.

"Hmm, I'll pay attention."

Unsure if he meant paying attention to the time or finding a more reliable reason.

A Ke's response immediately annoyed the other, but unfortunately, annoyance was all he could do.

"A Ya, didn't you go to learn from the Prophet today?"

Before A Ya could explode in anger, the rigid yet adaptable A Ke skillfully changed the topic.

"Today's Prophet went to the altar, heard it's a major 'Zhiku' meeting."

Sure enough, A Ya's face quickly shifted from anger to distress.

The "Zhiku system" is a unique social system developed by the Skeletons over these past centuries.

Since the vast majority of Skeletons have few desires.

Therefore, establishing a social system with clear divisions of labor and hierarchical relationships within such a group is undoubtedly a huge challenge.

Thus, a special social system was born that brought together the most experienced, wisest Prophets among Skeletons.

Then, by mutual discussion and compromise, a way to solve problems emerged.

After hundreds of years of development, this social system, which originally arose from the need for war, has taken shape.

Now, being able to join "Zhiku" no longer requires being a Prophet.

Those with special talents and elites from various industries among the Skeletons can choose to join "Zhiku."

Undoubtedly, this special social system can only exist among the desire-less Skeletons, a characteristic the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas haven't learned in centuries.

"Another large conference?"

Seemingly somewhat surprised, or perhaps merely humoring A Ya...

Gently stroking the four-legged Bone Beast beside him, A Ke's hollow eye sockets beneath the black robe seemed to gaze beyond the horizon.

"Is it discussing the city's road layout this time?"

"Or planning to grow a new 'Bone Forest'?"

White Bone City is a natural wall formed by the natural growth from the skeletons of deceased Bone Beasts.

To carry out daily maintenance on these walls, a considerable part of White Bone City is dedicated to housing those near-death Bone Beasts.

"No, we haven't fought with the Hundred Races in decades."

"Although there have been a few conflicts lately, under the leader's guidance, the fire Qi is barely under control."

Pausing slightly, A Ya continued to speak.

"But, I always feel that this peace may not last long."

"The leader intends to negotiate with the nearby Merfolk before a full-blown war breaks out."