

The Growth 88

Chapter 88 - 16: The New Ascension Ladder (1/5)

[The development trajectory of the Mountain and Sea Realm... is becoming more and more incomprehensible.]

Silently watching the battle between A Ke and the Storm Rays, Li Hao couldn't help but sigh again in the unseen realms.

On the surface, the Mountain and Sea Realm seems to still be in a very primitive state.

Apart from the Skeletons, intelligent life has just been born, and whether in terms of intelligence level or civilization degree, they are at the initial stage of intelligent beings' birth.

However, due to the existence of the Netherworld and Immortals.

These intelligent beings, who not long ago just emerged from ignorance, have entered the tribal stage of primitive civilization at an astonishing speed.

They have learned to cooperate, learned to use tools, and even learned warfare...

Besides, the creatures born in the Mountain and Sea Realm naturally possess the formidable abilities that Earth creatures lack.

To say nothing else, just look at A Ke and the Storm Rays currently fighting.

The combat power they are displaying now is already comparable to the destructive power caused by modern weapons.

Every breath of the Storm Ray can form a storm within a hundred meters around it.

Coupled with its inherent ability to soar freely between the ocean and the sky.

Li Hao even suspects whether this creature has mastered some special magnetic field ability, which allows its enormous body to soar freely in the air away from the ocean.

After all, in Earth's evolutionary history, it seems that there has never been a creature that could be amphibious in both sky and ocean.

At least with Li Hao's current knowledge reserves, he could not temporarily find an Earth creature meeting such conditions.

In comparison, the existence of A Ke can hardly be described as merely "stunning."

From a long time ago, Li Hao knew that the Skeletons were using [Bone Replacement Technology] to transform themselves.

To make themselves more like Immortals...

To possess more aggressive biological weapons...

Or simply to have a longer lifespan...

The birth of [Bone Replacement Technology] is far more significant than how humans learned to use tools.

But he never thought that the Skeletons would use [Bone Replacement Technology] to create artificial life.

It should be known that humans only created the first true artificial life — Cloned Sheep Dolly — in the last few years of the 20th century.

Skeletons in the primitive civilization stage astonishingly surpassed humans in this regard.

It is undeniable that the birth of the Second Generation Skeletons involved huge elements of coincidence.

The emergence of Bone Beasts, the rampage of Evil Ghosts, coupled with the Immortals' Exorcism and Demon Control Skill...

The accumulation of all these coincidences ultimately prompted the birth of the Second Generation Skeletons.

But equally noteworthy is that A Ke, representing the Second Generation Skeletons, is indeed a super entity artificially created.

A Ke's body's structure is specifically designed for combat and slaughter.

Each of its arms can independently hold and use a powerful weapon.

Katanas, swords, scythes, chains, spears, rings...

As the battle continues, A Ke constantly draws ribs and even spine from its body, transforming them into its most used various weapons.

These bones originating from Bone Beasts possess not only astonishing strength but can regenerate new structures quickly even if broken.

If it weren't for A Ke not being the sort of Skeleton who excels in thinking and learning nor ever thought of taming those temperamental Explosive Insects...

Li Hao doesn't doubt at all whether it could mimic Xiong Pi's "Bone Revolver" to enhance its fighting power.

Fighting storms, battling Rays...

A Ke, fully unleashing its desire to kill, naturally gave birth to a heroic spirit of fighting against the heavens and earth.

"Ha!"

In the next moment, A Ke suddenly, as if blessed with sudden insight, howled towards the sky amidst the storm.

In a daze, the storm was halted at this moment.

A Ke seemed to see an indescribable existence in this moment, seeing that majestic figure standing above all beings.

—That is... the Creator!

With such a thought flashing in its mind, A Ke's body suddenly bloomed like a lotus.

Sharp bone spurs shot out like long spears, instantly piercing through the Storm Ray that was still evenly matched with it just a moment ago.

"A Ke!?"

On the nearby Bone Ship, all the Skeletons were shocked by A Ke's sudden outburst at this moment.

With their experiences, they could in no way understand how A Ke managed to scatter all its bones in an instant.

Even more incomprehensible to them is why those bone spurs, transformed into "spears," have such formidable destructive power?

That has already exceeded the limitations of normal physical rules.

In human terms, this is completely unscientific!

"Ascender?"

Staring at A Ke with the same astonishment, Gu Sheng was even more aware than the Skeletons present of what was happening to the other party.

A Ke is breaking through its limits, the limits of the Skeletons, becoming an existence infinitely close to Immortals like the Gods.

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[A new Ascension Ladder?]

In fact, those who feel shocked by A Ke include not only everyone on the Bone Ship.

Li Hao is also feeling shocked at the changes happening to A Ke, even more so than Gu Sheng, who has only a partial understanding.

In the current Mountain and Sea Realm, there are two roads to becoming an Ascender.

The first is brought by Hua She, through assimilating with the Primordial Power symbolizing the essence of all things, to make one's form of life approach or even become the Gods.

The second is the [Exorcism and Demon Control Skill] that Li Hao acquired from the Faceless.

[Exorcism and Demon Control Skill] is essentially a way for the Jiuge divine pantheon to cultivate successors, by commanding, manipulating, or even imbuing all things with spirituality to become the supreme True God.

There is no difference in superiority between the two, the distinction lies only in learning difficulty and adaptability.

Hua She's Ascension to Divinity Technique requires extremely high qualifications.

At the current stage of the Mountain and Sea Realm, besides the Immortals, there is basically no organism that can withstand the backlash brought by assimilation with all things.

Jiuge's Ascension to Divinity Technique does not require such a high constitution.

But the requirement in wisdom and emotion is no less than the former.

Only beings with abundant emotions and wisdom can endow all things with true spirituality.

From this, one can also see the characteristics of the Jiuge divine pantheon or Jiuge civilization — it's a civilization full of wisdom and emotions.

However, the current A Ke has opened a third Path to Divinity outside the two existing roads.

More accurately, this is truly the Path to Divinity belonging to the Mountain and Sea Realm, and it is the Ascension to Divinity Technique most suitable for the Skeleton race.

Unearthing the hidden power within, ascending to the pinnacle with a skeleton body.

The Ascension sequence pioneered by A Ke is to forcibly elevate the body with a powerful and pure soul, thereby reaching the truly extraordinary state.