Es. Benefits 1021

Chapter 1021: Initial Exploration of Ziyang World

After the puppet had been refined, Lu Chen directly went to where the two worlds intersected.

At this moment on the vast sea, several huge immortal boats were floating, and there were also some floating islands. Seeing Lu Chen's immortal boat appear above the sea, the elders in charge of guarding the crack in the barrier and the generals of Great Sum immediately came to greet him.

"Your Majesty, long live the Emperor, may you live forever!"

Lu Chen said indifferently, "Dispense with the formalities."

As Lu Chen's words fell, the Great Elder Wei Jixing of the Wanxian Sect immediately came before Lu Chen, "Your Majesty, may I ask what brings you here this time?"

Lu Chen replied, "I am just casually looking around, you all don't need to mind me too much, go back to your respective duties."

Hearing this, the elders from other powers tactfully dispersed, except for Wei Jixing who, after all, was the main person in charge of guarding the barrier. With the Emperor's arrival, he naturally had to stay by his side the whole time.

Lu Chen then came to the crack in the barrier and, after glancing at the rock that had intruded into the Tianchen World, he asked, "There shouldn't be any anomalies at the crack, right?"

Wei Jixing answered, "Your Majesty, there aren't any. We don't know if the people from the other world have yet to discover this crack. Ever since we've been here, there hasn't been even the slightest spiritual power fluctuation at the crack."

Lu Chen said, "The other side is the cultivation world. They couldn't possibly fail to sense such a huge change, but perhaps they don't know they've collided with a lower world, so they dare not rashly send people to explore." Wei Jixing agreed, "What Your Majesty says is true."

At this moment, Lu Chen looked at the crack and fell into thought. If he sent a puppet to the other side and there were people guarding the crack, wouldn't it be a direct confrontation?

The fact that no one from the other side had come to probe indicated they still had some wariness of the Tianchen World. Once they found out that he had sent over merely a puppet, they might believe that this world was of no great concern, which could lead to more people entering this world.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen started to hesitate on whether to send the puppet over.

After some time, Lu Chen convinced himself. If they never investigated the other side's situation, they could only remain in a stalemate.

After all, it was just a puppet. He didn't believe the other side could discern much from a puppet, and with this thought, Lu Chen directly took out the puppet.

Seeing someone who looked exactly like Lu Chen appear beside him, Elder Wei was stunned for a moment, but he quickly noticed that this "person" had only a trace of spiritual power fluctuation, nothing compared to Lu Chen's aura.

Still, Elder Wei misunderstood, thinking that the "person" beside Lu Chen was a clone of himself, as the two looked identical.

This shocked Elder Wei. He didn't expect that their Majesty had not yet reached the Divinity Transformation Realm and yet was already capable of creating a clone.

Under Elder Wei's gaze, Lu Chen sent the puppet into the crack and then employed the puppetry technique to share the puppet's vision.

After the puppet entered the crack, Lu Chen's vision was a vast expanse of white and saw nothing at first. After a while, the perspective of the puppet gradually became clear.

Beneath the puppet's feet lay a continuous mountain range, and the giant rock that crashed into the Tianchen World was one of the peaks.

The mountains had an endless forest, and it was incredibly quiet. Aside from the plants, nothing else seemed to be around.

This...

Lu Chen tried to sense the surroundings through the puppet but realized the puppet couldn't release much spiritual power, as it was only a product of the Primary Puppet Skill.

Lu Chen frowned; in this state, he could only rely on sight to glean information about this world.

No matter; finding people was the priority. He then controlled the puppet to walk down the mountain. However, after only a few steps, Lu Chen discovered he could no longer control the puppet to move forward.

What...

How far had he gotten?

Lu Chen then tried several more times, but it was no use. It seemed he could only control his puppet to walk that far.

Lu Chen then asked the system, "System, I was able to control a puppet across several counties in the Tianchen World, so why isn't it possible now?"

As soon as Lu Chen's words fell, the system's prompt sounded.

"Although the two worlds appear to have collided, they have not fused. The laws of the two worlds are different, so the distance over which you can control a puppet is also restricted by these laws."

This...

Did this mean that his plan to explore that world through controlling a puppet had failed?

At that moment, a line of small print appeared before Lu Chen's eyes.

[Ziyang World]

This appeared to be the name of this world, but apart from the name, Lu Chen still knew nothing about this world's circumstances.

Forget it. I might as well send people over directly.

Thinking this, Lu Chen recalled his puppet.

He always felt that there was something strange about that world, a large mountain surrounded by forests, yet without any animals or insects, as if it were a land of the dead.

No wonder that after the collision of the two worlds, the Ziyang World had not sent anyone over. There might be some problem with that mountain, and even if the people of the Ziyang World were aware of the collision, they probably wouldn't dare to send anyone into that mountain lightly.

In a short while, Lu Chen withdrew his puppet. Seeing that Lu Chen's puppet had returned so quickly, Grand Elder Wei Jixing curiously asked, "Your Majesty, did you encounter any enemies?"

Lu Chen said indifferently, "No, the place where the worlds collided is a large mountain. Inside the mountain, aside from plants, there seems to be no sign of life. It's extremely quiet and a bit eerie."

"I plan to send people over to explore in some time."

Having said this, Lu Chen then turned around and spoke, "Alright, Elder Wei, you continue to oversee here. I am going to head back."

As his words ended, Lu Chen and his puppet returned to the Feihong Immortal Boat, where Wei Jixing bowed and said, "I bid Your Majesty farewell!"

After returning to the Immortal Boat, Lu Chen went back to the Daxia Imperial Palace. He was now feeling a bit frustrated. He had thought he could control a puppet to clearly find out about the situation in that world, but there turned out to be nothing in that large mountain, and the range of puppet control had been limited.

Considering the strange circumstances of that mountain, he also didn't dare to directly send people in.

Forget it. This just gives me more time to prepare. After all, it will take a hundred years for the two worlds to fully fuse.

In the evening.

At the Daxia Yancheng Imperial Palace, Wind Cloud Palace.

At this time, Chu Yuqin, Mu Zixuan, and Yelv Nanyan were still in the great hall, as they were the three who would serve Lu Chen tonight.

At that moment, Lu Chen was controlling Yelv Nanyan's waist while busily attending to his own matters, speaking to Chu Yuqin on the side, "Madam Chu, today I controlled a puppet to go explore the neighboring Cultivation World."

Hearing these words, Chu Yuqin straightened up in her seat and looked at Lu Chen, asking, "Did you encounter any cultivators from that world?"

Lu Chen replied, "No, the place where it touches the Tianchen World is a large mountain, but apart from plants, there were no other living creatures."

"Huh... Madam Chu, what do you think could be inside that mountain?"

As his words ended, Lu Chen began to exert force on Yelv Nanyan, and after thinking a moment, Chu Yuqin responded, "Could it be that something is sealed beneath that mountain, which is why the animals and the cultivators from that world dare not approach?"

Chapter 1022: Absorbing the Qi Fortune of Tianchen World

Hearing Chu Yuqin's words, Lu Chen exercised while thinking, feeling there was some truth to them.

The mountain was indeed a bit strange. Even though it was a puppet he had sent into the mountain, the sensations transmitted back to him through the puppet still felt somewhat oppressive.

The key issue was the puppet's perception was too singular; to understand the exact situation, he would likely have to go there himself.

However, he was a cautious man. Until he was certain that the other world was absolutely safe, he had no intention of going there himself.

At this moment, Yelv Nanyan dared not make too much noise, fearful of interrupting Lu Chen's train of thought, she could only murmur and mumble.

But then, Lu Chen suddenly intensified his efforts, and Yelv Nanyan couldn't hold back any longer, letting out a cry of "Ah."

Lu Chen spoke up again, "It's also unclear what level of strength the thing sealed beneath that mountain possesses."

Chu Yuqin suggested, "Why not send someone to investigate?"

Lu Chen flipped Yelv Nanyan over to face him and, submerging himself, said, "That's what I was thinking. But not right now. For the two worlds to merge, it would take at least a hundred years. If no one from the other world comes over, I plan to drag it out until the people from the Black Dragon Holy Land arrive."

Yin Zhengye was a powerhouse at the Divinity Transformation Realm, and the Black Dragon Holy Land had no lack of powerful individuals. By the time they would arrive, even if the Ziyang World truly had some formidable entities, with the Black Dragon Holy Land involved, it shouldn't be a big problem. Seeing that Lu Chen had his own plans, Chu Yuqin didn't say much more. At this time, Yelv Nanyan suddenly rolled her eyes back, and Lu Chen finally let her be, his gaze instantly turning towards Mu Zixuan, who was staring off into space.

Mu Zizuan was staring at Lu Chen with her mouth agape, realizing that his ability to multitask was getting stronger and stronger. He was clearly engaged in such activities but was still able to discuss issues with Chu Yuqin normally.

Seeing Mu Zixuan blush and look at him, Lu Chen said with a smile, "Zixuan, you're still watching? If you keep it up, Nanyan might just blow her top."

Mu Zixuan immediately understood Lu Chen's meaning, and she then lay down slowly in front of him. At this time, Chu Yuqin continued, "Chen'er, have you visited my child world recently? It seems that animals have started to appear there."

Lu Chen replied, "I did. The flow of time in the child world is different from ours, and it won't be long before intelligent life emerges there."

One year in the child world was equivalent to just one day in their world. The years had gone by, and thousands of years had already passed within the child world.

As Lu Chen finished speaking, he and Mu Zixuan got into it again, starting to play with Mu Zixuan once more.

At this point, Chu Yuqin continued to inquire, "I feel like my strength has been increasing rapidly lately. It might be related to the emergence of animal life in the child world."

Lu Chen replied, "Huff, huff... That is indeed the case. The more flora and fauna in the child world, the stronger the main body becomes."

With that said, Lu Chen looked down at Mu Zixuan, whose eyes swirled with seduction, and asked with a laugh, "Zixuan, do you also want to nurture a child world? You have fully activated the Mysterious Female Technique."

Mu Zixuan did not answer, letting Lu Chen do as he pleased.

Chu Yuqin asked, "Then how would Zixuan and the others be able to nurture child worlds?"

Their talents weren't sufficient, and their strength increased slowly. If they could nurture a child world and borrow its power, this would compensate for their lack of talent.

To that, Lu Chen responded, "To nurture a child world, one needs abundant Qi Fortune of the world. At the very least, one needs to absorb half of a lower world's Qi Fortune. Zixuan and the others are not yet capable of nurturing a child world."

Chu Yuqin then asked, "What about the Tianchen World's Qi Fortune?"

Upon hearing this question, Lu Chen paused for a moment, and after a while, he began to move again. Simultaneously, he asked the system in his mind, "System, if I let my wives absorb half of Tianchen World's Qi Fortune, would they be able to nurture child worlds?"

The system immediately responded, "Yes."

Upon hearing this response, Lu Chen was immediately tempted, and his actions became even fiercer.

Mu Zixuan, with barely a breath left, said, "Your... Your Majesty, spare my life..."

As the surging spiritual power poured into Mu Zixuan's body, Lu Chen quickly regained his composure. On second thoughts, if Mu Zixuan really absorbed half of the Tianchen World's qi fortune, wouldn't Tianchen World be especially unlucky from then on?

Thinking this, Lu Chen asked the system, "What might happen to the Tianchen World if my wives were to absorb half of its qi fortune?"

The system replied, "There might be collisions with multiple worlds, but a world's qi fortune is tied to the people within it. Even if it loses qi fortune, it will recover in time."

Lu Chen pondered for a moment. He needed to become stronger, and to do so, he needed the system's help. Betting half of the world's qi fortune for a reward from the system seemed worth it—if he was lucky, he might obtain something valuable.

With this in mind, Lu Chen said to the system, "How do I absorb the qi fortune of the world?"

The system responded, "Become the master of this world. As the Realm Master of Tianchen World, you can absorb its qi fortune whenever you wish."

Lu Chen then looked down at Mu Zixuan and attempted to feel the world's qi fortune. The next moment, he saw what seemed like invisible goldish clouds in the sky.

Could this be the qi fortune?

As the question formed in Lu Chen's mind, the system's prompt sounded, "Yes."

"But that is the national fortune of the Daxia Dynasty. The world's qi fortune is the white clouds farther away."

Lu Chen stopped his actions, paying careful attention. The next moment, his divine sense seemed to leap out of the Tianchen World, hovering above a spherical globe with white clouds floating inside.

Is that the qi fortune of Tianchen World?

The system prompt sounded again, "Yes."

Lu Chen then attempted to absorb the world's qi fortune, and with just a thought, the white clouds rushed towards him.

In a short moment, half of Tianchen World's white clouds had entered his body.

Lu Chen felt carefully and realized that this qi fortune seemed to have no effect. With so much qi fortune entering his body, he did not feel overwhelmed; it was as if it did not exist at all, quite mysterious.

At this moment, the purple mist above his head suddenly surged, and Lu Chen realized that this must be the qi fortune of Tianchen World transforming into his own qi fortune.

Could it really work like this?

Then, the qi fortune he lost when having children, could it be replenished in this way?

Meanwhile, Mu Zixuan, realizing that Lu Chen had stopped, gazed at Lu Chen with deep and quiet eyes. Although she had pleaded for mercy just now, she certainly hadn't meant for Lu Chen to stop completely.

After a while, Lu Chen's gaze returned to Mu Zixuan.

Lu Chen asked with a smile, "Zixuan, will you help me nurture a child world too?"

Mu Zixuan did not understand what a child world was, but she knew Lu Chen would not harm her. She squirmed slightly and softly hummed in agreement.

Without any more hesitation, Lu Chen leaned down, kissed Mu Zixuan's red lips, and began to invest himself wholeheartedly in her.

Afterward, he transformed the absorbed qi fortune from Tianchen World into purple qi fortune and wildly funneled it into Mu Zixuan's body.

Seeing Lu Chen suddenly become so fierce, Yelv Nanyan, who stood aside, felt a lingering fear, grateful that her turn was over.

Chapter 1023: Mu Zixuan Nurtures the Child World

The Qi Fortune of the world was incredibly dense, and Lu Chen had spent half a month transferring all the Qi Fortune he had absorbed to Mu Zixuan.

However, Mu Zixuan, for now, only possessed the conditions necessary to cultivate a child world, and it would still require Lu Chen's efforts to actually bring it forth.

In the following half-year period, Lu Chen's focus was entirely on Mu Zixuan, making her somewhat miserable. She initially thought that cultivating a child world would be as easy as bearing a child, but half a year had passed without any sign of progress.

During this time, she felt her body becoming more and more voluptuous; she didn't know if it was because Lu Chen was transferring Spiritual Power to her daily. Despite exercising every day, her body seemed to become even more curvaceous.

Wind Cloud Palace.

Dressed in a long red gown, the dignified Mu Zixuan was half-reclining on a large bed. Based on her experiences over the past six months, Lu Chen would likely come to the Wind Cloud Palace again tonight.

Just as the setting sun gradually faded away and the red twilight shone into the hall, a long figure appeared in the middle of the hall.

Upon recognizing it was Lu Chen, Mu Zixuan's expression was complex, filled with anticipation and a bit of fear. She then squeezed out a slight smile and slowly got up.

"Your Majesty, this servant greets you!"

Lu Chen, with a smile, approached Mu Zixuan and held her jade arm, saying, "You came again, we're already an old couple."

As soon as he finished speaking and before Mu Zixuan could respond, Lu Chen wrapped his arms around her voluptuous body and pressed her onto the soft couch.

Mu Zixuan lay on the soft couch, staring intently at Lu Chen as he gently caressed her jadelike face, saying, "Zixuan, you have suffered a lot these past six months."

Mu Zixuan replied, "This servant is only doing her duty."

Lu Chen also knew that Mu Zixuan was somewhat overwhelmed, although her Cultivation State might have improved due to the influence of the Qi Fortune in the last six months, reaching the Second Realm of Heavenly Man. But Lu Chen was aware of his own strength. Neither Yun Xianxian nor Su Hanyan could withstand his torrential poundings, how could Mu Zixuan, who had just become a Celestial Cultivator, possibly be his match?

Lu Chen felt a pang of sympathy for Mu Zixuan; every time they cultivated together, he found it hard to control himself, especially since Mu Zixuan was also practicing the Mysterious Female Technique.

Of course, both of them knew the Rejuvenating Skill, so they never felt discomfort. But the main reason Mu Zixuan struggled was because the joy brought by cultivation clouded her senses.

Particularly after the act, when the sensation still lingered, she would feel as if she was floating when she walked—a feeling even the Rejuvenating Skill couldn't dispel.

At that moment, Mu Zixuan asked, "Your Majesty, Sister Chu mentioned that the beings born in the child world would all be considered our children?"

Lu Chen answered with a smile, "That's true, but the children of the child world are different from Feng'er and the others; there's no blood relation between us and the children of the child world."

Hearing Lu Chen's response, for some reason, maternal instincts surged within Mu Zixuan. Suddenly, she longed to see her and Lu Chen's offspring populate the entire child world, with countless people calling her mother.

While Mu Zixuan was lost in thought, Lu Chen's hand moved under her skirt. Mu Zixuan blushed slightly and gazed at Lu Chen affectionately, not asking any more questions.

They were an old couple by now, and both knew very well what to do next.

As Mu Zixuan's clothes disappeared, Lu Chen lowered himself upon her. With a soft murmur from Mu Zixuan, Lu Chen sealed her red lips with his mouth, their lips and teeth meshing together. While moving, Lu Chen silently asked the system in his mind, "System, it's already been half a year. Why hasn't Mu Zixuan cultivated a child world yet? Surely she meets the conditions by now?"

The system replied, "Cultivating a child world is similar to bearing offspring; the higher the host's Cultivation State, the less likely it is for a child world to be cultivated. The host needs to try harder."

Hearing the system's response, Lu Chen sighed inwardly. Well, it seemed he would have to push Mu Zixuan even harder.

Just as Lu Chen thought this, a surge of Spiritual Power flowed into Mu Zixuan's body.

After another half month had passed, Lu Chen finally heard the system's icy prompt in his ear.

"Congratulations to the host and his consort on conceiving a child world, awarded with Saint-level Puppetry Technique."

Hearing this, Lu Chen, who was in the midst of action, instantly got excited, his spirit greatly lifted, and he became more fierce.

"Your... Your Majesty... Spare my life..."

As spiritual power entered Mu Zixuan's body, Lu Chen did not continue to torment her.

Mu Zixuan's lips slightly parted, her chest heaving continuously as she took deep breaths.

She began to wonder if her inability to conceive a child world had angered Lu Chen, who hadn't been this fierce in a long time; she felt her soul was about to leave her body.

After Mu Zixuan had rested for a while, Lu Chen embraced her body and rolled over, letting her lie on his chest, then his large hand embraced her fragrant shoulder.

"Zixuan, I have some good news for you."

Hearing this, Mu Zixuan, who was resting, felt a jolt in her heart and instantly guessed what it might be.

To her, the only thing that could be good news now was that she had conceived a child world, so Lu Chen wouldn't have to focus all his attention on her.

Nervously, Mu Zixuan asked, "Is... is it pregnancy?"

Seeing her excitement without even having described the good news, Lu Chen said with a smile, "Yes, you are pregnant."

Hearing Lu Chen's affirmative reply, Mu Zixuan felt immensely happy, her delicate body trembling with joy.

Then Mu Zixuan used her spiritual power to sense her own condition and found that, except for a slight bulge in her lower abdomen, there seemed to be nothing unusual about her body.

Mu Zixuan then asked, "Your Majesty, my body doesn't seem to have anything unusual?"

Lu Chen said with a smile, "Close your eyes and sense carefully; you will soon be able to feel the child world."

Mu Zixuan quickly closed her eyes, trying hard to control her restless heart and calm down quickly. After a while, she indeed discovered a magical space inside her own world.

But that world was still very dark, barren, with nothing on the land.

Mu Zixuan thought to herself, is that the child world?

After observing for a while, Mu Zixuan shifted her attention back, and Lu Chen continued, "The child world may not have life at the beginning, but life in the child world will generate itself, and within a decade, intelligent life, such as humans, should appear."

Mu Zixuan said, "I understand."

Mu Zixuan sighed in relief, happy that she was finally pregnant; now she could rest well.

Just as Mu Zixuan thought this, Lu Chen said with a mischievous smile, "My lady, conceiving a child world is different from conceiving a child; even if you have birthed a child world, I can still make love to you."

This...

Mu Zixuan's body and mind shuddered, but she quickly realized Lu Chen was just teasing her.

Even if it was possible to make love while having birthed a child world, she was already pregnant; Lu Chen, having many consorts, had no need to single her out for torment.

Mu Zixuan then said, "I am Your Majesty's woman. Serving Your Majesty is my privilege."

Seeing that Mu Zixuan wasn't scared, Lu Chen just smiled, then embraced her, turned over again, and positioned her beneath him.

Chapter 1024: Lu Chen's First Seclusion

After spending another day with Mu Zixuan, Lu Chen finally let her leave the Wind Cloud Palace.

When Mu Zixuan had left, Lu Chen soaked alone in the bath, his eyes fixed on the system interface.

"Saint-level Puppetry Technique: Saint-grade Puppetry Technique, four levels in total. Cultivate this puppetry technique to perfection, and the puppet and the host's strength and perception can be communicated 100 percent. Within this universe, you can control the puppet to go anywhere, regardless of the distance."

Lu Chen was startled upon seeing the function of the puppetry technique. His first thought was to use the puppet to explore the Ziyang World, as he was initially planning to wait for the people from the Black Dragon Holy Land before trying to explore. He didn't expect the system to reward him with a puppetry technique that could ignore distances so quickly.

However...

Exchanging half of the Tianchen World's Qi Fortune for a Saint-level Puppetry Technique, why did he feel somewhat shortchanged?

Right, for harboring a child world and nurturing it, he could receive rewards.

The current reward from the system was only for Mu Zixuan harboring a child world; once she nurtured the child world, he could receive another reward.

He remembered when Chu Yuqin was harboring a child world, and the reward was just the Formless Sand needed to repair Tianchen World. Compared to the Saint-level Puppetry Technique, Formless Sand was nothing.

Mu Zixuan had received such a great reward for harboring a child world this time; would the rewards be even better when she nurtured the child world?

Thinking this, Lu Chen felt a flicker of excitement. After all, he had consumed half of Tianchen World's Qi Fortune; he deserved some good returns.

Since absorbing half of Tianchen World's Qi Fortune, the cultivators of Tianchen World had become unluckier, with a significantly higher failure rate in their breakthroughs. This had little effect on ordinary people.

Lu Chen seriously suspected that Tianchen World was compensating for its own Qi Fortune by absorbing the Qi Fortune of individual cultivators, resulting in the current plight of the cultivators being more ill-fated than ever.

Of course, this was just Lu Chen's speculation; he had no evidence.

Lu Chen then closed the system interface and quickly finished his bath, then headed to an underground palace in the Imperial Palace.

Over the years, the Imperial Palace had undergone renovations which included constructing a vast palace underground primarily used for the seclusion of his consorts and children.

Lu Chen's consorts and children used it frequently, yet he had never used it himself. His previous method of cultivation had been through women, and he had no need for secluded cultivation.

This time, however, he wanted to cultivate the Puppetry Technique to perfection quickly, so he decided to seclude himself for cultivation.

Since the system had upgraded, he could no longer cultivate through women; the system explained that cultivating on his own was faster than improving through women.

When Lu Chen entered the underground palace, the maids looked at him in surprise. Their Majesty had voluntarily come to the underground palace today?

What was His Majesty doing at the underground palace?

Was it possible that he wanted to be intimate with some Noble Concubine, and since she was not above, he had personally come down to find someone and intended to indulge here directly?

The underground palace was just as splendid as above, with bright lighting that was far from dim.

Now, the industry of the Daxia Dynasty had developed to a certain level, improving the qualities of manufactured lightbulbs. The items used by the Emperor, naturally, were even more luxurious.

Lu Chen walked through the corridor of the underground palace, arrived at the Wind Cloud Palace below, and then said to the maid guarding it, "I am going into seclusion for cultivation. Unless there is something important, no one is to disturb me."

After hearing Lu Chen's words, the maid was initially startled but quickly responded, "Yes... Yes, Your Majesty!" Your Majesty has decided to enter closed-door cultivation, this is indeed huge news; everyone in the Imperial Palace knows what kind of person Lu Chen is, yet now he's actually saying he wants to enter closed-door cultivation!

Has the sun risen from the west today?

Lu Chen paid no heed to the astonished gazes of the maids as he walked straight into the Wind Cloud Palace. Once the palace doors closed, he began to cultivate the Saint-level Puppetry Technique.

Soon, the news of Lu Chen's closed-door cultivation spread throughout the entire Yancheng Imperial Palace. Upon hearing that Lu Chen intended to enter closed-door cultivation, his wives and concubines were all stunned, and quickly they gathered together.

Inside Wind Cloud Palace, the women looked at each other in curiosity.

Mu Zixuan broke the silence, "Chu, why did His Majesty suddenly decide to cultivate in seclusion? Did something happen?"

Chu Yuqin responded, "I don't know either; Chen'er went to the underground Wind Cloud Palace without telling me."

"It seems you were the last woman he saw before he went into seclusion, didn't he mention anything to you about it?"

Mu Zixuan thought for a moment and then replied, "No, he didn't say anything to me."

At this, the women again exchanged looks, and Chu Yuqin turned to look at Bai Qingqing. Bai Qingqing was Lu Chen's personal maid; surely she must know something.

"Sister Bai, you should know why Chen'er has gone into seclusion, right?"

Bai Qingqing shook her head and said, "This consort also has no idea."

Yelv Nanyan spoke up, "How could His Majesty not even tell Sister Bai? Could it be that something really has happened, and His Majesty doesn't want us to worry, so he didn't tell us?"

Upon hearing this, a worried expression appeared on the faces of all the women.

After all, Lu Chen was someone who had never practiced in seclusion before; his usual method of cultivation was Dual Cultivation with his wives and concubines. This sudden seclusion caught everyone off guard.

The key issue was that he had told them nothing beforehand and hadn't asked the maids to pass on any messages. It was impossible for them not to worry.

Chu Yuqin thought for a moment about Lu Chen's identity and then said, "Let's not think too much. Perhaps Chen'er just wanted to be in seclusion. There probably isn't anything wrong."

Chu Yuqin recalled that Lu Chen wasthe son of the Great Emperor, a figure who, in his former life, was an ascetic who disregarded romance and avoided women, solely focused on cultivation. Now, it was just a matter of entering seclusion, and they needn't be so tense.

After hearing Chu Yuqin's words, Wang Qingci said, "What Chu said is true, alas, we just don't know how long His Majesty's seclusion will last."

Wang Qingci thought to herself that it had been a long while since Lu Chen had visited her, although she knew it wasn't because of her, but simply because it hadn't been her turn yet. Just when her turn was approaching, Lu Chen had gone into seclusion. How could she cope without Lu Chen's presence?

Zhou Youyou also whispered, "His Majesty's seclusion won't last a hundred years, will it?"

Xiao Wenyao joined in, "It's hard to say, I've heard that higher-leveled cultivators sometimes go into seclusion for a hundred years."

Chu Qingli then said, "If he really is in seclusion for a hundred years, what will we do?"

Seeing that all of Lu Chen's wives and concubines looked worried, Chu Yuqin felt somewhat speechless. Lu Chen had only just entered seclusion, and here they were, already fretting about when he might come out.

It's not like they were that enthusiastic usually; they would start pleading for mercy not long after they got into bed, and now they were suddenly concerned that Lu Chen's seclusion might last too long.

Chapter 1025: Since You Think of Me So Much, Why Haven't You Come Over Yet?

Lu Chen's seclusion spread like wildfire, and soon not only the people of Black Dragon City Imperial Palace knew about it, but the commoners of the Daxia Dynasty were also aware of the matter.

An Emperor who had never entered seclusion suddenly chose to do so, and people's first reaction was to wonder if there was a problem with the Sum Emperor's health.

Of course, even though such thoughts existed, most forces still dared not act rashly, as to date, the Sum Emperor had never been defeated.

Lu Chen's wives and concubines from Black Dragon City Imperial Palace immediately went to Yancheng Imperial Palace to inquire about Lu Chen's condition after learning of his seclusion.

Seeing that Chu Yuqin and the others were unaware of why Lu Chen had entered seclusion, Wu Junwan and the others also began to worry. They suspected that Lu Chen might have been injured during a battle with the invaders, otherwise, why would someone who had never entered seclusion choose to do so now?

Lu Chen was unaware of the situation outside, as he had devoted all his attention to cultivation.

His seclusion lasted for three months, and as Lu Chen did not emerge after that period, the women grew even more concerned.

Of course, not everyone was worried, Chu Yuqin and Yun Xianxian were not so concerned, as both knew that Lu Chen's identity was quite special. In the Cultivation World, it was

normal to enter seclusion for decades or even centuries. In their eyes, Lu Chen might have chosen seclusion due to some enlightenment.

This was not necessarily a bad thing; on the contrary, it might be a good thing. Perhaps when Lu Chen emerged from seclusion, his strength would have greatly increased.

Meanwhile,

At the rift in the boundary wall of Tianchen World, a wisp of black qi spread out from the crack where the two worlds collided.

At that moment, an Elder of the Hundred Changes Sect was patrolling the boundary rift with disciples. Upon seeing the black qi emerging from the crack, Li Xinghuai immediately grew alert.

"Everyone, be careful! There's something happening!"

Although it was uncertain what the black qi was, the mass gave a very oppressive feeling, clearly indicating that it was not something benign.

Hearing Li Xinghuai's words, the disciples of the Hundred Changes Sect immediately drew their swords, each fixed their gaze on the mass of black qi.

Li Xinghuai then said to a disciple nearby, "Immediately report what has happened here to Elder Wei."

No sooner had Li Xinghuai finished speaking, before his disciple could respond, the mass of black qi charged towards them.

Li Xinghuai's face turned pale as the black qi approached; he seemed to sense the threat of death. "Not good, everyone scatter!"

Li Xinghuai had a premonition that they must not come into contact with this mass of black qi, otherwise they would certainly die.

However, even though he realized the danger of the black qi, they ultimately couldn't avoid it; the speed of the black qi was too fast, and in an instant, Li Xinghuai and the disciples were enveloped by it.

Following that, the black qi entered their bodies through their seven orifices, and the next moment, their bodies twisted into strange, eerie positions.

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In the blink of an eye, a year had passed.

As Lu Chen secluded himself, the center of power in the Daxia Dynasty gradually began to shift towards Lu Changfeng.

Unlike previous emperors of dynasties and their relationship with their Crown Princes, even though Lu Changfeng had taken over the entire Great Sum and possessed supreme authority, he never thought about wresting control of Great Sum from Lu Chen.

He saw himself more as taking on the role of helping Lu Chen manage Great Sum, rather than thinking of himself as the Emperor.

Perhaps it was because of the way they were raised, among Lu Chen's children who also craved power, none sought to contend with Lu Changfeng for power and profit.

The children also got along fairly well with each other. From an early age, they were taught that harmony within the family was of utmost importance. Growing up together, and under the influence of Lu Chen, except for some Princes being rather lascivious, they didn't have many other significant faults.

The Princes' lasciviousness was unavoidable, since Lu Chen himself was amorous. Fortunately, Lu Changfeng, as the Crown Prince, was more focused on state affairs, so the other Princes' lasciviousness wasn't likely to have a major impact on Great Sum.

In that year, many events occurred, especially in Black Dragon County, where the cultivators seemed to have become somewhat restless.

The annual Cultivator Conference saw many powers failing to attend, perhaps because they believed that the Sum Emperor might really have been seriously injured, and Lu Changfeng was just a kid who had no qualification to lead them, or perhaps for other reasons.

As for the cultivators of Black Dragon County, Lu Changfeng also didn't have a good way to deal with them; his father, the Emperor, had not left any instructions when he went into retreat, so he could only deal with the cultivators' issues according to his own thoughts.

Mainly, it was because he was not strong enough, so he couldn't assert himself. Thankfully, Su Hanyan, his aunt, had supported him at the Cultivator Conference; otherwise, it was uncertain whether the conference he presided over could even continue.

Yancheng Imperial Palace, Wind Cloud Palace.

Another day passed, and Mu Zixuan and her numerous companions sat in the Wind Cloud Palace waiting for Lu Chen to emerge from his retreat.

However, it looked like Lu Chen wouldn't come out of retreat today. It had been a year since the women had seen Lu Chen, and they were already missing him dearly.

At that moment, Wang Qingci sighed and said, "His Majesty probably won't come out of retreat today."

"Ladies, I will take my leave first."

Having said this, Wang Qingci slowly got up and directly left the Wind Cloud Palace.

After Wang Qingci left, Xiao Wenyao and Yelv Nanyan also departed, leaving only Chen Wanrong, Lin Wanyun, and Mu Zixuan in the grand hall.

Chen Wanrong had just returned from the Mysterious Moon Palace, so she wasn't in a hurry to leave.

At the same time.

Inside the underground Wind Cloud Palace.

Lu Chen opened his eyes and immediately felt filthy all over.

This was his first retreat, and also the first time he had gone so long without the touch of a woman since getting married. Thinking of his wives who were eagerly waiting for him, Lu Chen became restless.

He then circulated his spiritual power to sense the level of his Saint-level Puppetry Technique.

As expected of a Saint-grade cultivation technique, he had only managed to cultivate to the second level after one year. However, the second level was sufficient; the puppets he now created could withstand some of his power.

At that moment, Lu Chen took out a puppet created by Yun Xianxian and began to control it with the Puppetry Technique. The puppet possessed the strength of the first level of the Genesis Realm, and its sensory abilities were acceptable.

Satisfied, Lu Chen put away the puppet, stood up from the ground, and then sensed the situation throughout the Imperial Palace.

Feeling that there were three women in the Wind Cloud Palace, Lu Chen's lips curled into a slight smile as he Shadow Shifted and appeared in the Wind Cloud Palace.

Seeing Lu Chen, who now had grown a long beard, Mu Zixuan, Chen Wanrong, and Lin Wanyun were all startled, but then Mu Zixuan quickly reacted, excitedly saying, "Your Majesty... Your Majesty, you have finally come out of retreat!"

Smiling, Lu Chen said, "Zixuan, we'll talk about everything later. I'm going to take a bath first."

After saying that, Lu Chen entered the bathroom next to the Wind Cloud Palace, where the maids immediately brought tools to help him deal with his beard and bathe.

When Lu Chen returned to the Wind Cloud Palace, he was back to his original handsome and ethereal appearance.

However, Lu Chen was not wearing a single piece of clothing, and upon seeing Lu Chen's fervent state, the three women's faces blushed slightly.

Lu Chen said with a smile, "My three ladies, it's been a year since we've seen each other, have you missed me?"

Mu Zixuan said without hesitation, "Yes, this concubine has missed Your Majesty every single night."

Lu Chen said, "Oh? I don't think you have missed me enough. Since you missed me so much, why aren't you coming over?"

After Lu Chen said that, there was no more hesitation, and the three ladies joined Lu Chen on the bed in the Wind Cloud Palace.

Chapter 1026: Why Does Honored Master Look Somewhat Unhappy?

The news of Lu Chen emerging from seclusion quickly spread throughout the entire Imperial Palace, and the women immediately regretted leaving Wind Cloud Palace. They returned to Wind Cloud Palace as soon as they heard the news.

However, when they arrived, they found Lu Chen already busy—Chen Wanrong had completely transformed into his vessel, and they witnessed her sobbing and screaming deeply.

The women felt somewhat relieved, as they had some concerns that Lu Chen, after emerging from seclusion, might have changed and wouldn't care about romance anymore.

It turned out, they had worried too much.

His Majesty remained the same!

At that moment, Lu Chen glanced at the wives gathered at the doorway, watching the spectacle, and smilingly said, "Today, none of you are leaving. All come here."

This...

The women looked at each other in hesitation.

Although they could accept this, the number of women involved was still too many. Given that starting with Lu Chen often took half a month, wasn't this going to take a lot of time?

Of course, Lu Chen had no such intention; he just planned to alleviate their longing for him. After all, they hadn't seen each other for a year and could barely bear it anymore.

At this time, Wang Qingci immediately ran to Lu Chen's side without a word, "Your Majesty, you've finally emerged from seclusion. I've missed you so much..."

Seeing Wang Qingci take the initiative and pose provocatively, Yelv Nanyan and the others decided not to pretend either and straightforwardly crowded around him.

After two days of soothing, the longing of Lu Chen's wives had greatly eased, but Yun Xianxian and Chu Yuqin were not among them.

Both women did not attend this grand event. After regaining her memories from her past lives, Chu Yuqin wasn't as uninhibited, and Yun Xianxian greatly disliked sharing Lu Chen with others.

Yun Xianxian disdained it, deeming it filthy—used here, used there—she was a person with germophobia who preferred exclusivity.

After all of Lu Chen's wives had left Wind Cloud Palace one by one, only Mu Zixuan and Bai Qingqing remained.

Lu Chen, embracing both women, said, "Tell me about any major events that occurred in Tianchen World this past year."

The women promptly informed Lu Chen about some incidents that had occurred in Tianchen World.

After listening to them, Lu Chen fell into contemplation; then, he spoke after a while, "Feng'er really has grown up, able to stand on his own now."

"I didn't expect that just a year of seclusion would lead to so much happening in Tianchen World. Some people really can't stay calm. It seems I need to teach them a lesson."

Subsequently, Lu Chen continued to comfort Mu Zixuan and Bai Qingqing; after a bath, he then headed to Yun Xianxian's bedchamber.

Inside Yun Xianxian's icy bedchamber, cold air permeated everywhere with ice blocks all around, and the attending maids, despite wearing padded clothes, shivered continuously.

Seeing Lu Chen suddenly appear in the grand hall, the maids hurriedly bowed and said, "We greet Your Majesty, long live, long live, forever and forever!"

Lu Chen slightly nodded his head and said indifferently, "Rise."

As those words fell, Lu Chen's gaze turned toward Yun Xianxian's soft couch. At that moment, Yun Xianxian had her eyes closed, seemingly ignoring his presence completely.

But obviously, Yun Xianxian knew he was there—she was pretending not to see him.

Lu Chen gave a slight smile, immediately approached Yun Xianxian's soft couch, and then reached out to hold her jade hand, "Honored Master, you seem a bit unhappy?"

Yun Xianxian still didn't open her eyes and said coldly, "You're imagining things."

Seeing the Cold Fairy's forbidding demeanor, Lu Chen momentarily felt his heart stir and, not wanting to continue talking, directly pushed her down and kissed her lips, "Mmm..."

At this point, Yun Xianxian finally opened her eyes and began to struggle a bit. She had thought that Lu Chen would take things slowly, but he started making advances right off the bat.

After kissing for a while, feeling it was about enough, Lu Chen directly got intimate with Yun Xianxian. This act instantly turned the Cold Fairy warm.

Yun Xianxian felt a bit sulky; this rebellious disciple was truly her nemesis, never letting her put on airs.

While moving, Lu Chen said, "Honored Master really missed me. You had already prepared your body before I even arrived."

Yun Xianxian glared at Lu Chen in embarrassment and anger but said nothing.

Lu Chen didn't continue to tease Yun Xianxian. He smiled and asked, "Honored Master, did you go to Black Dragon County again during this time?"

Yun Xianxian replied, "Went... huh... went there, I just... came back..."

Lu Chen said, "I heard from Zixuan and Bai that the situation in Black Dragon County seems somewhat bleak... huh..."

Yun Xianxian said, "There are quite a few... forces... huh... that seem to want to overthrow... your rule... gently..."

Lu Chen said, "I just secluded myself for cultivation, and they already think I'm severely injured. They really dare to imagine."

Yun Xianxian said, "Perhaps... huh... not just because of that... reason..."

"I feel like there are more... demon cultivators... in Black Dragon County..."

"They... why did you... stop?"

Yun Xianxian's beautiful eyes looked at Lu Chen as her delicate body involuntarily started to twist slightly. Lu Chen smiled and continued his actions, "What about them?"

Yun Xianxian said, "They... might have demon cultivators instigating them from behind."

Lu Chen thought for a moment and then said, "If it's demon cultivators, then it's relatively easy to handle, but I don't know the strength of the person behind them."

"Since they have the intention to rebel, it means that the person inciting them is very strong."

Yun Xianxian said, "To you... huh-huh... they don't pose much... threat."

Lu Chen said, "Although they pose no threat, they are indeed annoying."

"The first time I seclude myself for cultivation, someone pops up creating trouble. If I often seclude myself in the future, won't there always be someone causing trouble?"

"We must find the mastermind behind this and set an example by making a stern warning."

"You... ouch..."

Before Yun Xianxian could say anything, Lu Chen suddenly became more forceful, shifting his entire focus onto Yun Xianxian and ceasing to discuss the problems of Black Dragon County.

Yun Xianxian no longer maintained her aloof demeanor and began practicing the Mysterious Female Technique in coordination with Lu Chen.

After all, she was already this rebellious disciple's woman; there was no need for pretenses in front of him, she might as well let herself go.

A day later, Lu Chen left Yun Xianxian's bedchamber and headed to Chu Yuqin's room.

Chu Yuqin had already sensed that Lu Chen would come; she was already sitting on the bed, waiting for his arrival.

Upon seeing Lu Chen, Chu Yuqin asked, "Chen'er, did you seclude yourself to practice some Cultivation Technique?"

With a Shadow Shifting technique, Lu Chen moved beside the bed, wrapped his arms around Chu Yuqin's voluptuous body, and replied with a smile, "Madam Chu knows me best, guessing right away why I secluded myself."

Chu Yuqin smiled lightly and said no more.

Without hesitation, Lu Chen directly kissed the beautiful woman's lips and slowly laid her down on the soft couch.

Although Lu Chen had shifted his focus to women right after ending his seclusion, he didn't consider himself overly lecherous. He had that many wives and concubines; he needed to satisfy them.

They hadn't seen him for so long, and their hearts were filled with so much longing that needed to be released. So his actions were not licentious, but rather a display of responsibility. Probably no other man in this universe could match his sense of duty.

Chapter 1027: Sect Master Su, Are You Ready to Accept the Punishment!

After playing with Chu Yuqin on the soft couch for two days, Lu Chen then headed to Black Dragon County.

He had another woman there in Black Dragon County, whom he hadn't sought out in a year; she must have missed him dearly.

Moreover, this year she had been of great help to Lu Changfeng at the Cultivators' Conference. As Lu Changfeng's father, it was naturally incumbent upon him to properly thank her.

If he was to give thanks, then he must do so with real action.

At this very moment.

Inside the bamboo house on the back hill of the Misty Immortal Sect.

Su Hanyan suddenly felt a chill and couldn't help but sneeze.

Su Hanyan furrowed her brows instantly. She, a Myriad Laws Realm Cultivator, actually sneezed?

Immediately after, Su Hanyan coldly said to the air, "Come out."

As soon as Su Hanyan's words fell, a mass of black mist appeared outside her bamboo house, and then a figure walked out of the mist.

"Sect Master Su, truly worthy of being a Myriad Laws Realm Cultivator, detected my presence the moment I arrived."

Su Hanyan glanced at the old man before her and chuckled, "No wonder Sect Leader Li was able to kill the former Sect Leader of the Hundred Changes Sect and take control. It turns out he has become a Demon Cultivator."

Li Xinghuai lightly said, "So what if I have become a Demon Cultivator? Whether righteous or evil, we are all Cultivators, all seeking immortality. Moreover, the deeds of the so-called righteous and demon cultivators are not much different."

Su Hanyan coldly said, "Sect Leader Li, did you come to me today just to say these things?"

Li Xinghuai smiled and said, "Of course not."

"I have brought a piece of good news for Sect Master Su today."

Su Hanyan coldly replied, "I hardly think a Demon Cultivator can bring any good news to me."

Li Xinghuai said, "What if this news could free you from the Sum Emperor's control?"

At these words, Su Hanyan faltered slightly, and Li Xinghuai caught the expression on her face.

Regaining her composure, Su Hanyan scoffed and said, "Sect Leader Li, you surely know the relationship between me and the Sum Emperor. I am his woman. Are you here to stir up trouble between me and the Sum Emperor?"

Li Xinghuai said, "The reason why Sect Master Su became the Sum Emperor's woman in the first place was merely because you were not as strong as the Sum Emperor. You were helpless and, coupled with the fact that he possessed the Immortal Boat, only by relying on the Sum Emperor could you leave the Tianchen World."

In Li Xinghuai's view, Su Hanyan was not truly devoted to Lu Chen and would certainly betray him if given the chance.

After hearing Li Xinghuai's words, Su Hanyan fell silent; indeed, she had become Lu Chen's woman out of compulsion.

Seeing that Su Hanyan did not continue speaking, Li Xinghuai knew his guess was right, and continued, "Now that the Sum Emperor has been in seclusion for a long time, he must have been seriously injured."

"Now, if we join forces, we will be able to kill the Sum Emperor and seize the Immortal Boat from him. Then it would be easy to leave the Tianchen World."

Su Hanyan indifferently said, "If you truly think the Sum Emperor is seriously injured, why not go directly to him? Why do you need to recruit me?"

"From the aura you've displayed, you should have already broken through to the Myriad Laws Realm, haven't you? With your strength, are you still afraid of not being able to deal with an injured Sum Emperor?"

Li Xinghuai said, "Although I believe the Sum Emperor has been injured, no one knows what trump card the Sum Emperor holds. If I can pull in Sect Master Su, then even if the Sum Emperor really has some tricks up his sleeve, we should be able to handle them easily." Hearing Li Xinghuai's words, Su Hanyan chuckled. Li Xinghuai was indeed playing a clever game.

But speaking of which, if Li Xinghuai had approached her in the past, she might have actually agreed to cooperate with him, considering she also did not want to become that kind of vessel for Lu Chen.

However, things were different now. She was very aware of Lu Chen's strength; if they really fought, Lu Chen's methods would surely suppress them easily.

Of course, this was not the main reason, nor even a secondary reason. The true reason she would not betray Lu Chen was that she had fallen in love with him and could no longer leave him.

Although she always felt that Lu Chen might be training her to be someone who would stand in crises, even with such thoughts, she could not leave Lu Chen, especially after not seeing him for a year. Her longing for Lu Chen had become incredibly intense, making her realize her feelings for him.

Her feelings for Lu Chen were of both love and hatred, but even though she hated the terrible way Lu Chen acted, she could not possibly join forces with a demon cultivator to hurt Lu Chen.

Of course, Su Hanyan did not plan to refuse Li Xinghuai right now, she then asked, "Sect Leader Li must not only be trying to recruit me."

Li Xinghuai said, "Naturally, half of Black Dragon County's forces have already chosen to cooperate with me."

"The Immortal Boat of the Sum Emperor is big enough to accommodate all of us leaving the Tianchen World."

Su Hanyan continued to ask, "When does Sect Leader Li plan to take action?"

Li Xinghuai said, "As long as Sect Master Su is willing to cooperate with me, we can attack Yan County this month."

Su Hanyan said, "Alright, I agree."

Seeing Su Hanyan agree, Li Xinghuai's lips curved slightly upward as he said with a smile, "I knew Sect Master Su would not submit to others."

At that moment Su Hanyan said, "However, I have one more condition."

Li Xinghuai said, "Please speak, Sect Master Su."

Su Hanyan snorted coldly, "The Sum Emperor has insulted me repeatedly, treating me as his tool for venting. I have long been desperate to tear him to pieces. Thus, the life of the Sum Emperor must be ended by me."

Li Xinghuai said, "Alright, no problem."

"Now that our cooperation has been agreed, I will take my leave. In three days, I will host a meeting at the Hundred Changes Sect, and Sect Master Su must attend."

As soon as Li Xinghuai finished speaking, his body once again transformed into a mass of black fog and left the bamboo house.

After Li Xinghuai left, a look of disdain appeared on Su Hanyan's face, and she chuckled softly, "Really foolish!"

Just after Su Hanyan finished speaking, a familiar voice echoed behind her, "Who's foolhardy?"

Su Hanyan's body shivered, the voice was too familiar, but she had not heard it for a year.

When Su Hanyan came back to her senses, she immediately turned around and indeed found Lu Chen half-lying on the soft couch in her bamboo house. Su Hanyan then asked, "Did you hear everything?"

Su Hanyan thought that Lu Chen had arrived earlier, so he must have heard her conversation with Li Xinghuai.

At this moment, she was somewhat anxious, afraid that Lu Chen would take her words seriously and truly believe that she had allied with Li Xinghuai.

Lu Chen asked with a smile, "Hear what? I just arrived."

With that, Lu Chen glanced around the entire bamboo house and continued, "The demonic qi in this bamboo house is quite heavy, it seems a major demon has just been here."

"I've only been in seclusion for a year, and Sect Master Su can't stand the loneliness, hooking up with a major demon. It truly chills my heart!"

Su Hanyan hastily said, "Your Majesty misunderstands, I..."

Before Su Hanyan could finish, Lu Chen suddenly raised his hand, used his spiritual power to lift Su Hanyan's body, and directly pulled her into his embrace.

Su Hanyan wanted to continue explaining something, but Lu Chen did not give her the chance. His expression fierce, he said, "Sect Master Su, are you ready to receive your punishment?"

"Your Majesty, I...mmm mmm mmm..."

Before Su Hanyan could finish, her lips were sealed, followed by a "ripping" sound inside the bamboo house.

"Umm!!!"

Chapter 1028: Then we'll give them a surprise in three days

Lu Chen's movements were violently fierce, and Su Hanyan at one point thought he wanted to kill her this way.

But Su Hanyan soon realized that the bastard Lu Chen wasn't actually angry, he was just looking for an excuse to abuse her.

After what felt like an eternity, Lu Chen finally spoke to Su Hanyan, "Sect Master Su, I didn't expect that after a year, your body would still be this delightful."

Su Hanyan snorted lightly and turned her head away, not saying a word.

Seeing that Su Hanyan was a bit moody, Lu Chen didn't indulge her but instead increased his intensity, prompting Su Hanyan to hurriedly say, "Your... Your Majesty... I was wrong..."

Lu Chen then continued to ask, "Who was it that came just now?"

Su Hanyan answered, "Hundred... Hundred Changes Sect's... ugh... Li Xinghuai."

Lu Chen thought for a moment, continuing his actions as he spoke, "I remember him, ugh... when did he become a Demon Cultivator?"

Su Hanyan said, "It was... about a year ago. After he returned from the... the boundary line defense... he... he killed the Sect Leader of the Hundred Changes Sect and made himself... the Sect Leader."

Lu Chen asked further, "What is his Cultivation State now?"

Su Hanyan replied, "All Law Realm."

Lu Chen thought for a while, considering that to advance to the All Law Realm in such a short time implied that there was more to him than just turning into a Demon Cultivator.

Putting it together, it seemed very likely that this Li Xinghuai was the one behind the current situation in Black Dragon County, although there were probably others behind Li Xinghuai.

Lu Chen looked at Su Hanyan and continued asking, "What did he come to find you for?"
Lu Chen was very confident about his woman. He naturally did not think that Su Hanyan had betrayed him. When he said those words earlier and pretended to be angry, it was just to add a bit of excitement.

Su Hanyan answered, "He thinks you've been seriously injured and wants to... to draw me over... ah... I..."

At that point, Su Hanyan's eyes rolled up, and her hands gripped Lu Chen's arms tightly.

After a moment, Su Hanyan caught her breath and continued, "Ugh... He plans to ally with the forces of Black Dragon County to attack Yan County, and then... to snatch the Immortal Boat from you."

Hearing this, Lu Chen smiled faintly, "No wonder you said he didn't know whether he was dead or alive. It turns out he truly doesn't."

Su Hanyan went on, "In three... three days, he is holding a meeting at the Hundred Changes Sect. The forces he has drawn... ugh... they will probably all attend."

Lu Chen said with a smile, "Then let's give them a surprise in three days."

At that, Lu Chen bent down, kissed Su Hanyan's red lips, and busied himself with his own matters earnestly.

Since Li Xinghuai had chosen rebellion, there was only one path left for him, but Lu Chen always had a feeling there were others behind Li Xinghuai.

Li Xinghuai had become a Demon Cultivator after coming back from the boundary line defense, and Lu Chen vaguely sensed that it might be Demon Cultivators from the Ziyang World who had infiltrated.

What exactly the situation was, he would know in three days. For the next three days, he helped Su Hanyan relieve her longing for him thoroughly.

After these three days with Lu Chen, Su Hanyan reaffirmed that she indeed couldn't do without this fellow.

Although this past year, her desires were low, since as a Cultivator she had strong selfcontrol, she always felt something was missing during her cultivation, and her mind was often somewhere else.

After being handled by Lu Chen like this, she felt a lot more spirited, and her mood wasn't as gloomy as before. But what irritated her immensely was that the bastard had used all kinds of methods to mold her — she felt she had really become some kind of vessel.

Thinking how she had become like an animal, Su Hanyan felt an immense shame. She was a Cultivator, and yet, she had now become addicted to such matters.

It was all Lu Chen's fault, that bastard. If not for him, she would still be a cold and lofty fairy.

Three days later.

At the Hundred Changes Sect.

The Hundred Changes Sect was abuzz with activity today, with more than a dozen Flying Boats in the sky, almost half of the forces from Black Dragon County had arrived at the Hundred Changes Sect.

They were ostensibly there to hold a conference of the young elite, to let the younger generation spar with one another. In truth, however, they were preparing to discuss how to attack the Daxia Dynasty and kill Lu Chen.

In their hearts, they still harbored some fear of Lu Chen. Even though there were rumors that Lu Chen had been seriously injured and was currently in seclusion, they still felt Lu Chen had some tricks up his sleeve.

A wounded tiger was still a tiger, and so, while many harbored their thoughts, they did not dare to overtly show them.

But ever since Li Xinghuai had approached them, they realized that overturning the Daxia Dynasty might not be impossible. Li Xinghuai was now at the Third Layer of the Myriad Law Realm, fully capable of fighting the Sum Emperor head-on.

Moreover, Li Xinghuai said that Su Hanyan was also likely to join them, which would mean two from the All Law Realm.

Two from the All Law Realm should certainly be a match for the Sum Emperor, especially since the Sum Emperor was also rumored to have suffered a serious injury.

Under Li Xinghuai's instigation, soon half the forces of Black Dragon County chose to follow the Hundred Changes Sect.

At this moment, Li Xinghuai stood on the cultivation ground of the Hundred Changes Sect, his lips curving into a slight smile as he scanned the Flying Boats above.

Just then, the Sect Leaders and Elders of various factions arrived before Li Xinghuai.

"Sect Leader Li, whether we can succeed rests entirely upon you."

"Sect Leader Li, if this endeavor succeeds, we will elect you as the Hierarch of the Immortal Alliance."

"Sect Leader Li, you mentioned personally inviting Sect Master Su. What was her response?"

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Li Xinghuai was about to speak when a particularly luxurious Flying Boat appeared in the distant sky.

Seeing the Flying Boat, those present were taken aback for a moment.

That was the Misty Immortal Sect's Flying Boat!

Li Xinghuai actually did invite Su Hanyan to come!

That meant they were set this time. With two All Law Realm powerhouses, they would certainly be able to break through Yan County.

At this very moment.

In Su Hanyan's room on the Misty Immortal Sect's Flying Boat.

Lu Chen's demonic hand grasped Su Hanyan's waist, busily helping Su Hanyan relieve her longing. Su Hanyan was fuming with irritation; they were about to reach the Hundred Changes Sect, and yet Lu Chen wasn't wasting even this brief moment of time.

Well, whatever. Who asked for that man to be her own.

At that moment, a female Disciple's voice rang out at Su Hanyan's door, "Sect Master, we have arrived."

The female Disciple, hearing the noises from within the room, blushed crimson. Although everyone in the Misty Immortal Sect had long known about the relationship between Lu Chen and their Sect Master, it was still their first time encountering Lu Chen brazenly taking liberties with their Sect Master aboard the Misty Immortal Sect's Flying Boat.

Their Sect Master had already reached the All Law Realm, and yet, in the presence of the Sum Emperor, she still couldn't control herself, acting like a wanton person.

Upon hearing the female disciple's words, Su Hanyan turned her head to look at Lu Chen, "Your Majesty... we should focus on the important matters..."

Lu Chen said, "Hmm... Indeed, we'll continue after the matters are dealt with."

Hearing this, Su Hanyan glared at Lu Chen, cursing him inwardly.

Damned man!

Lu Chen, unconcerned with Su Hanyan's gaze, had the Maid tidy him up, then used the Yin Yang Mirror to change his appearance.

Meanwhile, the Sect Leaders and Elders from the Hundred Changes Sect were still excitedly watching the Misty Immortal Sect's Flying Boat.

Before long, Misty Immortal Sect's Flying Boat had flown above the Hundred Changes Sect.

Chapter 1029: Then I Shall Let You Witness the Power of the Heavenly Demon

The Misty Immortal Sect's Flying Boat came to a halt, and Su Hanyan led Lu Chen and a group of Elders from the sect down from the flying boat.

By this time, Lu Chen had concealed his aura, and people did not recognize him, thinking he was one of the Misty Immortal Sect's Elders.

As soon as Su Hanyan landed, Li Xinghuai immediately came forward and, with a smile, said, "Sect Master Su, I knew for certain you would come."

Su Hanyan replied, "This is an opportunity to seek personal revenge, I naturally had to come."

Li Xinghuai then said, "Since everyone is here, please follow me."

Since the matter was to be discussed, they naturally could not stand out in this plaza to discuss and had to change locations.

After that, the sect masters and elders of various major powers followed Li Xinghuai to the Hundred Changes Sect's Meeting Hall.

Once everyone was seated, a Sect Master spoke up and asked, "Sect Leader Li, are you certain the Sum Emperor has indeed suffered a serious injury?"

Li Xinghuai did not immediately respond, but smiled at Su Hanyan before saying, "That question should be directed at Sect Master Su."

"Sect Master Su has once joined forces with the Sum Emperor to resist invaders from another world. If the Sum Emperor were injured, it would have to have been during that time."

As Li Xinghuai's voice fell, all eyes turned towards Su Hanyan.

With a faint smile, Su Hanyan then said, "Sect Leader Li's conjecture is not wrong. Indeed, the Sum Emperor was struck by invaders during that time. As for whether he was seriously injured, I do not know."

Hearing this from Su Hanyan, those present believed even more that the Sum Emperor must have chosen to enter seclusion due to his serious injuries.

Given that the Sum Emperor had already been seriously injured, this was the best opportunity for them.

Li Xinghuai continued, "Even with the Sum Emperor's myriad of methods, in his injured state, facing two cultivators from the Myriad Laws Realm, he doesn't stand a chance."

"However, I've heard that Yan County has a Formation, and breaking through it poses some difficulty. Therefore, I hope you all will lend your strength to break through this Formation."

Although Li Xinghuai no longer viewed Lu Chen as a concern, he was still somewhat worried about the Formation in Yan County. He wanted these sect representatives to probe for him and assess the strength of the Formation.

As Li Xinghuai finished speaking, those present readily agreed.

"Rest assured, Sect Leader Li, the Sum Emperor is our common enemy; we will give it our all."

"Sect Leader Li, just say the word when it's time to attack Yan County."

"Sect Leader Li, we've had enough of the tyranny of the Daxia Dynasty; we're with you!"

•••

Upon hearing the crowd's words, Lu Chen chuckled. He then sensed Li Xinghuai's Demonic Qi once more.

The Demonic Qi on Li Xinghuai was somewhat special, unlike normal Demonic Qi, more akin to the Heavenly Demon Power.

With this in mind, there must be a Heavenly Demon behind Li Xinghuai. Could it be that the Ziyang World is sealing a Heavenly Demon and Li Xinghuai was influenced by the Heavenly Demon's Qi while guarding the boundary wall, thus transforming into a Demon Cultivator?

But, after all, whether it's a Heavenly Demon or not, any Demonic or Demonic Cultivator in front of him was only destined to be countered.

Not to mention that with the Shenghui Armor, he already possessed the strength of the Myriad Laws Realm. Even without the armor, relying solely on the Demon-Expelling Banner and the Demon Burying Spell, he could easily take care of Li Xinghuai.

However, Lu Chen did not intend to act immediately. He still wanted to extract more information from Li Xinghuai.

Just then, Li Xinghuai noticed Lu Chen laughing beside Su Hanyan and immediately inquired, "May I ask what amuses this fellow Daoist to laugh?"

Upon hearing Li Xinghuai's words, the hall instantly fell silent, and all eyes turned to Lu Chen. Lu Chen said indifferently, "I just think it's rather presumptuous for us to deem the Sum Emperor as good as dead without knowing the full extent of his situation. It's purely a case of self-comfort, so I laughed."

Upon hearing these words, the people in the hall instantly became restless.

"What do you mean by that!"

"Such favoritism toward the Sum Emperor, could it be that you are one of the Sum Emperor's men!"

"Sect Master Su, can a person like this serve as an elder of your Misty Immortal Sect?"

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After a while, the noise in the hall gradually quieted down, and Li Xinghuai gave Lu Chen a look. For some reason, this young elder gave him a very dangerous feeling, making him quite uncomfortable.

He had not noticed before that there was such a dangerous individual within the Misty Immortal Sect.

With a frown, Li Xinghuai said, "Fellow daoist, are you suggesting that with our current strength, we are still unable to confront the Sum Emperor?"

Lu Chen said directly, "Yes, unless Sect Leader Li, you have other methods; otherwise, with the cultivation state at the Myriad Laws Realm, I fear that we truly might not be a match for the Sum Emperor."

"The Sum Emperor, relying on his own strength, can fend off invaders from other worlds. Even if he really was injured, he's not someone the average Myriad Laws Realm cultivator can defeat."

As Lu Chen finished speaking, Su Hanyan added, "Sect Leader Li, I believe there is some merit to what Elder Chen has said. That day I personally witnessed the Sum Emperor in action, and his strength is already approaching the Divinity Transformation Realm. If we don't have some kind of measure on hand, perhaps we're truly no match for the Sum Emperor."

Seeing Su Hanyan speak this way, the people in the hall once more began to waver.

The Divinity Transformation Realm, ah—if the Sum Emperor truly possessed strength at the Divinity Transformation Realm, then it might be best to let it be.

Even an injured cultivator of Divinity Transformation Realm couldn't be opposed by two Myriad Laws Realm cultivators, not to mention the Sum Emperor likely had other methods at his disposal.

Seeing the people in the hall already wavering, Li Xinghuai suddenly released the Demonic Qi from his body, instantly intimidating everyone in the hall.

Li Xinghuai said with a big laugh,

"Hahaha, what of it if he is a cultivator of the Divinity Transformation Realm!"

Feeling the terrifying Demonic Qi from Li Xinghuai, the sect masters and elders were stunned. Although they knew Li Xinghuai had become a demon cultivator, they did not expect him to possess such a dense Demonic Qi, and clearly, the Demonic Qi from Li Xinghuai was not the same as that of a typical demon.

The Demonic Qi from Li Xinghuai was suppressing the Spiritual Energy within everyone's bodies. Such Demonic Qi was clearly the Heavenly Demon's Demonic Qi.

At the thought of Li Xinghuai siding with a Heavenly Demon, the faces of everyone in the hall instantly turned pale.

Li Xinghuai then continued to say, "Do you really think I dared to make a move against the Sum Emperor without having any methods?"

"Behind me stands a Heavenly Demon. With the Heavenly Demon's power, even if the Sum Emperor is truly a Divinity Transformation Realm cultivator, he won't be able to exhibit the strength of the Divinity Transformation Realm in front of me."

"Now, do any of you still worry that I am no match for the Sum Emperor?"

At this point, Li Xinghuai's scarlet pupils swept over everyone present, as though if they dared to back down, he would immediately strike them down.

Those in attendance were frightened into silence.

The Heavenly Demon is the bane of cultivators, and with a Heavenly Demon behind Li Xinghuai, no one knew if Li Xinghuai had already been assimilated by the Heavenly Demon. Maybe if Li Xinghuai became displeased, he would treat them as food and consume them.

The entire hall fell into a dead silence, and after what felt like an eternity, a voice once again broke the stillness of the hall.

"The Heavenly Demon? Is Sect Leader Li joking with us?"

"Where did the Heavenly Demon in the Tianchen World come from?"

Li Xinghuai's gaze instantly shifted to Lu Chen, seeing that it was this man opposing him once again, Li Xinghuai's intent to kill rose sharply.

Then he said coldly, "Since you do not believe, then let me show you the power of the Heavenly Demon."

Chapter 1030: I Didn't Expect You to Come to Me!

As Li Xinghuai's words ceased, the Demonic Qi surged towards Lu Chen, seemingly intent on killing him.

However, Lu Chen showed no fear on his face. He sat quietly in his place, waiting for Li Xinghuai's Demonic Qi to arrive.

Just when everyone from the other sects thought Lu Chen was doomed, Li Xinghuai's Demonic Qi seemed to encounter some sort of obstruction, unable to get closer to Lu Chen.

This...

Seeing his Demonic Qi halting in front of Lu Chen, Li Xinghuai was entirely dumbfounded.

What's going on?

Why can't my Demonic Qi harm this person?

Everyone present also froze, for it was clear Li Xinghuai had just attempted to kill, he wouldn't have held back. Now, with the Demonic Qi lingering in front of the man, it was obvious that he had utilized some method to block it.

Does the Misty Immortal Sect actually have someone who can resist the erosion of Demonic Qi?

At this moment, Li Xinghuai felt increasingly dismayed, and the sense of crisis in his heart grew stronger. With a dark face, he demanded, "Who are you!"

Instead of answering Li Xinghuai's question, Lu Chen fired back, "Sect Master Su, you haven't yet told me where your Heavenly Demon Power comes from, as the Tianchen World certainly doesn't have any Heavenly Demons. You're not bluffing, are you?"

Seeing Lu Chen's disbelief, Li Xinghuai sneered and said, "This seat has never claimed that the Heavenly Demon Power within me comes from the Tianchen World."

Lu Chen then said indifferently, "If it's not from the Tianchen World, then it must be from the neighboring Ziyang World. I didn't expect Sect Leader Li to be in cahoots with the enemies of the Ziyang World."

Upon hearing this, Li Xinghuai's heart quivered.

Then, he said coldly, "Who on earth are you!"

While he spoke, the Demonic Qi around Li Xinghuai surged, the pressure making even the cultivators present find it difficult to breathe.

Seeing Li Xinghuai's strong reaction, Lu Chen didn't continue with the pretense. The reaction all but confirmed that Li Xinghuai's Demonic Qi came from the Ziyang World.

Since it was confirmed that the Heavenly Demon existed in the Ziyang World, Li Xinghuai was of no further use. Lu Chen then manipulated the Yin Yang Mirror, reverting to his original appearance.

As Lu Chen's visage was revealed, the people present were shocked.

"The Sum Emperor! It's the Sum Emperor!"

"This is bad, we've been tricked!"

"The Sum Emperor has appeared here!"

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Seeing it was Lu Chen, Li Xinghuai first paused, then burst into laughter, "I had wanted to keep you for a while longer, but I didn't expect you to come to me so willingly!"

Lu Chen replied with a smile, "Do you really think that with the support of the Heavenly Demon behind you, you are a match for me, Li Sect Leader?"

Li Xinghuai snorted and retorted, "Whether I am your match or not, we'll know once we fight."

As he spoke, Li Xinghuai immediately set his Demonic Qi in motion, attacking Lu Chen. Lu Chen, not wanting to waste any more time, directly took out the Demon-Expelling Banner.

As the Demon-Expelling Banner appeared, the Demonic Qi in the entire hall was instantly cleansed. When the golden light of the Demon-Expelling Banner shone upon Li Xinghuai, he immediately felt an excruciating pain in his body.

Li Xinghuai finally understood why Lu Chen dared to confront him directly; Lu Chen possessed an artifact that could restrain Demonic Qi.

Thereupon, Li Xinghuai addressed everyone present, "The Sum Emperor is here. Let's join forces and subdue him!"

As the words of Li Xinghuai fell, Su Hanyan and the elders of the Misty Immortal Sect immediately stood up, and then Su Hanyan directly lunged at the sect leaders and elders present.

Su Hanyan said expressionlessly, "Gentlemen, I'm afraid I've let you down. I am the woman of the Sum Emperor; it is impossible for me to betray him."

Upon hearing this, the expressions of everyone present drastically changed. The Sum Emperor himself possessed the strength of the All Law Realm, and now there was Su Hanyan, another powerhouse of the All Law Realm. Adding to that, Li Xinghuai was suppressed by the Sum Emperor, they now had no chance of victory whatsoever.

In an instant, those present immediately chose to flee.

Su Hanyan had no intention of giving them a chance to escape, and promptly used Phantom Mist Shadow. In a moment, the entire hall was enveloped in purple mist.

Then Su Hanyan began the slaughter, and soon many of the cultivators in the hall were dead.

Seeing this, Li Xinghuai immediately tapped into the Heavenly Demon Power and coldly said, "I don't believe you can fully resist the Heavenly Demon Power!"

As he spoke, a pair of black misty hands emerged behind Li Xinghuai, reaching straight for Lu Chen, who immediately activated the Demon Burying Spell and once again urged the Demon-Expelling Banner.

The Demon-Expelling Banner instantly shone with a brilliant golden light, and the hands formed by the gathering of the Heavenly Demon Power were shattered by the light.

Seeing this scene, Li Xinghuai's face showed a terrified expression.

"No... Impossible ... "

"That's the Heavenly Demon Power!!!"

"How could any cultivator fully withstand the Heavenly Demon Power!!!"

The Heavenly Demon was the bane of all cultivators; faced with the Heavenly Demon, most cultivators could only flee, even when facing a weak Heavenly Demon. At best, they could only seal it with some formations.

Li Xinghuai had thought that by siding with the Heavenly Demon and possessing its power, no cultivator in the Tianchen World would be his match. He didn't expect that the Sum Emperor could counter the Heavenly Demon Power.

Isn't Demonic Qi supposed to suppress Spiritual Power? Aren't cultivators just food for the Heavenly Demon?

Why does the Heavenly Demon Power on him have no effect on Lu Chen?

Even if Lu Chen had treasures that could resist Demonic Qi, he shouldn't be able to completely withstand the Heavenly Demon Power!

Realizing he might not survive, Li Xinghuai once again summoned the Heavenly Demon Power within him, then yelled, "Great Heavenly Demon, save me!!!" As Li Xinghuai's words fell, a stream of black Qi suddenly descended from the sky, piercing through the roof of the hall and pouring into Li Xinghuai.

Lu Chen did not stop his attack because of the black Qi; he again urged the Demon-Expelling Banner, then took out the Slayer Spear from his system space, and with a Shadow Shifting move, arrived behind Li Xinghuai.

Li Xinghuai hastily turned around and struck out with his palm, but the Demonic Qi he emitted dissipated before it could even touch Lu Chen. Lu Chen thrust forward with his spear, piercing through Li Xinghuai's body instantaneously.

The Demonic Qi gushed out of Li Xinghuai's chest as if finding an outlet for floodwaters. The Qi, as if conscious, directly flew towards the sky, as if trying to escape.

Seeing this, Lu Chen chuckled.

"You've come all this way, thinking you can run?"

Next, Lu Chen once again activated the Demon-Expelling Banner, which released countless purple light waves. As these light waves touched the black Demonic Qi, the Qi evaporated as if being purified, disappearing in a very short time.

Lu Chen withdrew the Slayer Spear from Li Xinghuai's body, as Li Xinghuai's eyes widened and his body fell to the ground, unwilling in death.

At that time, the elders of the various Sect forces began crying out to surrender, but Lu Chen did not grant them this opportunity.

Since he was making an example of them, he couldn't show mercy. If every time he secluded himself, some would rebel, that would be truly bothersome.

To achieve a deterrent effect, none of those who intended to rebel could be spared.

Soon, those forces that intended to rebel were completely eradicated by Lu Chen and Su Hanyan. However, the matter wasn't over just yet.

The ones dealt with now were only the leaders and elders, merely the upper echelon of those factions.

Lu Chen then ordered the Ten Thousand Immortal Sect to wipe out all the forces involved in the rebellion.