

Es. Benefits 321

Chapter 321: I Agree to Your Terms_2

He had been coveting Lin Wanyun, this beautiful woman, for some time, but due to the numerous reforms in the North Country, he hadn't had the opportunity to make a move on her. To his surprise, she took the initiative to come to him today.

Since she had presented herself to him, there was nothing more to say.

When a delicacy is delivered to your door, there's no reason not to indulge.

Feeling the scorching heat of Lu Chen's body, Lin Wanyun's heart became even more frantic. She exerted all her strength to continue twisting her waist and said, "Chen'er, stop this, I never intended to harm you, I only wanted to help Rongrong refine the Subtle Dragon Spell for revenge."

Lin Wanyun's heart pounded faster and her body felt hotter. For some reason, she faintly smelled a very particular scent that enlivened every cell in her body.

She felt that if this continued, she might get lost in it.

Feeling Lin Wanyun's soft and increasingly hot body, Lu Chen felt as though he was holding a soft, burning piece of cotton, his own rationality becoming more difficult to maintain.

However, Lu Chen took a deep breath at that moment, then circulated the spiritual power within his body to soothe the restlessness inside.

Lu Chen blew a breath by Lin Wanyun's ear, then said in a low voice, "Do you remember what I said to you earlier?"

Lin Wanyun's face felt unbearably hot, and her body had become completely soft, but she was still trying to twist her waist, trying to break free from Lu Chen's control.

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Lin Wanyun absentmindedly asked, "Wha... What words?"

Lu Chen said with a smile, “Surely you don’t want Miss Chen to become my forbidden delicacy, my female slave for life, do you?”

At Lu Chen’s words, Lin Wanyun felt a shock, and her body stopped struggling.

Lu Chen continued, “Sometimes the hunter appears in the form of the prey. You have had your sights on me, and I have had my sights on you. Did you really think I did nothing during the one year and more you have been in the North Prince Mansion?”

A bad feeling suddenly arose in Lin Wanyun’s heart. She asked tentatively, “What... what have you done?”

Lu Chen leaned in close again to her ear and whispered, “Haven’t you felt the dissipation of your skill within your body?”

Lin Wanyun said, “It really was your doing!”

Lu Chen said, “You wanted to use the Love Worm on me and even drain my blood. Isn’t it quite normal for me to take some small measures to protect myself?”

“You had not been in the North Prince Mansion for long when I poisoned you. With a slight exertion of my skill, your skill can be suppressed. Most importantly, this poison can never be removed. Once poisoned, you will never be able to advance your realm in the future, and there might even be a risk of deviation during your practice.”

“The reason you haven’t felt the poison’s effects is because I have been periodically releasing the antidote into your courtyard.”

Upon hearing Lu Chen’s words, Lin Wanyun’s face showed a new wave of panic, and she immediately asked, “Has Rongrong also been poisoned by you?”

Lu Chen said, “Of course.”

Flushed with anger, Lin Wanyun said, “You’re despicable!”

Lu Chen responded, “How am I despicable? You were also trying to use the powder of the Pair-Wing Butterfly on me just now. I simply made the first move, that’s all. What we’re doing is essentially the same.”

With that said, Lu Chen blew on Lin Wanyun’s earlobe again, then said in a deep voice, “The poison I used is undetectable, and no one other than me can produce the antidote.”

“In other words, both Miss Chen and you, once you leave the Prince’s Mansion for too long, will experience the poison’s onset.”

Hearing this, Lin Wanyun felt somewhat terrified; she did not believe Lu Chen was lying to her.

Though they did not notice when they had been poisoned, something had indeed been off with her body for some time. She always felt a restlessness, especially during cultivation, when Lu Chen’s image would always appear in her mind.

If they really were poisoned as Lu Chen had said, and if an antidote could not be found, wouldn’t they be forever unable to leave the North Prince Mansion? How could Chen Wanrong then seek revenge or restore her nation?

While Lin Wanyun’s mind was racing with chaotic thoughts, she suddenly felt an immense pressure from behind, so overwhelming that even she, a Half-step Grandmaster, could hardly breathe.

Lin Wanyun was stupefied for a moment.

This oppressive force obviously couldn’t belong to a Master Level, as Chen Wanrong was a Master herself. Lin Wanyun, having spent much time with a Master, was acutely aware of what their oppressive aura was like, and the pressure she felt at the moment was that of a Grandmaster Level.

How could this be...

Lu Chen was actually a Grand... a Grandmaster!!!

Wasn't he just seventeen this year, and even if he was to turn eighteen in a few months, at most he would still be considered a youth. How could it be possible for him to break through to the Grandmaster Realm at such an age???

At this moment, Lu Chen continued to speak in Lin Wanyun's ear, "I forgot to tell you, I am now a Grandmaster. Even if you got someone from Mysterious Moon Palace, it would be impossible for them to take the antidote from me."

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Lin Wanyun snapped back to reality and said with feigned calm, "Rongrong is the junior of your mother's teacher, do you really intend to harm her?"

Lu Chen said with a smile, "Since she is the junior of my mother's teacher, I should take even better care of her. The best way to take care of her is to make her my woman."

Lin Wanyun said coldly, "Rongrong's master is an Honorable who has surpassed the Celestial Realm. If you dare harm Rongrong, she will surely kill you. Do you really want to throw away your life for a fleeting pleasure?"

Lu Chen said carelessly, "To die under the peony flower, even as a ghost I would be romantic."

Seeing that Lu Chen was not afraid to die, Lin Wanyun panicked completely. She twisted her waist again, trying to break free from Lu Chen's control, and as she struggled said, "If you touch us, you won't end well."

Lin Wanyun writhed against Lu Chen's body, which greatly enraged him.

Lu Chen immediately said, "Let's be direct then. If you want me to spare Miss Chen, it's not impossible, but you will need to pay a price."

Lin Wanyun stopped struggling and asked, "What price?"

"Quite simple. Become my woman, and bear my children."

Lin Wanyun immediately said, "Impossible, I will never marry you."

Lu Chen said with a smile, “Then there is no way around it. If you don’t agree, then both you and Miss Chen will stay in the North Prince Mansion to bear my children.”

“I...” Lin Wanyun hesitated.

At this point, Lu Chen once again whispered temptingly, “Didn’t you say earlier how important Miss Chen was to your heart? Now that she’s about to be harmed, don’t you want to protect her?”

“It seems that what you said before was all to deceive me; she is not at all important to you.”

“Since you won’t agree, then forget it. Having just broken through to the Grandmaster level, I have energy to spare. After I make you my woman, I’ll go find her and make her mine too.”

Hearing Lu Chen’s words, Lin Wanyun said in panic, “No... don’t...”

Lu Chen’s words, like the whispers of a devil, kept seducing Lin Wanyun’s heart.

Lin Wanyun clenched her teeth, trying once more to feel the skill within her body, only to find that it had completely disappeared; no matter how she tried to sense it, there was nothing.

It seemed she was now unable to escape Lu Chen, the devil, and Lin Wanyun thought to herself, she must not let Lu Chen harm Rongrong. Rongrong hadn’t yet gotten her revenge, hadn’t yet restored her country, and there were still so many things left undone; she could not be trapped in the North Prince Mansion as a female slave.

This time, it was her turn to protect Rongrong.

With that thought, Lin Wanyun steeled her resolve to sacrifice herself.

Then Lin Wanyun said, “How can I know you won’t go back on your word? What if, after you have taken me, you still don’t intend to spare her?”

Lu Chen asked with a smile, “Do you think you still have the right to choose?”

Feeling frustrated and defiant, Lin Wanyun said, “You!”

Lin Wanyun knew that nothing she said now would make a difference, then like a deflated balloon, she said listlessly, “Fine, I agree to your terms, to be your woman, as long as you’re willing to let her go. You can ask me to do anything.”

Chapter 322: I Will Not Yield_1

Chen Wanrong was picked up by Lin Wanyun, and she had always treated Chen Wanrong as her own daughter; therefore, she did not want to see Chen Wanrong get hurt.

Although she didn’t know if Lu Chen would go back on his word, she had no other options now, as both she and Chen Wanrong had been poisoned by Lu Chen’s toxins.

Moreover, she had no way to get away from Lu Chen; in this situation, she could only choose to sacrifice herself.

She thought to herself, even if Lu Chen reneged in the end and was unwilling to hand over the antidote, it was alright; she could take advantage of their intimate encounter to search for the antidote to the poison they had been afflicted with.

Lu Chen had previously said that they hadn’t suffered from the effects of the poison because he occasionally sprinkled the antidote around the courtyard where they lived. Lu Chen would likely continue to do so, and as long as she stayed near Lu Chen for a long enough time, one day she would be able to find where Lu Chen kept the antidote hidden.

As Lin Wanyun thought this, she suddenly felt Lu Chen’s hands tugging at her waistband.

The thought of becoming Lu Chen’s woman filled Lin Wanyun’s heart with an immense sense of shame.

While she had a good impression of Lu Chen and would often sneak glances at him, appreciating his handsome appearance,

Lu Chen was still a generation younger than her; she was already 32 years old, while Lu Chen was at most 18 years old. There was a full 14-year gap between them.

In her eyes, Lu Chen had always been a big boy, not yet a man. This wasn't because Lu Chen was too immature.

Lu Chen, now a Grandmaster, had a physique and presence that far surpassed those of his peers; he was already quite mature. It was just that Lin Wanyun often viewed him from the perspective of an elder, as Lu Chen was the son of her sworn sister, Jin Lan.

Now, being held by this big boy, Lu Chen, Lin Wanyun's face was flushed, her body burning hot, and a strange sensation echoed in her heart.

Right then, she could hear her own heart pounding wildly; her blood felt like it was boiling, causing an itchy feeling in her chest.

This feeling was very peculiar, something she had never experienced before, as she had never been so close to a man.

At that moment, Lu Chen whispered in her ear, "Since you've agreed, let's begin."

Upon hearing these words, the foggy-headed Lin Wanyun instantly sobered up.

Begin? Begin what?

Could it be that Lu Chen wanted to engage in intimate acts with her right here in the study?

No! Absolutely not!

This was the study, after all. At night, the patrol would surely pass by the study. What if someone saw them? She did not want Chen Wanrong to find out about this.

With that thought, Lin Wanyun immediately started to struggle again, saying while struggling, "Not here!"

Lu Chen said, "If not here, then let's go to your room."

Upon hearing this, Lin Wanyun felt a shock in her heart.

If they truly went to her room, Chen Wanrong would notice immediately.

Lin Wanyun bit her silver teeth, if it had to be done here, so be it; as long as she didn't make a noise, the patrolling person might not notice what was happening inside the study.

With that thought, Lin Wanyun snorted coldly and said, "If you go back on your word later, I'll self-detonate my Dantian and perish together with you."

Lu Chen didn't seem to care about Lin Wanyun's threats at all. He rested his head on Lin Wanyun's fragrant shoulder, deeply inhaling her body scent.

Lu Chen's heart was already in turmoil, but he didn't immediately act, merely holding Lin Wanyun in his embrace.

Lin Wanyun felt uncomfortable in her body and started to move slightly again. She wasn't trying to escape, as she could no longer escape at this point.

After a while, she realized that Lu Chen was just holding her, continuously sniffing the scent from her neck, which made Lin Wanyun confused. What was Lu Chen doing? Why wasn't he making a move?

Lin Wanyun dared not speak; she wondered if perhaps Lu Chen's conscience had kicked in and he had decided to spare her.

Thinking about it, she was, after all, more than a decade older than Lu Chen; past her prime, he probably didn't have much interest in her body.

The words he spoke before might have just been to scare her.

Moreover, she and Lu Chen's mother were very close friends; perhaps Lu Chen would spare her for the sake of Chu Yue.

At that moment, Lin Wanyun still harbored a bit of hope, but she quickly felt something amiss. The hot breath from Lu Chen on her neck made her nerves extremely sensitive, awakening every cell in her body.

Although Lu Chen hadn't done anything yet, she felt increasingly wrong; the flush on her face had spread to her snow-white neck.

She felt as though she was about to be ignited.

Holding Lin Wanyun's plump and rounded body, Lu Chen had long been unable to restrain himself, but he still contained his urges. After all, there was plenty of time tonight; he didn't need to rush.

However, if he continued to merely embrace her, that wouldn't suffice either. Afterwards, Lu Chen's hands began to wander over Lin Wanyun's body.

As Lu Chen caressed her, Lin Wanyun's body trembled, becoming even more sensitive and even hotter to the touch.

For a moment, Lin Wanyun was at a loss. She had never had such intimate contact with a man, nor did she know that such closeness would elicit these feelings. This was her first time experiencing such unusual sensations.

Chapter 323: I Will Not Yield_2

Lin Wanyun couldn't understand why her body was reacting this way, when had she become the kind of shameless woman.

After a while, Lin Wanyun's body uncontrollably began to squirm, and at that moment, the voice of the big boy rang in her ear, "Wanyun, why has your body become so burning hot."

Hearing this, Lin Wanyun's cheeks became even hotter, she snorted coldly and didn't speak. She tried to control herself, to calm the restlessness in her heart.

But no matter how hard Lin Wanyun tried to quell the turmoil inside her, it was in vain, and gradually, her consciousness began to blur.

Lin Wanyun clenched her teeth.

No, she had to stay alert, she couldn't fall for this little rascal's tricks!

Lin Wanyun gradually realized why Lu Chen hadn't made a move immediately. He probably wanted to wait until she couldn't bear it and then beg him for that kind of thing.

This little rascal wanted to humiliate her, she had to endure it.

As she thought this, Lu Chen suddenly released the hand that bound her wrists and then turned her body around.

When Lin Wanyun turned to face Lu Chen, he saw her eyes shimmering with tears.

Startled by being turned around by Lu Chen, Lin Wanyun paused for a moment.

After her hands were set free, she instinctively wanted to attack Lu Chen, but her arms were so weak that she couldn't lift them at all.

Lin Wanyun was stunned. How could this be...

At that moment, Lin Wanyun looked up at Lu Chen, and through her hazy vision, she seemed to see Lu Chen looking at her with a mischievous smile, making her feel even more ashamed.

Then, Lu Chen leaned down, and Lin Wanyun's head immediately twisted to one side, trying to dodge. But Lu Chen's large hand firmly held her head in place and then captured her lips.

"Mmm mmm mmm..."

Lin Wanyun raised her hand and pounded on Lu Chen's chest, trying to push him away, but it was all to no effect.

Soon Lin Wanyun's mind went blank, completely lost in Lu Chen's kiss, and in the last moment of complete blur, Lin Wanyun knew it was over for her, fearing she would never be able to get rid of Lu Chen again.

In the end, the little rascal had his way.

Nobody else could be blamed, she could only blame herself for trying to scheme against Lu Chen. Not only did she fail to do so, but Lu Chen also discovered it.

As Lin Wanyun's last lucid consciousness faded, she was completely conquered.

...

The moonlight tonight was exquisite, casting a ripple-like glow on the ground, where the shadows of trees swayed as if the ripples were undulating.

Summer had arrived, and the cool breeze of the night rustled the leaves. At that moment, a maid at the entrance of the study's courtyard was watching the shadows cast by the window.

Seeing the overlapping shadows moving about, the little maid's face flushed red. She was actually accustomed to such sights since she often saw them as a maiden on duty in the study.

However, it was her first time seeing Lin Wanyun appear in the study, which surprised her. She had previously thought Lin Wanyun was just a Guard Commander of the inner court and hadn't expected Lin Wanyun to have such duties as well.

As the little maid was engrossed in her thoughts, suddenly a figure appeared behind her, "Xiao Huan, has Chen'er returned yet?"

Startled by the voice, the maid quickly turned around to find Chu Yuqin standing there, and she breathed a sigh of relief, "Madam Chu, the Prince is still handling affairs in the study."

Upon hearing the maid's words, Chu Yuqin immediately prepared to head toward the study, but before she had taken two steps, she heard the sound of an animal crying out.

This...

Chu Yuqin was taken aback for a moment.

Then she looked towards the window, only to see two overlapping shadows clearly visible. She realized then, Lu Chen clearly wasn't handling state affairs; he was busy doing something naughty.

Chu Yuqin glanced at the two shadows, scoffed coldly in her heart, and thought it must be that bitch returning. She could have just gone back to her room at night; why did she come to the study to do this? What did she take the study for, such shamelessness.

Chu Yuqin stood still, watching the writhing shadows for a while.

At that moment, a confusion rose in Chu Yuqin's heart. The voice coming from inside the study was not that of the infamous bitch; she was very familiar with that woman's voice, and her tone wasn't like this.

The current voice sounded deeper, and it seemed as if the woman was deliberately suppressing her own voice, not allowing it to carry outside.

If it were Wang Qingci, that shameless bitch, she wouldn't care about these minor details. Wang Qingci would be shouting loudly, as if afraid others wouldn't hear her.

Could it be that the person in the study wasn't Wang Qingci?

With this thought, Chu Yuqin turned her head towards the little maid with a flushed face and began to ask, "Inside the study is..."

Before Chu Yuqin could finish, a woman's voice came from behind her, "Is it Madam Chu's turn on duty tonight?"

Hearing this enchanting voice, Chu Yuqin was startled, then she turned to see that it was Wang Qingci, the bitch.

Since Wang Qingci was still outside, that meant the person inside was indeed not her; it's not like Wang Qingci could be in two places at once.

Chapter 324: I Will Not Yield_3

If it wasn't Wang Qingci, then who was thoughtless enough to disturb Lu Chen while he was attending to state affairs by running into the study, and even doing that sort of thing with him.

Having arrived at the entrance of the courtyard, Wang Qingci intended to continue speaking, but suddenly heard a series of strange noises. Then she looked up at the study windows and, upon seeing two shadows, said with a smile, "I never would have guessed Madam Chu has such a hobby."

"But what's the point of eavesdropping? To experience something once is worth more than eavesdropping a hundred times."

Upon hearing Wang Qingci's words, Chu Yuqin snorted coldly and then, without asking which maidservant was inside, she turned around and left.

Watching Chu Yuqin's departing figure, Wang Qingci smiled slightly. Although she didn't know if Chu Yuqin had ever done that sort of thing with Lu Chen, in her view, not a single woman in the inner court could escape from the palm of Lu Chen's hand, aside from the maidservants and lower servants.

After Chu Yuqin's figure disappeared from view, Wang Qingci turned her head to the maidservant and asked, "Which lady of the Prince's Mansion is inside?"

Startled by the question, the little maidservant hesitated—though Wang Qingci was also one of Lu Chen's women, it was the first time Lin Wanyun had appeared in the study, so she wasn't sure if it was permissible to divulge such matters.

Seeing the little maidservant hesitating without answering immediately, Wang Qingci instantly guessed that the woman in the study must not be one of Lu Chen's usual women, and it was highly likely that he had conquered another one.

Was it Chu Qingli? Or possibly Lin Wanyun, or Chen Wanrong?

Judging by the voice, it didn't sound like Chu Qingli or Chen Wanrong; the voice seemed subdued, clearly that of someone older and with a strong sense of shame.

Then it could only be Lin Wanyun.

Wang Qingci covered her mouth and chuckled. She didn't feel jealous at the thought of Lu Chen having one more woman.

On the contrary, her heart was somewhat pleased that Lu Chen had added another woman.

Her feelings towards Lu Chen were always complex; she was afraid both of Lu Chen not seeking her out, and of him seeking her every single day.

It was better for Lu Chen to have more women; that way, he wouldn't have to watch her, a mere female slave, all the time.

With this thought, Wang Qingci said to the maidservant Xiao Huan, "Xiao Huan, once the Prince finishes his business, tell him I came looking for him, and have someone come to my courtyard to remind me."

"Yes, Lady Wang," replied the maidservant immediately.

Subsequently, Wang Qingci turned and left.

At dawn, the crowing of roosters sounded over and over, yet Lu Chen was still savoring the delectable encounter from yesterday.

At that time, Lu Chen felt somewhat regretful; he thought he should not have done those things in the study yesterday, but rather should have found a bedroom.

Lin Wanyun and Yelv Nanyan were of the same type, with extremely supple bodies.

Supple bodies are the most comfortable to hold while sleeping, and since one can't sleep in the study, it felt a bit wasteful.

While Lu Chen was occupied, a timid voice came from the doorway, “Prince, the Princess has made breakfast and brought it for you.”

Hearing this voice, Lin Wanyun woke as if from a dream, trying to extricate herself from Lu Chen, only to be firmly pinned down by him and unable to move.

Lu Chen said with a smile, “Wanyun, don’t rush; we still have plenty of time.”

Lin Wanyun turned her head, her cheeks flushed with shame and indignation, and cursed, “You devil, I will not submit!”

Lu Chen chuckled and then said to the maidservant outside, “Take the breakfast back, tell the Princess I’ll eat later when I come back.”

“Yes, Prince,” the maidservant replied.

After the maidservant left, Lu Chen bent down again and kissed Lin Wanyun’s lips once more.

“Mmm mmm mmm...”

Chapter 325: Lu Chen’s Proposal_1

[Congratulations, Host, on acquiring another wife and concubine, you’ve received the reward of the salt production technique.]

[The Host has bonded with a wife and concubine once, Qi Refinement Mantra experience value increased by 500, Rejuvenating Skill experience value increased by 200, Dragon and Phoenix Yin Yang Skill experience value increased by 600, Absorption Technique experience value increased by 300. The Host has triggered an Emotional Crit, tripling all skill experience values.]

[The Host and wife have achieved a spiritual connection, especially rewarding the Light Skill Shifting Shadow.]

Looking at the system interface before him, Lu Chen smiled slightly, then turned his head to look toward the beautiful woman who was ceaselessly fixing her clothes nearby. Lin Wanyun, her hair disheveled, her hair bun completely undone, her dress torn, and her snow-white neck bore some red marks.

At this moment, Lin Wanyun also noticed Lu Chen's gaze, and with a resentful look on her face, she said, "When do you plan on giving us the antidote?"

Lu Chen indifferently replied, "What's the rush, at the very least you should wait until you are carrying my child."

Lin Wanyun's heart skipped a beat.

Although she had spent a night in the study, tormented throughout, she was well aware that the higher the realm of a martial artist, the harder it is to conceive a child, and just one night's time would not lead to her bearing Lu Chen's child.

She was a Half-step Grandmaster, and Lu Chen was a Grandmaster, making it even more difficult for the two of them to produce offspring. If she had to wait until she was pregnant with Lu Chen's child to get the antidote from him, then Chen Wanrong might very well miss the best opportunity for revenge.

Not only might Chen Wanrong lose the chance to avenge herself, but she might also miss the opportunity to reclaim the throne for her nation.

With this thought, Lin Wanyun's eyebrows knitted together, determined she could not wait to bear a child before leaving the Prince's Mansion. She must find another way to get the antidote from Lu Chen.

At that time, Lin Wanyun said, "I hope you'll keep your word."

Having said this, Lin Wanyun prepared to turn around and leave the study, but after just a few steps, she felt uncoordinated and wobbled, hastily stabilizing her body.

It wasn't that she was feeling uncomfortable, rather the sensations before had been too intense, causing her brain to still feel foggy, and she hadn't yet recovered.

Lin Wanyun gritted her teeth, struggling to regain lucidity as quickly as possible.

After regaining some clarity, Lin Wanyun once again stepped forward, ready to leave this place.

However, with one step forward, her body suddenly lost its balance, and she was pulled back by Lu Chen, falling into his embrace.

Lin Wanyun thought Lu Chen was going to do that sort of thing to her again, so she immediately began to struggle. "What... what do you want to do!"

Lin Wanyun was somewhat afraid; it was broad daylight now, and people often came to Lu Chen's study. If they were to do something disgraceful in the study room again, others would surely find out.

If this matter reached Chen Wanrong's ears, what would Chen Wanrong think of her? It's very likely that Chen Wanrong would think she had betrayed her.

Lu Chen held Lin Wanyun's tender body tightly and whispered in her ear, "Madam Lin, the truth is I know you can't bring yourself to harm me."

Hearing these words, Lin Wanyun was momentarily stunned.

Indeed, she didn't want Lu Chen to get hurt; lately, she had been dreaming about Chu Yue frequently, dreaming about Chu Yue's past care for her.

But she had no choice; she too had her loyalties. Chen Wanrong was someone she had cared for since she was a child, almost like her own daughter. Compared to Lu Chen, a child of someone else, she would obviously side with her "daughter."

Furthermore, Chen Wanrong had stated that she wouldn't kill Lu Chen, not only that but would also have a child with him who would inherit the throne of Chen Nation in the future.

It was because of Chen Wanrong's intentions that Lin Wanyun didn't feel too guilty.

If Lu Chen was only to lose some blood without risking his life, then she hadn't wronged Chu Yue too much. Besides, Chu Yue's death was most likely caused by the Sum Emperor. Their use of Lu Chen to concoct the Subtle Dragon Spell was also, to some extent, seeking vengeance for Chu Yue.

At that time, Lin Wanyun scoffed and said, "Don't flatter yourself."

Seeing Lin Wanyun's hard stance, Lu Chen blew gently into her ear, then said, "Last night you didn't say that."

Upon hearing this, Lin Wanyun's face instantly became burning hot. She had never imagined that she would one day become that kind of shameless woman, especially as she was already in her thirties.

All because of this little rascal.

Lin Wanyun immediately twisted her waist, trying to break free from Lu Chen's arms.

However, no matter how Lin Wanyun struggled, she was still unable to break free; her skill remained in a sealed state within her body, making her nearly as capable as an ordinary person. How could an ordinary person escape the control of a Grandmaster?

At this time, Lu Chen continued to whisper in her ear, "Madam Lin, although I am quite lecherous, I genuinely like you and Miss Chen. I feel there's no need for us to be so adversarial."

"I know Miss Chen also has some feelings for me. Since we both have feelings for each other, why can't we be together?"

"Besides, I don't have a good relationship with my father, the emperor. He caused the death of my mother, so whatever you want to do to him doesn't concern me."

"Since we have no direct conflict and share affection for each other as well as a common enemy, why can't you marry me, become my women, and bear my children?"

Chapter 326: Lu Chen's Proposal_2

This...

Lin Wanyun was taken aback.

Hearing Lu Chen say this, it seemed like there was absolutely no problem with what Lu Chen had said.

Although they indeed wanted to use the Love Worm to control Lu Chen, they didn't plan to kill him, and Chen Wanrong even planned to have a child with him.

The reason why they were always afraid of being discovered by Lu Chen was mainly because they felt that Lu Chen would not cooperate with them in refining the Subtle Dragon Spell, and certainly would not let them kill his father, the Sum Emperor, after all, Lu Chen was also the son of the Sum Emperor.

Seeing Lin Wanyun fall silent, Lu Chen continued to lure her with his words beside her ear, "Judging by your performance last night, you have been longing for my body for quite some time, you just didn't show it. Now that you are my woman, there's no need for us to hide anything from each other anymore."

"You were afraid that I would reject you after knowing your intentions, so you didn't dare tell me your plans. Now that we have had an open talk, why don't we formally start to collaborate?"

With a flushed face, Lin Wanyun retorted, "You shameless scoundrel, who's longing for your body!"

Lin Wanyun, having her thoughts exposed by Lu Chen, felt immensely ashamed. She had indeed been thinking about Lu Chen's handsome face lately, always unable to stop herself from looking at him, sometimes feeling strange sensations in her heart.

Although she had been deliberately trying to avoid these feelings, there was no doubt in her mind that she harbored romantic feelings for Lu Chen, and she knew this well.

But she stoutly denied it, after all, she was already thirty-two years old this year, how could she have feelings for a man much younger than herself.

What Lu Chen did last night completely tore apart the facade she had kept up in her heart.

Lin Wanyun continued, “What collaboration? You just want mine and Rongrong’s bodies, that much is clear. I will never agree to that. Rongrong has her own mission; she cannot stay in the North Prince Mansion to bear your children. You’d better give up on that idea.”

Lu Chen, with his arm around Lin Wanyun’s waist, said, “You’re right, I do want your bodies, but I’m also serious about the collaboration. The two aren’t mutually exclusive.”

“You don’t agree now, no matter. I will give you time to think it over, and when you have made up your mind, let me know your decision.”

With those words, Lu Chen let go of Lin Wanyun.

Lin Wanyun immediately headed towards the exit of the study room, or rather, she fled towards it. She was afraid that if Lu Chen took a fancy once more, she would be pressed against the desk again.

After Lin Wanyun left, Lu Chen quickly glanced over the Qinggong technique “Shadow Shifting” he had just acquired.

This Qinggong was very useful for him; it could allow him to move to a different place in the blink of an eye. Having mastered this Qinggong, he would easily be able to dodge others’ attacks in the future.

After examining the cultivation technique, Lu Chen took a quick look around his study, which was now a complete mess.

The pillow he had used last night was too soft; he had lost some control, and his actions had been a bit rough, causing the desk in the study to collapse.

This was the desk he had just had specially made a few days ago, in case Wang Qingci would occasionally come to his study to relax, worrying that the desk might not withstand it.

He hadn’t expected that in just a short while, the desk would be ruined.

It seems better not to engage in such activities in the study in the future.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen straightened his clothes, then left the study as well.

Meanwhile.

Yunrong Courtyard.

Chen Wanrong woke up early in the morning and started to meditate in the pavilion.

Suddenly, a disheveled figure appeared in the courtyard. Seeing Lin Wanyun with her hair in disarray, stumbling as she walked, Chen Wanrong immediately stood up and asked, “Madam Lin, what’s the matter with you?”

Although Chen Wanrong’s face was expressionless, the fluctuation in her tone was obvious. She was clearly very concerned about Lin Wanyun.

If it hadn’t been for Lin Wanyun taking her to the Mysterious Moon Palace all those years ago, and caring for her ever since, it was questionable whether she would have survived at all, let alone achieved what she had today.

Even though she always addressed Lin Wanyun as “Auntie”, in her heart, she had long regarded Lin Wanyun as her own mother.

Fearing that Chen Wanrong might notice something amiss, Lin Wanyun hastily said, “I’m fine. An assassin came to the Prince’s Mansion last night, and I exchanged a few moves with him. Just my clothes got a bit torn, I’m not hurt. I’m going to take a bath now.”

With that, Lin Wanyun hurried off to her room.

Watching Lin Wanyun’s receding figure, Chen Wanrong did not harbor much suspicion, as she had absolute trust in Lin Wanyun. She believed that Lin Wanyun wouldn’t lie to her.

However...

Chen Wanrong felt she smelled a sharp, pungent odor, the likes of which she couldn't recognize — it was her first time encountering such a scent.

After catching a whiff of this odor, the image of that man involuntarily surfaced in her mind.

Chen Wanrong immediately regulated her Inner Strength to calm her inner turmoil, preventing herself from continuing down the path of intrusive thoughts.

Not long after,

Lin Wanyun stripped off her tattered clothes and submerged herself in the bath, scrubbing her body over and over again.

At that moment, the words said by Lu Chen seemed to echo in her ears.

Unable to discern whether Lu Chen's words were true or false, she dared not trust him.

If Lu Chen were sincere in seeking an alliance, then perhaps it could be considered...

But then, how would she face Chen Wanrong?

Could she really expect herself and Chen Wanrong to marry Lu Chen?

Such a preposterous notion.

Only that little devil could come up with such an idea.

Lin Wanyun sighed. The priority was to find the antidote first, then consider other matters.

Just then, she began to circulate her Cultivation Technique, intending to expel the impurities from her body.

But the next moment, she froze, feeling the roundness of her belly, and suddenly realized that if she couldn't conceive Lu Chen's child soon, how would she obtain the antidote from him?

At this thought, Lin Wanyun had to abandon her Cultivation Technique. The idea of bearing a child for Yue's son filled her with such inner shame, it felt like dying was a better option—how had she, of her age, come to have an affair with a man over a decade her junior?

All because of that little devil!

Every time she thought of that demon's face, Lin Wanyun's mind was once again filled with the scenes from last night. To halt her chaotic thoughts, she immediately submerged herself, burying her head entirely in the water.

Chapter 327: It's Time to Incorporate the North Land into the North Country_1

“`

After capturing Lin Wanyun, Lu Chen was completely relaxed and refreshed. Despite not having slept all night, due to his Grandmaster physique, he did not feel tired at all.

Lu Chen sat at the table in the great hall, eating breakfast and humming a tune.

At this moment, Mu Zixuan was nearby feeding the child and seeing Lu Chen so cheerful early in the morning, she curiously asked, “Prince, did something happy happen to you just now?”

Lu Chen put down his bowl and asked, “How could you tell?”

Mu Zixuan chuckled and then said, “Since the Prince returned, you've been humming tunes nonstop, with your mood written all over your face. Naturally, your concubine can see it.”

Lu Chen smiled and said, “Is that so, it seems I can't hide anything at all.”

At that point, Lu Chen suddenly thought of something and then said, “Right, I obtained a method for producing salt not long ago. The eastern part of the North Country is by the sea, so later you could recruit some workers to go there and make salt.”

Upon hearing this, Mu Zixuan was momentarily stunned and then asked, “Prince, is the Prince’s Mansion going to make salt as well? Isn’t that somewhat inappropriate to place under your concubine’s responsibility?”

Lu Chen said with puzzlement, “My beloved, you should have heard by now, the imperial court has already abolished the state monopoly on salt production, so we Princes can make salt in private now.”

Mu Zixuan said, “Your concubine doesn’t mean that. What I mean is that the issue of the ownership of salt production rights is of great importance and should be handed over to the Small court of the North Country.”

Although the responsibilities between the North Prince Mansion and the Small court weren’t entirely separate, such as the Mansion’s profits still being periodically contributed to the North Country’s treasury, everyone knew that as the political power of the North Country gradually stabilized, there would certainly be a split between the Small court and the North Prince Mansion. Issues like the Harem not interfering in politics would inevitably be raised sooner or later.

Even though the central government of Great Sum had already liberalized the right to operate salt production, if such a remote place like the North Land opened up its salt business, the price of salt could surge upwards any day. The common people were already poor and if the price of salt rose excessively, then they wouldn’t be able to afford salt.

It would definitely be better to manage salt production rights uniformly. The right to operate salt production represented politics, and Mu Zixuan deeply understood that she was merely Lu Chen’s consort, a woman, and that the Harem should not carelessly meddle in politics.

Producing salt was not an economic issue, but a political one.

If Lu Chen insisted on involving her in the management of salt production, then that would imply he planned to liberalize the rights to salt production. Once those rights were liberalized, it wouldn’t matter who made the salt and there would be no issue with her involvement in politics. However, once those rights were liberalized, it could easily lead to chaotic fluctuations in salt prices.

Upon hearing Mu Zixuan’s explanation, Lu Chen instantly understood her point and then said, “The task of making salt needn’t be given to officials, the Prince’s Mansion’s people can handle it just

fine. Plus, the method I've acquired is fairly superior, producing high-quality salt with no bitter taste. I don't wish to leak the method of making salt just yet."

"As for the issue with the right to operate salt production, that can be dealt with too. We'll hand over a portion of the profits from the Mansion's salt production to the treasury. Besides, I'll establish a Salt Monopoly Bureau, which will be in charge only of selling salt, not producing it."

Anyway, in this era, it's like a family-owned world, the entire North Country belongs to him; his allowing the Mansion to produce salt is a trifle, especially since he himself made the production technique available, and offering part of the earnings from salt sales to the treasury is quite benevolent already.

For now, he was the sole decision-maker in the North Country; the Small court was filled with his people, so no one would have objections.

With so many industries belonging to the Prince's Mansion, there wasn't an official in the North Country daring enough to accuse the Mansion of competing with the people for profit.

Of course, only Lu Chen could do this. If another Prince tried, the Aristocratic Families would certainly jump out in opposition.

Mu Zixuan said, "Your concubine understands. I will arrange for some workers to go to the seaside to make salt shortly."

Lu Chen then quickly finished his meal, and after breakfast, he rose from the table and left the main hall to head to Wang Qingci's courtyard.

As he left the study earlier, a maid had mentioned that Wang Qingci had looked for him the previous night, likely having some matter to discuss.

But as soon as Lu Chen stepped out of the main hall, he saw a figure in a red dress leaning against the courtyard wall, Wang Qingci's S-shaped figure was irresistible, accentuating her curves fully.

Before Wang Qingci had a chance to speak, Lu Chen smiled and said, "Mr. Wang, what business do you have with me?"

Wang Qingci replied with a smile, "I seek you, naturally, with important intelligence."

"The Prince has indeed been very busy lately. Even to report intelligence to you, I had to wait an entire night," she added.

By then, Lu Chen had approached Wang Qingci and casually placed his hand on her slender waist, "Mr. Wang, should we go to your room, or to my study?"

Hearing the question, Wang Qingci gave Lu Chen a sidelong glance. She knew that Lu Chen had not slept at all last night, so she wasn't worried about him trying anything with her later, thus she said, "Let's go to my room."

Since Lu Chen had spent the previous night in the study with Lin Wanyun, the scent in there was probably quite strong. After all, she was just there to report intelligence to Lu Chen, and it didn't matter where she did it.

“`

Chapter 328: It's Time to Incorporate the North Land into the North Country_2

Lu Chen said, "Alright."

Then, Lu Chen, with his arm around Wang Qingci's willow waist, brought her to Wang Qingci's bedroom. As soon as they entered the room, he placed her on the bed and then lay on top of her.

Wang Qingci was momentarily stunned, thinking that Lu Chen might take advantage of her, but she soon realized she had been overthinking it. After Lu Chen lay down on the bed, he turned to lie on his side, holding Wang Qingci's waist, as if she were a pillow.

At that moment, Lu Chen buried his head in her embrace and took a deep breath of her scent before speaking, "Tell me, what's been happening with the major dynasties recently? Just give me a direct report; later, you can leave the paper reports on my study's desk. I didn't sleep last night, let me doze off a bit."

Returning to her senses, Wang Qingci thought to herself, how could Lu Chen be thinking of such things at this time? Lu Chen had been busy all night long in his study, and even as a Grandmaster, he needed rest.

Afterward, allowing Lu Chen to hold her tender body, she began, “The students from Universal Academy originally wanted to pass through the Great Xia Dynasty on their way to North Country but were driven to Great Wu Dynasty by Great Xia’s troops. Great Xia’s army claimed they were afraid the students would spread plague, so those students will need some time before they can reach North Country.”

Had they come directly through other regions of the Great Xia Dynasty, it would take at most three months for Universal Academy’s students to arrive in North Country. But now, detouring through Great Wu Dynasty and then crossing the Da Yue Dynasty, would likely take four or five months.

Holding Wang Qingci close in his embrace, her soft and tender body emitting a Gentle Jade Fragrance, Lu Chen said indifferently, “I see. Any other intelligence?”

Wang Qingci continued, “The Princess Junwan of Great Wu Dynasty is said to have gone to the Southwest Region to negotiate with the rebel leaders, intending to assimilate the rebels.”

“Hmm?”

Hearing this, Lu Chen immediately lifted his head from her Gentle Jade Fragrance and turned to look at Wang Qingci. “It shouldn’t be her conducting the negotiations, right? A princess going to negotiate with rebel leaders?”

Wang Qingci explained, “Initially, it wasn’t her who went. Initially, the Martial Emperor wanted to suppress the rebellion with military force and accumulate some merit for his two sons. So, he sent them to lead the troops to annihilate the rebels. However, both of his sons were defeated, resulting in heavy losses.”

“Persuaded by the Prime Minister, Chai Jiliang, the Martial Emperor once again agreed to the negotiations. Princess Junwan has always had a good reputation among the common people, so she was chosen to negotiate with the rebel leaders.”

Lu Chen smiled at Wang Qingci’s words, “That’s quite interesting. It looks like in a few decades, the world will see another Empress. But then again, there has never been a half-done rebellion in history. Those rebel leaders probably won’t agree to surrender to Great Wu’s royal court, will they?”

Hearing Lu Chen's remark, Wang Qingci spoke with a smile, "Prince, you are mistaken this time. I have heard that some rebel leaders in the Southwest Region of Great Wu are already planning to surrender and are choosing to side with the Princess Junwan."

This...

Lu Chen was once again taken aback.

Rebelling halfway, weren't those guys afraid of being severely dealt with later?

Lu Chen asked, "Is this information accurate?"

Wang Qingci replied, "It's accurate, some rebels are indeed planning to surrender to the Great Wu court. However, there is also a part that refuses to give in – mainly from the aristocratic families in the Southwest Region."

Lu Chen chuckled. Those Aristocratic Families truly had no way out. If they were ordinary people who had rebelled, the ruler might choose to pardon them due to their large numbers in the end. But the Aristocratic Families were different; their rebellion was clearly aimed at overthrowing the Great Martial Royal Family's rule. Even if they surrendered, they would definitely be held accountable, so the war in Great Wu would continue for a while.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen was reassured. The current situation in Great Xia was quite chaotic too, and if Great Wu recovered now, there was a good chance that the Martial Emperor, given his personality, would immediately send troops to attack Great Xia.

Even though Lu Chen wasn't the Great Xia Emperor yet, in his eyes, the whole Great Xia Dynasty would eventually be his, and he didn't want to see Great Xia taken over by Great Wu.

At this point, Wang Qingci went on, "Additionally, there is some intelligence about the Da Yue Dynasty."

Curious, Lu Chen said, "Da Yue's intelligence? Has anything happened there recently?"

Compared to other dynasties, Da Yue had always been relatively peaceful, aside from stationing 200,000 troops at the border with North Country, there hadn't been any movement.

Wang Qingci stated, "The Barbarian Tribe is moving southward, and the 200,000 troops Da Yue had stationed at the border are gradually being transferred to the northwest area to confront the Barbarian Tribe."

Hearing that, Lu Chen fell into deep thought.

Although the main tribes of the Barbarians in the North Land had already been destroyed, in truth, there were many Barbarians to the north, divided into several large tribes, each with its own king.

These tribes had been united, but following the death of one of their Great Commanders, they declared themselves kings. Among them, the Sky Wolf King and North Fre King tribes moved to the North Land, and the others stayed in the northwest area.

Like Great Xia, Da Yue was subjected to annual invasions from the Barbarian Tribes, and the number of tribes in the northwest area far exceeded those in North Land, so the southern incursion by the Barbarian Tribes of the northwest could put significant pressure on Da Yue.

Chapter 329: It's Time to Incorporate the North Land into the North Country_3

“

Lu Chen thought to himself, with Great Yue now resisting the invasion of the Barbarian Tribe, it meant that the major dynasties would have no time to deal with him.

It was time to incorporate the North Land into the North Country!

After annexing the North Land, the North Country's territory would very likely surpass that of the Great Xia Dynasty. By then, if the North Country were to further develop, proclaiming himself Emperor would be no issue at all.

With that thought, Lu Chen's lips slightly curved upwards. He buried his head into Wang Qingci's Gentle Jade Fragrance once more, before continuing to sleep with his eyes closed.

At this moment, Wang Qingci said, “This concubine has finished reporting the intelligence. Do you have any orders, my Prince?”

Lu Chen asked from Wang Qingci’s embrace, “Has the Qian Family been up to anything recently?”

Wang Qingci replied, “The Qian Family has been quite active lately, but they’ve been somewhat more low-key compared to some time ago.”

Lu Chen said, “Keep an eye on them.”

Wang Qingci responded, “Yes, my Prince.”

Lu Chen then deeply inhaled Wang Qingci’s scent and said, “Alright, if there’s nothing else, then no more talking. Let me sleep in your arms.”

Hearing this, Wang Qingci smiled slightly and, without another word, her delicate chin rested on Lu Chen’s head as she lifted her jade arm to embrace him.

Holding the soft and tender body of Wang Qingci, Lu Chen soon drifted into dreamland.

Time flew by, and before long, it was Zhou Youyou’s due date for childbirth.

Lu Chen had recently not left the Prince’s Mansion, and as luck would have it, he was there on the day Zhou Youyou was to give birth, having arrived at her birthing chamber early in the morning to wait.

With Lu Chen standing by her bedside, Zhou Youyou wasn’t worried in the slightest about what could happen later.

At this time, Lin Wanyun stood outside the birthing chamber alongside Chu Yuqin and the others, her thoughts in turmoil. These past days, Lu Chen had been consummating their relationship ceaselessly, attempting to get her pregnant, and she felt as though she had been thoroughly branded by Lu Chen.

Thinking about having to bear Lu Chen's children in the future, Lin Wanyun's cheeks flushed a shade of crimson, and her face burned with heat.

No, this won't do—I must quickly find the antidote and help Rongrong escape. I can't be obsessing over having children for this little rascal. By the time I get pregnant, who knows how many years it'll have been.

At that moment, Chu Yuqin, who was standing by, said to Lin Wanyun, "Sister Lin, why is your face so red?"

Snapping back to reality, Lin Wanyun hastily replied, "Oh, it's nothing. I've been slightly over-exerting myself while practicing my martial arts these days."

Hearing this, Chu Yuqin blinked in confusion.

Over-exerting in martial arts?

Then Chu Yuqin noticed the many red marks on Lin Wanyun's neck, which resembled those on Chu Qingli's neck, and said, "Sister Lin, how come you've also over-exerted yourself in practice?"

Perplexed, Lin Wanyun said, "Are there others in the Prince's Mansion who've done the same?"

Chu Yuqin replied, "Yes, Qing Li has often overdone it in the past few months. If you look at her neck, those red marks are left from over-exerting in practice."

"It's so strange; why is it that after you both practiced too hard, your necks would have so many red and purple marks?"

Upon hearing this, both Lin Wanyun and the nearby Chu Qingli stiffened. They turned to look at each other and discovered that the marks on each other's necks were indeed the same.

Seeing this, Chu Qingli inwardly scoffed, that lecherous wretch hadn't even spared Lin Wanyun.

She realized, in the inner quarters, any beautiful woman caught Lu Chen's eye, and he had no intention of sparing any of them.

She had to hasten her negotiations with Lu Chen and rescue her sister.

After her efforts over this time, there weren't many instances left in Chu Yuqin's deal with Lu Chen. She needed to step up the pace.

Although deep down they probably both knew that their bodies and hearts were most likely shaped by Lu Chen, both Chu Qingli and Lin Wanyun tacitly avoided addressing the fact. They turned their gazes back towards the birthing chamber, pretending as if nothing had happened.

Chapter 330: The Birth of the Fifth Child_1

Lu Chen had stayed for a while in Zhou Youyou's birthing room when her belly began to move incessantly.

At that moment, the midwife reminded him, "Prince, Madam Xiaozhou is about to give birth."

Lu Chen replied, "I know."

Then Lu Chen took hold of Zhou Youyou's hand and said to her with a smile, "Youyou, don't be nervous, it will soon be over."

Zhou Youyou, with a relaxed expression, said, "With the Prince here, your consort is not nervous."

All of Lu Chen's women knew that he was capable of using Immortal Technique, and with Lu Chen's help, giving birth was not difficult for them, as was proven with Mu Zixuan's childbirth.

The moment Zhou Youyou finished speaking, a severe pain surged from her lower body. Seeing Zhou Youyou's face suddenly change, Lu Chen knew it was about time.

Immediately, Lu Chen used the Rejuvenating Skill and sent a stream of green spiritual power into Zhou Youyou's body. In just an instant, the pain she had been feeling vanished.

Lu Chen didn't release her hand. He continued to infuse Zhou Youyou with spiritual power, and soon, the green spiritual power entering her body converged near the fetus and enveloped it.

Before Zhou Youyou could even react, the child shot out from her body, and the next moment, the room filled with the baby's cries of "wah, wah, wah."

The midwives hurriedly took care of things afterward, bathing the baby, cutting the umbilical cord, and so on.

Zhou Youyou, lying in bed, was stunned. She had felt pain only briefly before her child was born?

Was it really that easy?

Although she knew that with Lu Chen present childbirth shouldn't be too painful, this seemed too easy, even easier than when she had given birth the last time.

Put crudely, it was even easier than relieving herself, as she had hardly felt anything when the child came out.

Seeing Zhou Youyou with a bewildered look, Lu Chen asked, "What's wrong?"

Zhou Youyou replied in a daze, "Prince... my Lord, has your consort given birth just like that???"

Lu Chen chuckled and then said, "What? Would you have preferred our child to stay in your belly longer? It's been nearly ten months. It was time to come out."

Zhou Youyou then, still in a daze, said, "Thank you, my Lord."

Lu Chen said, "What are you thanking me for? You are my woman; this is what I should do."

As he said this, Lu Chen glanced at his hand, the corners of his mouth slightly curving upwards, thinking to himself that he was getting more and more proficient with the Rejuvenating Skill.

From the moment Zhou Youyou felt the child come out, not even two minutes had passed. The Rejuvenating Skill truly lived up to its name. In the future, naming it Saint Doctor wouldn't be wrong.

It was then that the system voice echoed in Lu Chen's ears.

[Congratulations, Host, on the birth of a child, rewarding two major vassal families. From now on, these two families will share life and death with the North Prince Mansion. If the North Prince Mansion prospers, so will they; if the North Prince Mansion perishes, so will they. They will follow you unconditionally.]

[The more children you have, the greater the rewards. Host, keep up the good work and strive to have descendants all over the world soon.]

Hearing the system's prompt, Lu Chen was momentarily taken aback.

What's this?

Two families as a reward this time?

Not an army? Nor talents?

What use are two families to him? Knowing how much he despises aristocratic families, why would the system reward him with families?

While Lu Chen was lost in thought, the midwife came over carrying the child, "Congratulations, Prince, Madam Xiaozhou has given birth to a Commandery Princess for you."

Everyone in the North Prince Mansion knew that Lu Chen did not favor boys over girls. His fondness for them, especially for Lu Huanhuan, was evident.

Snapping back to reality after hearing the midwife's words, Lu Chen took the child and smiled at her. The little girl, who had been wailing loudly, suddenly stopped crying.

Lu Chen then placed the baby girl on the bed. At this time, Zhou Youyou slowly propped herself up and turned to look at her daughter on the bed.

Zhou Youyou said, "Prince, please give her a name."

Lu Chen answered, "Let's name her Lu Lingxiu."

Hearing this, Zhou Youyou murmured, "Lingxiu, Lingxiu, born with grace and elegance. The name the Prince has chosen is so beautiful."

Lu Chen smiled faintly, then placed his hand on Lu Lingxiu, using the Rejuvenating Skill to check her for any illnesses and to treat her as necessary.

Lu Chen stayed with Zhou Youyou for about half an hour in the room before leaving for his study.

Entering the study, Lu Chen immediately opened the system to check the rewards he had just received.

Since these two families were awarded to him by the system, their loyalty to him would be one hundred percent. It was unrealistic to expect his domain not to have any major families, and if a dynasty inevitably produced them, then why not make his own people stronger?

In the future, he could use these two families to coordinate with him, putting on a show as if they were against the North Prince Mansion, then use them as bait to lure out other families that wanted to cause trouble.

Thinking about this made Lu Chen feel slightly more at ease. He then checked what these two families were known for.

[Qian Family: Remnants of the Great Shang, with a population of thirty thousand. Located in the capital city of the Great Wu dynasty, the current family head is Qian Dahai. They have close connections with Princess Wu and are ostensibly supported by her, but in truth, they serve only the Son of Destiny.]