

Es. Benefits 701

Chapter 701 Xue Linglong: Taking Down North Prince Is Just Too Easy_1

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Wu Junwan said expressionlessly, "Since the Prince is already afraid, then the Prince should stop thinking about letting me manage the Prince's Mansion's assets. Find someone else."

Lu Chen said with a smile, "I was indeed worried for a moment, but then I thought, the conditions for becoming a Celestial are extremely important for someone in the Unity Realm. No one would willingly share their Celestial test, for if they did, others might find ways to prevent them from achieving Unity."

"Since you disclosed it of your own volition, it proves that the Celestial test is definitely not that."

Seeing that Lu Chen had guessed she was lying just now, Wu Junwan still did not care in the slightest; what did it matter if he guessed correctly? Her words had already planted the seeds of doubt in Lu Chen's heart – he could never fully trust her.

Just when Wu Junwan thought that Lu Chen wouldn't let her get involved with the North Prince Mansion's assets anymore, Lu Chen continued, "If your Celestial test is not to betray me, but it's somehow related to me, then I guess that your test is probably to bear me a child."

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Wu Junwan tensed up, body and soul. She had not expected Lu Chen to guess her Celestial test so easily.

Feeling Wu Junwan's body suddenly tense up, as if she were very nervous, Lu Chen whispered in her ear, "Wanyan, darling, such a big reaction – it seems I've hit the mark, eh?"

Wu Junwan snapped back to reality and scoffed, quickly denying, "Ridiculous. How could the Celestial test in this world be something as simple as bearing a child? You're really wild in your imagination."

Lu Chen said, "Oh? It's not about bearing a child?"

"Do you think bearing a child is a simple matter?"

"Since it's not one, could it be two kids then?"

This...

Wu Junwan was briefly taken aback and became nervous once more. In their current state, even the slightest tension in Wu Junwan's body was easily perceived by Lu Chen.

Noticing that Wu Junwan tensed up again, Lu Chen said with a smile, "Wanyan, darling, why are you nervous again? It looks like I've guessed correctly this time."

Wu Junwan said coldly, "Did the Prince come here today just to force out the nature of my Celestial test?"

Lu Chen said with a smile, "Are you trying to change the subject?"

"Thinking about it, I must be very close to the answer. Since it's not two, could it be three?"

"Hmm, I'm certain my guess is right, you must become a Celestial by bearing me three children!"

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Wu Junwan froze completely; this rascal had actually guessed it right.

Although Lu Chen had guessed correctly, Wu Junwan would certainly not admit it. She said coldly, "If the Prince has no other business, you may leave."

Lu Chen said, "How could I have no other business? Since I have come to find you, our morning exercise is definitely going to proceed."

With that, Lu Chen lifted his hands and directly placed Wu Junwan's on the edge of the bath, letting her arms rest on the side, and they began their morning exercise.

Lu Chen didn't push Wu Junwan too hard; he had not forgotten the real reason for coming that day. After a while, he wrapped his arms around Wu Junwan's waist, letting her sit in his embrace, and then said, "I still trust you rather much. Starting from tomorrow, you'll assist Zixuan in managing the Prince's Mansion's assets. Tomorrow, I will take you to meet Zixuan."

Seeing that Lu Chen had made up his mind, Wu Junwan said indifferently, "Could it be the Prince really believes that my Celestial test is to bear the Prince three children?"

If Lu Chen didn't believe that, how could he dare to make such a decision? This left Wu Junwan somewhat puzzled.

This young man was being rather too bold.

Lu Chen said with a smile, "You're not good at keeping secrets. Your body was so tense just now, looking very nervous; it's obvious that I guessed right."

Hearing Lu Chen's response, Wu Junwan fell silent.

She couldn't help it; this man had put her through "torture" as soon as he arrived. If she showed any sign of nervousness, he would immediately notice. It seemed to her now that no matter how much she argued, it would be useless. He was convinced her Celestial test must be to bear him children.

It was done. Since she had already been guessed, there was no point in lingering on it; as long as she didn't admit it, it should be fine.

Thinking this, Wu Junwan said, "I only hope the Prince won't regret it."

Lu Chen said, "Since I have already decided, I will not regret it."

"I believe with your help, the Prince's Mansion's assets can continue to expand."

Wu Junwan didn't say anything more.

At that moment, Lu Chen let go of Wu Junwan, got out of the bath, and a maid hurried over with a towel to dry him off. Lu Chen said, "I still have things to do, so I'll leave first. Take your time with your bath."

Wu Junwan scoffed; this darn man, after all was done, he just ran off.

Once Lu Chen was dressed, he went straight to the study.

After coming out of the bath, Wu Junwan sat down at the dressing table and looked at her reflection in the mirror, slightly zoning out.

She felt that she was tightly ensnared by the young man, likely never to escape his grasp in this lifetime.

Not only could she not separate her body and heart from him, but even her breakthrough test to become a Celestial was connected to this man – and he had so easily guessed what the test was.

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Wu Junwan even began to doubt that Lu Chen was guessing at all, and instead, through some method, knew directly about her trial to become a Celestial.

That is to say, this young man might have quite a few secrets she did not know about.

But it was of no use thinking about it now; she had to accept her bad luck and admit that she had been outwitted by this young man.

However, on second thought, it probably won't be just her who falls into this man's hands; there is a high likelihood that her good sister will end up in his clutches as well.

Ever since entering the Unity Realm, she'd realized one thing—that her good sister wasn't actually a true Celestial.

She had always thought her sister was a Celestial, before whom a grandmaster would have almost no power to fight back against the Yue Emperor.

But now she understood that the Yue Emperor was like her, merely having entered the Unity Realm to become a Pseudo Celestial. Coupled with their cultivation techniques originating from the Misty Immortal Sect, their strength was indeed stronger than that of an average Pseudo Celestial, which is why the grandmaster was powerless before the Yue Emperor.

But after all, a Pseudo Celestial is a Pseudo Celestial; no matter how formidable a Pseudo Celestial might become, they cannot be a match for a true Celestial.

Now that the Mysterious Moon Palace had allied with the North Country, and the Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace seemed to have come to the North Country as well, there might come a day when the North Country declares war on Great Jue, and Great Jue might have no power to resist.

The thought of her good sister ultimately sharing the same fate as herself gave Wu Junwan an odd feeling inside.

With this in mind, Wu Junwan sighed quietly. Next, she would just wait to reunite with her good sister in the North Prince Mansion, hoping that by then her sister would quickly accept all that had happened.

Afternoon.

Xue Linglong again came to the North Prince Mansion to chat with Mu Zixuan, the two now seemed truly like good sisters, having reached the point of sharing everything.

At this time, the two sat in a pavilion, holding hands.

Xue Linglong sighed and said, "Sigh, the Crown Prince has been gone to the south for so long now, with almost no news; leaving me alone in the North Country, even the vast Lu Mansion feels empty."

Hearing this, Mu Zixuan consoled, "Sister Xue, the Crown Prince probably has a lot to deal with lately, so he hasn't written to you. If you feel lonely by yourself in the Lu Mansion, you can come to the North Prince Mansion every day."

Xue Linglong smiled and said, "I am also grateful to have Sister Zixuan here. Without you, I would not know how lonely I would be in the North Country."

"But speaking of which, with the Crown Prince not by my side, every night I sleep, I always feel the room is so empty."

"Sigh, ever since marrying the Crown Prince, I have not truly experienced what it feels like to be a woman. And now the Crown Prince has gone to the south, I have no idea when he will take me there; living like a widow is truly torturous."

Hearing this, Mu Zixuan laughed and said, "I didn't expect you to be troubled by this, Sister."

Xue Linglong replied, "I am not ashamed to tell you, Sister Zixuan, I am a woman too, with passions and desires; being left to live like a widow, it's really a torment."

Saying this, Xue Linglong looked at Mu Zixuan and asked, "Sister Zixuan, with so many women in the Prince's Mansion, the North Prince probably doesn't spend many nights in your room, right?"

Mu Zixuan said with a smile, "That's not true; he often comes to my room."

Xue Linglong sighed again, saying, "I really envy you."

Mu Zixuan replied, "Sister Xue, this is not something to be envied over."

Xue Linglong pretended to be curious and asked, "Why is that?"

Mu Zixuan replied, "It's primarily because the Prince has too much vigor and is overly robust. Every time the Prince comes to my room, he leaves me quite exhausted."

Xue Linglong said in confusion, "With so many women in the Prince's Mansion, can't they mitigate the North Prince's vigor?"

Now it was Mu Zixuan's turn to sigh, "Sigh, although he has many wives and concubines, all together, they are no match for the Prince."

Xue Linglong said "astonished", "The North Prince is that fierce?"

Mu Zixuan remarked, "It's a pity Sister Xue married the Crown Prince; had you not married him but instead the Prince, you might also be able to appreciate my troubles."

Xue Linglong sighed and said, "Sigh, it's all fate; I don't have that luck."

Just then, Mu Zixuan suddenly thought of something and said, "Sister Xue, the clothing factory of the North Prince Mansion has recently designed some new clothes. Would you like to try them out?"

Upon hearing this, Xue Linglong's heart skipped a beat. Try out clothes?

This meant entering the inner courts of the Prince's Mansion, right?

Up until then, their chats had always been in the outer courts of the Prince's Mansion, and she had never been to the inner courts, nor had she had the chance to get close to the North Prince.

If she could enter the inner courts of the mansion, she would have many more opportunities.

Xue Linglong immediately replied, "Sure, I quite like the clothes made by the North Prince Mansion's clothing factory."

Mu Zixuan then stood up and said, "Then Sister Xue, follow me."

"Okay, sure."

And so, Mu Zixuan led Xue Linglong to the inner courts.

The two went straight to a bedroom that was usually unoccupied. Mu Zixuan had specially picked it for Xue Linglong.

After entering the bedroom, Mu Zixuan instructed the maids to bring in the new clothes made by the Prince's Mansion's clothing factory, and then the two of them began to slowly try on the new clothes.

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Xue Linglong tried on many new outfits, and it had to be said that the designs from the North Prince Mansion's clothing factory were indeed unique and very much to Xue Linglong's taste.

When Xue Linglong was trying on clothes, she was so focused on the fitting that she almost forgot why she was there in the first place.

After a while, Mu Zixuan took out a black gauze skirt and said to Xue Linglong, "Sister Linglong, what do you think about this skirt?"

Seeing the black gauze skirt in Mu Zixuan's hands, Xue Linglong's eyes lit up. As a member of the Demon Sect, her favorite was black clothing.

This black gauze skirt suited her taste perfectly. Taking the dress from Mu Zixuan's hands, she said, "Sister Zixuan, this skirt is beautiful. Will your clothing factory at North Prince Mansion sell dresses like this in the future?"

Mu Zixuan replied, "That has not been decided yet, but if you like this skirt, Sister Linglong, then I will give it to you as a gift."

Xue Linglong said, "Then I have to thank you, Sister Zixuan."

Mu Zixuan said, "Sister Linglong, try it on."

With an agreeable "Okay," Xue Linglong swiftly took off her clothes and slipped into the black gauze skirt.

The black skirt clung tightly to her graceful figure; the hem spread out like petals opened lopsidedly, with pleated edges. Through the gauzy black material, it seemed one could nearly glimpse her snow-white skin beneath, full of allure.

However, because the skirt was entirely black, Xue Linglong, having put it on, appeared like a dignified widow who had just lost her husband.

Xue Linglong stood in front of the mirror, constantly swaying her body. She didn't feel anything amiss with the dress; on the contrary, she loved it immensely.

Just then, a maid entered the room and whispered something to Mu Zixuan.

Mu Zixuan then said to Xue Linglong, "Sister Linglong, something has come up suddenly, so please continue trying on clothes. I'll be right back."

Xue Linglong, admiring her own beauty in the mirror, responded, "Hmm, okay, you go ahead with your tasks."

After Mu Zixuan left the room, Xue Linglong had no idea that her departure was part of a plot.

Not long after Mu Zixuan left, the door opened again. Xue Linglong thought it was Mu Zixuan returning, and turning her head, she said, "Sister Zixuan, this skirt..."

Before Xue Linglong could finish her sentence, she froze, because the person walking in wasn't Mu Zixuan but the North Prince.

Seeing that it was the North Prince, Xue Linglong was overjoyed. She had entered the North Prince Mansion hoping to get closer to the North Prince, and surprisingly, there he was today in the bedroom. All she hoped for now was that Mu Zixuan would come back later, or better yet, not at all, so she could seize the opportunity to tempt Lu Chen.

At that moment, Lu Chen said with a smile, "So it is Linglong, my sister-in-law, who is here. I thought it was Zixuan trying on clothes."

Xue Linglong replied, "Zixuan had to leave for a bit; I have no idea when she'll be back."

Lu Chen said, "I see."

As he spoke, Lu Chen looked Xue Linglong up and down in her black gauze skirt. The skirt was parted at an angle, thus revealing her long, fair legs.

Seeing that Lu Chen's gaze remained fixed upon her and could not be diverted, Xue Linglong felt even happier. She hadn't expected that without even making a move, this man seemed already bewitched by her.

Bringing down the North Prince would be all too easy.

Now, the biggest worry was that Mu Zixuan might return soon. If Mu Zixuan stayed away a while longer, she was confident she could capture the heart of this lecherous man.

At that moment, Lu Chen said to a maid in the room, "Go and see where the Princess has gone."

"Yes, Prince," the maid replied.

The maids tactfully exited the room, and Xue Linglong was ecstatic inside. This man had even sent the maids away.

Now her opportunity had arrived.

Once the maids had left the room, Lu Chen approached Xue Linglong with a smile and said, "Sister-in-law, you look truly beautiful today."

Hearing Lu Chen's direct compliment, Xue Linglong covered her mouth and giggled, then replied, "Younger brother, you are as sweet-talking as ever. No wonder I heard from Sister Zixuan that all the women in the Prince's Mansion are genuinely in love with you."

Lu Chen replied with a smile, "Sister-in-law might be mistaken. It's not because I compliment people that the women of the Prince's Mansion love me sincerely."

Xue Linglong asked with a smile, "Oh? Then what is the reason?"

Lu Chen said with a smile, "You'll know the specific reason in time."

Just as Xue Linglong was about to continue the conversation, Lu Chen suddenly changed the subject:

"Now that Yi is waging war in the south, it will be a while before he is back. Sister-in-law, being alone in the North Country, do you ever feel lonely?"

Xue Linglong replied, "You know me well, younger brother. Indeed, I have been feeling quite lonely and desolate lately, but what can I do about it?"

"I'm married to your brother, so all I can do is wait for him faithfully in the North Country."

"I do envy your concubines, sister-in-law, for being able to be with you every day."

Hearing these suggestively phrased words, Lu Chen slowly walked towards Xue Linglong. When he got close, he stopped and said, "What's there to envy? They all complain that I'm always at home, pestering them all day and not attending to serious matters."

Xue Linglong replied with a laugh, "That's because they don't know the plight of those who are hungry! Once you leave them for a while, they'll know what suffering is."

Lu Chen said with a smile, "So, is sister-in-law struggling every single day now?"

Xue Linglong answered, "Indeed, it's rather torturous."

Lu Chen said, "That's my fault. When Yi left, I promised to take good care of sister-in-law, and yet I'm unaware of the suffering you are enduring. I should relieve you of your troubles."

While using her Charm Skill, Xue Linglong replied, "It's not your fault, younger brother. The problem lies with your brother. Even if he were in the North Country, I would still be in agony."

Chapter 704 What a pity to be sacrificed like this_1

At this moment, Xue Linglong's face showed a look of desolation, as if she had suffered some great injustice.

Lu Chen pretended to be concerned and asked, "Why would you say that, Linglong? Could it be that Yi doesn't treat you well?"

Xue Linglong let out a sigh, "Yi is completely focused on his cultivation and has no interest in women whatsoever. Since I married him, he has never touched me, even though he is still in the North Country. My situation is no different from that of a widow."

Hearing this, Lu Chen looked incredulous, "Is what you're saying really true, Linglong?"

"So, are you saying that you are still chaste to this day?"

Xue Linglong replied, "Yes."

At this point, Xue Linglong gazed at Lu Chen with affectionate eyes, "I heard from Zixuan that you are also a martial artist. We are both martial artists, so why is there such a big difference between us?"

"Yi shuns the company of women and has practiced martial arts for so many years without breaking through to the Grandmaster Realm. Yet you, who indulge daily in the pleasures with your wives and concubines, have already surpassed Yi in strength."

"Alas, Yi is truly useless."

Hearing this, Lu Chen quickly said, "Linglong, you must be careful with your words. If Yi hears what you've said, he's likely to get very angry."

Xue Linglong replied, "Right now, there are only the two of us in this room. The only way Yi could find out what I've just said is if you tell him."

Getting to this point, Xue Linglong walked up to Lu Chen and raised her delicate hand to his chest, gently caressing his broad chest as she spoke, "Would you be willing to see me punished by Yi?"

Seeing Xue Linglong take action against him, Lu Chen chuckled silently in his heart; the woman had finally become impatient.

At that moment, Lu Chen glanced at Xue Linglong's favorability towards him and discovered it had reached ninety.

This was not surprising; Xue Linglong had been visiting the North Prince Mansion daily lately and her favorability was increasing rapidly.

Lu Chen took a tentative step back and then said, "Linglong, what are you doing?"

Seeing Lu Chen avoid her, Xue Linglong asked, "Ninth Brother, didn't you just say you would help me relieve my troubles? Why do you seem so afraid of me now? Are you that worried that Yi will find out about what happens between us?"

"As long as you don't tell, and I don't tell, he will never know."

As her words fell, Xue Linglong's eyes remained fixed on Lu Chen's, continually using her Charm Skill to bewitch him, attempting to make him obey her.

Lu Chen then felt something was amiss; he found Xue Linglong increasingly seductive, his body growing more restless, with impulsive images flashing through his mind.

Soon, Lu Chen realized that this must be some sort of Charming Skill, which the woman was using on him.

Quite interesting...

This was the first time a woman had used a Charming Skill on him; she truly knew no fear.

At that moment, Xue Linglong approached Lu Chen once more, raising her slender hand to his chest and tracing her fingers across it again.

"Ninth Brother, Zixuan told me you have excellent massage techniques. My stomach has been quite uncomfortable lately; could you help me rub it?"

This time, Lu Chen did not dodge. His expression became somewhat vacant, "This... this isn't right..."

Xue Linglong continued to seductively say, "There's nothing wrong with it, no one will find out."

"Come on, help your sister out."

"Come on, sink into your sister's dream world..."

...

By now, Lu Chen's eyes were already half-closed, and his body seemed unsteady.

Xue Linglong felt a surge of triumph in her heart; just as she had thought, this man had easily fallen for her Charm Skill.

Wearing a triumphant smile, Xue Linglong asked, "Do I look beautiful?"

Lu Chen muttered, "Beautiful."

Xue Linglong kept probing, "Compared to your other wives and concubines, who is more beautiful?"

Lu Chen replied, "You are more beautiful. You are the most beautiful woman in the world; none of them can compare to you."

Hearing Lu Chen's response, Xue Linglong felt immensely satisfied, thinking this might be the perfect opportunity to probe for secrets about the North Prince Mansion.

With this in mind, Xue Linglong asked, "Tell your sister, where do those mysterious weapons of the North Country come from?"

Lu Chen responded, "They were given to me by my master."

Xue Linglong was taken aback, a master?

So, he indeed had someone supporting him from behind.

Xue Linglong pressed on, "Who is your master?"

Lu Chen replied, "My master is the Honorable of the Mysterious Moon Palace."

Hmm?

Xue Linglong paused for a moment. The Honorable of the Mysterious Moon Palace?

So, all this that had been happening in the North Country had been the doing of the Mysterious Moon Palace? She had wondered why the Palace Master had stayed in the North Country for so long without leaving. Furthermore, the Mysterious Moon Palace had made contact with the North Country a long time ago.

It turned out that the Mysterious Moon Palace was plotting something...

The corners of Xue Linglong's mouth couldn't help but curl slightly upwards. No matter what the Mysterious Moon Palace was scheming, Lu Chen must be a very important pawn for them; otherwise, they wouldn't have chosen him.

Xue Linglong thought that now she controlled an important pawn of the Mysterious Moon Palace, if she inadvertently sabotaged what they were planning, she wondered what kind of expression those people from the palace would have in the end.

At that thought, Xue Linglong felt a surge of exhilaration within her.

She and the Mysterious Moon Palace had no direct enmity, but since the palace was part of the righteous sects, and she was from the Demon Sect, any opportunity to make the righteous sects suffer brought great pleasure to her heart.

At this moment, Xue Linglong's slender jade hand reached out to Lu Chen's exceptionally handsome, sharp-featured face, gently caressing it while commenting, "Worthy of being a suspected Son of Destiny, so handsome."

"It's a pity to sacrifice him just like that."

"The Goddess Skill has never been used by me before... how about..."

Xue Linglong's gaze was fixed on Lu Chen's face, and she could not help but swallow.

For some reason, she suddenly felt her body getting hot.

Xue Linglong quickly realized that she had begun to lust after this man's body.

She was conflicted; this man was meant to be a sacrifice for their Sect Hierarchy. If she did something to him now, and later, if their Sect Hierarchy needed his body and chose to reincarnate into him, wouldn't he potentially discover what she had done?

While Xue Linglong was tangled in her thoughts, she suddenly noticed that Lu Chen also exhibited some changes. It seemed that her Charm Skill was already making the man unable to extricate himself.

Xue Linglong thought again, if this man truly was the Son of Destiny prophesied by the Taiyin Divine Sect, then using the Goddess Skill to take his yang to supplement her yin, might her strength dramatically increase?

The North Prince had so many women; his yang energy must have long been exhausted, but to absorb some of his yang energy could also be a great help in her cultivation.

Increasing her strength was ultimately for the sake of the Taiyin Divine Sect, and she believed that even if the Sect Hierarchy knew of her actions, she would not be blamed.

With that in mind, Xue Linglong leaned towards Lu Chen's ear and blew gently before asking, "Little brother, would you like to do some happy things with sister?"

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen's body grew even more restless. He thought to himself how talkative Xue Linglong was – she could have just taken action directly.

In his past experiences with women, he had always been quick to take charge, and he never liked to talk so much. He actually wanted to just pin her down on the bed.

However, Lu Chen had no intention of doing so just yet. He wanted to see how far this woman would go on her own initiative.

At that moment, Lu Chen pretended to gulp, and then he said, "Want to... very much..."

Xue Linglong then seductively said, "Then come with sister."

As she spoke, Xue Linglong walked toward the bed, hoping secretly that Mu Zixuan wouldn't come and interfere at this moment.

The thought of Mu Zixuan possibly returning made Xue Linglong feel guilty, as if she were a thief.

But at that moment, she suddenly came up with an idea.

"Little brother, if you want to do happy things with sister, send your wife away. Don't let her come back to disturb us," she said.

Lu Chen instantly understood Xue Linglong's intent and then said to the maid at the door, "Xiao Qing, tell the wife to wait for me in the study. If I don't come to the study, just keep waiting for me. She should not come here again, and no one is allowed in without my permission."

The maid's voice immediately came from the doorstep, "Yes, my Prince."

Once the maid left, Xue Linglong rejoiced inwardly, now no one could disturb her.

She could now focus on figuring out how to use the Goddess Skill.

Although she had long cultivated the Goddess Skill and knew what it meant to take yang to supplement yin, she had never actually practiced it. If it weren't for the fact that the North Prince was so handsome, such a thought wouldn't have crossed her mind.

Of course, this was just Xue Linglong's inner belief. She thought that her desire to use the Goddess Skill on Lu Chen was driven by her genuine inner thoughts, completely unaware that she was now under the influence of Lu Chen.

Lu Chen's influence on Xue Linglong was twofold: on one hand, she had been drinking Dragon and Phoenix Tea for a long time, and on the other, Lu Chen had long learned the Heart Controlling Skill. He could manipulate the thoughts of those who had a lower cultivation state than his own, to a certain degree.

The Heart Controlling Skill was somewhat similar to the Charm Skill, except that the Charm Skill could only be used between individuals of opposite sexes, while the Heart Controlling Skill could be used on any person or even non-human entities.

When Xue Linglong applied the Charm Skill on Lu Chen earlier, he was also using the Heart Controlling Skill on her.

Now that Xue Linglong was under his spell, she remained completely unaware; her innermost desires for Lu Chen's body meant that even though she was affected, she did not believe anything was amiss.

At this moment, Xue Linglong could hardly wait. She pushed Lu Chen down onto the bed and with a movement of her hand, she gathered her energy and ripped his clothes apart. But just then, Xue Linglong froze.

Chapter 705 - Xue Linglong: Truly a Disaster!_1

Xue Linglong stared at the object in the distance, barely believing her eyes, and muttered to herself, "It's actually like this..."

She didn't finish her sentence, but deep down she was already thinking about retreating. It was her first time using the Goddess Skill with such intensity, and she was somewhat worried.

Seeing Xue Linglong standing there dumbfounded, Lu Chen wondered if she was considering withdrawing.

This wouldn't do; they had come this far, how could she think of retreating now.

Lu Chen pondered whether he should simply stop acting if Xue Linglong really decided to withdraw.

After hesitating for a moment, Xue Linglong decided to continue.

However, an idea struck her and she said to Lu Chen, "Come, use your past experience to please me."

Xue Linglong thought that since Lu Chen was under her charm and lacked any self-awareness, she might as well drop the act and refer to herself as 'me'.

Thinking about being served by a Son of Destiny made Xue Linglong's heart swell with pleasure.

Lu Chen chuckled. The enchantress sure knew how to enjoy life, actually wanting him to serve her.

Initially, he pretended to be charmed to see what Xue Linglong, the enchantress, would do. To his surprise, she bluntly asked him to serve her.

Fine then, he would grant her wish.

Lu Chen feigned a dazed look and said, "I understand."

Xue Linglong quickly slipped off her embroidered shoes and lay down beside Lu Chen. While she was curious about what he was going to do, Lu Chen suddenly turned over and kissed her red lips.

"Mm..."

...

At the same time.

Mu Zixuan was waiting in the Wind Cloud Court when a maid came in and said, "Your Highness, the Prince has asked you to wait for him in the study and not to go back to the courtyard from earlier."

Upon hearing this, Mu Zixuan smiled faintly, immediately understanding Lu Chen's intentions.

She replied without delay, "I understand. You don't have to go back either; just stay with me."

"Yes, Your Highness."

Mu Zixuan did not go to the study to wait for Lu Chen. She knew that he was likely to be busy today and wouldn't go to the study or even come back for dinner.

Obviously, what he had said to the maid was meant for Xue Linglong. He wanted Xue Linglong to know that no one would disturb them that afternoon.

...

At this very moment.

Inside a room in the North Prince Mansion.

Xue Linglong wanted to get up, but Lu Chen pinned her down, rendering her immobile. She then commanded in a demanding tone, "Huff...get...get off me now!"

However, as soon as Xue Linglong finished speaking, Lu Chen acted as if he was unfazed, completely ignoring her command. Xue Linglong was baffled.

How could this be...?

Wasn't he already charmed by her? Why would he suddenly lose control and not obey her commands?

This couldn't go on – her consciousness was about to collapse.

She could clearly feel that her cultivation state was rapidly improving, her power growing incessantly, but this enhancement was now beyond her control.

When she began kissing Lu Chen, the feeling was marvelous, and her body felt ecstatic.

However, she soon realized that something was wrong. As she exerted her power to use the Goddess Skill on Lu Chen, the spiritual power within his body surged crazily into hers, overwhelming her senses.

She quickly lost control over her body as Lu Chen led her on, making her utterly powerless to resist.

Although she felt no discomfort, the experience was too surreal, which frightened Xue Linglong, prompting her to want to break away from Lu Chen. But no matter what she tried, she couldn't push him away; instead, she seemed to become a plaything toyed with by him.

Xue Linglong became increasingly terrified, but gradually, she forgot her fear, forgot everything.

When evening came.

During dinner, Mu Zixuan sent a maid to check on Xue Linglong's condition, and after receiving her report, she said to Chu Yuqin and the others, "The Prince probably won't come back for dinner tonight; let's eat without him."

Upon hearing this, Chu Qingli pouted and said, "The Prince is so bold, daring to lay hands on that woman. Putting aside the possibility that she might be from the Demon Sect, she is openly the Crown Princess Consort after all. If word got out..."

Chu Qingli stopped herself.

Chu Yuqin spoke calmly, "Chen'er knows what he's doing, Qing Li, there's no need for you to worry."

Chu Qingli commented, "Thinking about it, he didn't even spare Sister once, so there's probably no woman in this world he wouldn't dare touch."

Hearing this, the beautiful Chu Yuqin's cheeks tinged with a hint of red. She too had never expected to end up in the Prince's harem.

Chu Yuqin changed the subject, "Zixuan, didn't you say that there's too much industry under the Prince's Mansion for you to manage alone? Have you spoken to Chen'er about this?"

Mu Zixuan replied, "I have. The Prince plans to have Princess Wu assist me in managing the North Prince Mansion's industries."

This...

When Mu Zixuan provided her answer, Chu Yuqin was momentarily stunned. She had not expected Lu Chen to dare entrust the mansion's industries to an outsider who hadn't even officially entered the household. Wu Junwan was still the Princess of Great Wu; wasn't he afraid that the secrets of the North Prince Mansion's industries could potentially be leaked out?

Seeing Chu Yuqin speechless, Mu Zixuan added, "Sister Chu, I know what you're worried about, but rest assured, the Prince isn't foolish. If he believes that Princess Wu would not betray the North Prince Mansion, then she surely won't betray us."

Chapter 706 - Xue Linglong: Truly a Disaster!_2

Chu Yuqin sighed and said, "Ah, the things Chen'er is doing are becoming more and more incomprehensible to me. I can only hope that all this won't lead to any problems."

Chu Yuqin felt that as Lu Chen grew up, she could no longer keep up with his thinking. In the past, it was she who taught Lu Chen how to act, but now, Lu Chen had his own ideas, and many of the things he did seemed very radical to her, somewhat inappropriate.

However, Chu Yuqin did not interfere in Lu Chen's affairs, after all, Lu Chen had grown up.

At this moment, Chu Yuqin wondered if she was too conservative and therefore couldn't understand what Lu Chen was doing.

...

The long night would eventually pass.

At dawn, the sky was still dim.

Xue Linglong stood by the bed, getting dressed while looking at Lu Chen lying there.

Lu Chen had once again become controlled by the Charming Skill, his eyes vacant, looking like a puppet.

Xue Linglong, thinking about the events of the previous night, clenched her teeth and tightened her fists in anger. After glancing over Lu Chen's entire body, she said viciously, "Dare treat me this way, see if I don't cut you down!"

Despite her words, Xue Linglong took no action.

Xue Linglong then sighed deeply; she touched her lower abdomen, noting that her strength had indeed increased significantly.

"This shouldn't be just the effect of the Goddess Skill. I've never heard of the Goddess Skill having such a good effect."

"It seems this guy really is the Son of Destiny!"

Xue Linglong was completely unaware that the cultivation technique they practiced last night was not the Goddess Skill but the Dragon-Phoenix Yin-Yang Spell. Her consciousness had been blurred yesterday, so how could she know what cultivation technique they had used.

After getting dressed, Xue Linglong did not leave immediately. She bent down and looked attentively at Lu Chen's handsome face.

"Strange, why did this guy lose control last night?"

Xue Linglong still didn't understand; according to logic, since she controlled Lu Chen, he should have been very obedient to her. Whatever she told him to do, that's what he should have done.

Instead, he turned fierce, completely disregarding her commands, and she thought she might have lost her life.

"Could it be because of the Charming Skill?"

"Hmm, it should be."

"Certainly, I must have completely drawn out his inner desires, which is what led him to focus solely on that act, completely ignoring my commands."

Finding a reasonable explanation for Lu Chen's loss of control the night before made Xue Linglong feel much better.

She scanned Lu Chen's body again and muttered to herself, "No wonder Mu Zixuan said that all the women in the Prince's Mansion combined are no match for you."

"Truly a disaster!"

Having said that, Xue Linglong fell into deep thought.

What should she do next?

Although she had temporarily controlled Lu Chen using the Charm Skill, she still couldn't take him away now. After all, the Palace Master from the Mysterious Moon Palace and that Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace were very likely still in Yan County. If she acted rashly, she would most certainly be discovered by the Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace.

Lu Chen was an important pawn of the Mysterious Moon Palace; they certainly kept a close watch on him and would not let him leave Yan County.

It seems that taking Lu Chen away required more careful planning.

Thinking this, Xue Linglong's gaze moved down to look at the plum blossoms on the bed, then she coldly said, "Lucky you!"

"Just live a few more days!"

Xue Linglong thought to herself, letting this guy live a little longer, afterwards she could continue to use the Goddess Skill for cultivation.

Now raising her delicate hand, she turned Lu Chen's face toward her and gazed into his eyes, seductively saying, "Look into my eyes, you forcibly claimed my body last night, you feel very guilty in your heart, and want to compensate me with everything..."

As Xue Linglong's words fell, Lu Chen murmured, "I claimed Linglong's body last night; I must do everything to compensate her..."

Hearing these words from Lu Chen's mouth, Xue Linglong felt very satisfied inside, just needing to wait for Lu Chen to wake up; in the future, he would surely be entirely obedient to her.

Xue Linglong said, "Alright, continue sleeping."

Lu Chen promptly closed his eyes, feigning sleep.

Xue Linglong straightened up, ready to leave. Yet before departing, she couldn't help but glance at Lu Chen once more.

Gazing at the man who had bewildered her all night, Xue Linglong exhaled softly, "I must be mad..."

As the words fell, Xue Linglong left reluctantly, heading toward the doorway.

After Xue Linglong had left the room, Lu Chen opened his eyes, a slight smile curving the corners of his mouth, and then he opened the system interface.

[Congratulations, host, for obtaining a wife, rewarded with the Primary Puppet Skill.]

[Host has cultivated affection with the wife once, Qi Refinement Mantra experience points add...]

Seeing the reward he had received, Lu Chen was momentarily stunned. The Primary Puppet Skill?

This must also be a Cultivation Technique of the Immortal world?

A moment later, knowledge of the Puppetry Technique filled Lu Chen's mind.

The Primary Puppet Skill could only use Spirit Wood as the material to refine puppets.

Spirit Wood, where to find Spirit Wood?

At that moment, Lu Chen had a flash of insight. Wasn't the Dragon Phoenix Tree a kind of Spirit Plant? They had cut many branches from the Dragon Phoenix Tree when they transplanted it, and those branches were still stored in the warehouse of the North Prince Mansion.

Lu Chen thought to himself, thankfully he had the foresight not to burn those branches. Considering the Dragon Phoenix Tree was a Spirit Plant, he figured the branches might be useful in the future. So he had them stored and sealed in one of the warehouses.

Next, all he needed was to find some craftsmen to work on those branches, shaping them into the form of wooden figures, and then he could apply the Puppetry Technique to those figures.

With that thought in mind, Lu Chen immediately rose from the bed, ready to test what the Puppetry Technique could do.

However, at that moment, Lu Chen's gaze was captured by the plum blossoms on the bed, recalling last night's events.

Lu Chen chuckled and said to himself, "A vixen's body truly is different from that of an ordinary person."

It seemed he would be in for a treat in the future.

Without giving it much thought, Lu Chen called for the maid, got dressed with her assistance, and headed to Wind Cloud Court.

Mu Zixuan was at Wind Cloud Court's small paddy field, intently observing the Spirit Rice. Seeing Lu Chen walking into the yard with a spring in his step, she greeted him with a smile, "Congratulations, Prince, on acquiring another beauty."

Lu Chen walked directly behind Mu Zixuan, wrapped his arms around her slender waist, and rested his head on her fragrant shoulder, saying, "All thanks to my beloved concubine."

"My beloved, what are you watching so intently this early?"

Mu Zixuan answered, "Prince, the rice you planted seems to have matured."

Hearing this, Lu Chen's attention shifted to the Spirit Rice.

The Spirit Rice had indeed turned yellow, and observing the full panicles, Lu Chen was surprised. He hadn't paid much attention to the Spirit Rice recently and didn't expect it to have already matured. Furthermore, the panicles of the Spirit Rice were more plentiful and filled out than those of ordinary rice.

Lu Chen released Mu Zixuan's soft body, bent down, and picked a grain of rice in his hand.

Then, he carefully peeled off the husk and tossed the Spirit Rice into his mouth to taste.

The moment the Spirit Rice entered his mouth, Lu Chen immediately felt invigorated, his body so light it seemed transformed.

But that wasn't all. The Spiritual Power within him also expanded several-fold, and he felt as though a certain restriction in his body was preventing him from breaking through.

Lu Chen realized instantly that this restriction must be the Celestial's, preventing him from breaking through until he unified the entire world.

This Spirit Rice might not be of much use to him now, but if given to his wives or subordinates, their realms could elevate quickly.

No wonder the system sent him just three catties of Spirit Rice seeds; the impact was significant, with obvious effects.

Moreover, the Spirit Rice matured very quickly, with three harvests possible in a year, and the yield was not small. At this rate, it wouldn't take long for three catties to turn into three thousand catties.

Chapter 707 - From now on, the industry of the Prince's Mansion will trouble the two ladies_1

Lu Chen thought to himself, if he could use Spirit Rice to enhance the strength of the soldiers in the army, setting aside everything else, just the increase in physical strength alone could bolster the military's combat effectiveness.

In the army of the North Country, many were ordinary people, especially the soldiers in the artillery camp, whose physical strength was far inferior to that of Martial Artists. Yet, these ordinary soldiers were tasked with transporting cannons and carrying ammunition.

If these ordinary soldiers could all become Martial Artists, not to mention how high their Realm might be, as long as they could reach the level of a Fifth Grade Martial Artist, the speed at which they marched with heavy weapons would be significantly increased.

Speed is crucial in warfare, and sometimes, battles are won by racing against time.

Lu Chen's gaze was fixed on the Spirit Rice before him, thinking that he needed to find someone trustworthy to be in charge of the cultivation of the Spirit Rice.

Once he had enough Spirit Rice, the overall strength of the soldiers of the North Country could be greatly enhanced.

As Lu Chen was lost in thought, Mu Zixuan spoke, "Prince, it looks like the Spirit Rice is ready for harvest. How about I find someone to harvest it?"

Although Lu Chen had always been the one looking after the Spirit Rice, there was so much of it, it could not possibly be expected for Lu Chen to personally go to the fields and harvest it himself.

Lu Chen replied, "Hmm, yes, please trouble my consort to find some trustworthy people to gather these grains and keep them as seeds for planting at a later time."

Having said that, he continued, "I'll go have breakfast first. Arrange for a few carpenters to come to the Prince's Mansion and have them wait for me in the outer court. I have some work for them later."

Mu Zixuan responded, "Understood, my lord."

Then Mu Zixuan instructed a maid beside her, "Go and bring the Prince's breakfast."

Lu Chen then went into the Wind Cloud Palace for breakfast.

By the time Lu Chen finished breakfast and came out, Mu Zixuan had already arranged for some carpenters to wait for him in the outer yard, and she was curious about what Lu Chen needed the carpenters for.

Since it was something happening within the Prince's Mansion, she should be able to see it, so Mu Zixuan also followed Lu Chen to the outer courtyard, intending to see what he had planned.

Lu Chen arrived at the outer courtyard, saw the carpenters, and had the branches of the Dragon Phoenix Tree moved there; then he instructed the carpenters to make wooden figures inside the mansion.

Hearing that Lu Chen wanted to make wooden figures, the carpenters were baffled and unsure of their purpose, but since they were craftsmen from Great Yu City, they followed Lu Chen's orders without question, and set to work on the tree branches without much thought.

Seeing the carpenters busily at work, Mu Zixuan approached Lu Chen and asked directly, "Prince, why did you instruct them to make wooden figures?"

Lu Chen smiled mysteriously and said, "My consort, no need to worry. You'll understand once they are ready."

Seeing Lu Chen say this, Mu Zixuan didn't press the issue further. It seemed Lu Chen suddenly remembered something and then added, "That's right, there's something I nearly forgot. I spoke with Junwan yesterday and said you two should get to know each other."

He then instructed Mu Zixuan's maid, "Xiao Rou, have Lady Wu come to Wind Cloud Court."

"Yes, my lord."

After the maid went to fetch Wu Junwan, Lu Chen wrapped an arm around Mu Zixuan's slender waist and headed towards the inner court, saying as they walked, "My consort, let's go to Wind Cloud Court to wait for her."

Mu Zixuan softly acknowledged with a "Mm," and followed Lu Chen back to the Wind Cloud Court.

Mu Zixuan felt pressured by the thought of meeting Wu Junwan, for the latter was the Princess of Great Wu and held a more exalted status.

The Mu Family had a high standing in Great Xia, but compared to the Grandeur of the Great Martial Royal Family that Wu Junwan hailed from, they meant little.

Despite the pressure, Mu Zixuan quickly adjusted her state of mind. After all, she was Lu Chen's consort and could not afford to embarrass him.

Soon, under the maid's guidance, Wu Junwan arrived at the core area of the North Prince Mansion.

As Wu Junwan entered Wind Cloud Court, Lu Chen and Mu Zixuan were sitting in a pavilion, seemingly discussing something.

Wu Junwan proceeded towards the pavilion, and upon her arrival, Lu Chen greeted her with a smile and said, "My consort, let me introduce you. This is the helper I found for you – the Princess from Great Wu."

At this, Mu Zixuan immediately got up, stepped out of the pavilion to welcome Wu Junwan, and said, "Sister Wu, I have long heard about you from the Prince. Unfortunately, since you've been staying in the eastern courtyard, I haven't had the chance to meet you."

"Rumour has it that Sister Wu is stunningly beautiful, and seeing you today proves those rumours true."

Seeing Mu Zixuan, a consort, being so warm to her, Wu Junwan grew wary, suspecting that Mu Zixuan feared she might threaten her position and was pretending to curry favor before plotting to harm her later.

Someone who had grown up in a royal family like herself was all too familiar with the dynamics of a Harem.

However, she wouldn't rebuff someone who offers a smile. Since Mu Zixuan was ostensibly being friendly, Wu Junwan chose not to say anything unpleasant at that moment.

With a smile, Wu Junwan replied, "Thank you for the compliment, my lady."

Glancing at Lu Chen, she continued, "The Prince is indeed fortunate to have taken a consort as clever and capable as you."

Hearing the mutual business flattery between the two, Lu Chen lifted the teacup from the table, took a light sip, and then said, "Stop flattering each other and come sit down. Let me talk to you about how we're going to manage the Prince's Mansion's properties from now on."

Mu Zixuan immediately took Wu Junwan by the hand and said, "Sister Wu, let's go over."

Wu Junwan responded, "Mhm, alright."

After the two women sat down in the pavilion, Lu Chen continued, "The Prince's Mansion's properties are growing, and it's highly likely that the two of you alone won't be able to manage them in the future, so we will need to recruit more talent to the Prince's Mansion."

As he said this, Lu Chen told the two women about his plan to set up examinations to recruit talent. Hearing Lu Chen's ideas, both women thought the method was feasible.

Now, the management personnel of the Prince's Mansion's properties were all arranged by Mu Zixuan alone, and promotions were decided solely by her. While this ensured that all those in charge were from the Prince's Mansion, the breadth of properties was so vast that Mu Zixuan had to spend a great deal of time every day on personnel changes.

If there were a dedicated human resources department responsible for examining and selecting talent, Mu Zixuan would only need to sign off on their decisions.

At this point, Lu Chen looked at Wu Junwan and said, "Wanyan, although I'm letting you start getting involved with the Prince's Mansion's properties now, you haven't married yet. So, there might be some inconvenience for a while. For the time being, you'll assist the Princess in managing the Prince's Mansion properties.

After you marry over in the future, I'll hand over some of the properties directly to your management."

Hearing Lu Chen calling her 'Wanyan,' Wu Junwan couldn't help but give him a sidelong glance.

She was clearly older than this young man, yet he dared to address her in such a manner.

Although she felt some slight emotion, Wu Junwan didn't dwell too much on it, "Alright, I understand."

At that moment, Lu Chen reached out his hand and wrapped his arms around the slender waists of both Mu Zixuan and Wu Junwan, smiling as he said, "In the future, the burden of managing the Prince's Mansion's properties will fall on you two ladies.

I believe that under your management, the Prince's Mansion's properties can continue to grow and strengthen, earning more silver for our Prince's Mansion."

Being embraced by Lu Chen in front of the Princess made Wu Junwan feel strange inside; this man was deliberately doing this, seeking to close the distance between herself and the Princess.

Having once held a high position with significant power, how could she not see through Lu Chen's little schemes? However, she didn't say much.

After all, she had already made up her mind to be with this young man for a lifetime. As long as Mu Zixuan didn't actively cause trouble for her, she wouldn't go looking for problems with Mu Zixuan either.

Just then, something occurred to Lu Chen, and he continued, "If in the future you two ladies have differing ideas, you can tell me directly."

Since he had tasked them both with managing the Prince's Mansion's properties, they were bound to have different ideas in the future. To prevent any conflict between them, Lu Chen decided to step in and make decisions whenever their ideas diverged.

Mu Zixuan said, "Your concubine understands."

With that, Mu Zixuan's gaze fell on Wu Junwan as she continued, "Sister Wu, since you are already the Prince's woman, you should also come to the Wind Cloud Court for dinner in the evenings from now on."

"This is the tradition at the Prince's Mansion; every evening, the family gathers together for dinner."

Wu Junwan naturally had already heard about this practice of the Prince's Mansion.

"Alright, I will come tonight."

Wu Junwan looked at Lu Chen and asked, "Prince, right now the number of your wives and concubines is still quite small, and the Wind Cloud Court can accommodate everyone. But if one day you have dozens more wives and concubines, and hundreds more children, and those children have even more children, will you still summon all your wives and concubines to dine together at that time?"

Hearing Wu Junwan's words, Lu Chen smiled and said, "That is indeed a problem."

Initially, there were not many women, so gathering together for dinner was unproblematic, and it also helped to build relationships. However, as the number of wives and concubines increased, along with their children, the dinner times had become noisy, and the whole Wind Cloud Palace sounded like a marketplace.

Lu Chen remarked, "How about this? After Nanyan and Yaoyao's children are born, we won't hold dinners anymore. We will just organize feasts on major holidays."

When she heard this, Mu Zixuan was taken aback. To her, gathering as a family in the Wind Cloud Palace for a lively dinner was quite pleasant, and most women in the Prince's Mansion were used to it.

She did not expect Wu Junwan's comment to lead Lu Chen to cancel the dinners. Though it wasn't immediate, Yelv Nanyan and Xiao Wen Yao's children would be born in just a few months.

Mu Zixuan felt somewhat regretful internally, but then she thought about how two more people would be added to the Prince's Mansion when those children were born. By then, the Wind Cloud Palace would be even more crowded, indeed posing a problem.

Every additional child meant two more wet nurses to care for them, and two children meant four wet nurses. Even if the wet nurses did not join the table for meals, they would still enter the Wind Cloud Palace, taking up space.

Lu Chen then said to Mu Zixuan, "My love, next you should give Wanyan a good rundown of the Prince's Mansion's properties."

"Yes, your concubine understands."

Afterward, Mu Zixuan took out some of the property documents from the Prince's Mansion and explained the situation in detail to Wu Junwan.

Upon hearing Mu Zixuan's explanation, Wu Junwan was incredibly shocked. She had not expected the Prince's Mansion to own even more properties than the Great Martial Royal Family.

This Princess consort was no simple woman; managing so many properties on her own without any major issues proved that Mu Zixuan had some real abilities as a Princess consort.

This also heightened Wu Junwan's wariness towards Mu Zixuan.

Chapter 708 Yun Xianxian: Is this guy from the High-ranking Cultivation World?_1

After Mu Zixuan had explained the estate's situation to Wu Junwan, Wu Junwan gained a deeper understanding of the entire North Prince Mansion.

Just as Wu Junwan was about to continue learning about the estate's affairs, a maid entered the courtyard and said, "Prince, the carpenters have completed a few small wooden figures according to your instructions."

Hearing this, Lu Chen was stunned for a moment, "So soon?"

Lu Chen said, "Have the finished wooden figures brought here directly."

"Yes, Prince."

The maid turned and departed.

Seeing the maid's retreating figure, Wu Junwan murmured to herself, "Wooden figures?"

She was curious about what kind of strange and unusual thing Lu Chen was up to now; at that moment, Lu Chen said to Mu Zixuan with a smile, "My love, aren't you curious about the use of these wooden figures? You'll find out very soon."

Before long, several female guards brought in the wooden figures made by the carpenters. However, upon inspecting them, Lu Chen found that the wooden figures were not large, only the size of a palm.

But the craftsmanship was exquisite; they resembled the proportional miniatures of certain individuals.

Seeing these wooden figures, Wu Junwan also became interested; she was eager to find out what they were for.

At that moment, Lu Chen bit his fingertip, squeezed out some fresh blood, then channeled spiritual power and, using the Primary Puppet Skill in his mind, drew a rune on the body of one of the wooden figures.

After a short while, the wooden figure emitted bursts of green light. Subsequently, Lu Chen placed the figure on a stone table, and not long after, the wooden figure unexpectedly stood up on its own.

At this spectacle, both Wu Junwan and Mu Zixuan were stunned.

Lu Chen closed his eyes at that time, attempting to control the first puppet he had crafted.

The next moment, he felt as if a link had formed between himself and the puppet, making the puppet's sensations seem to be shared with his own.

Following that, his vision changed to that of the puppet's, and Lu Chen subsequently made the puppet take a few steps on the stone table.

Upon seeing the wooden figure moving about, both Mu Zixuan and Wu Junwan's eyes widened in astonishment.

Once Lu Chen had gotten the hang of controlling the puppet, he made it leap directly towards Wu Junwan. She hadn't even reacted before the puppet jumped onto her chest.

Wu Junwan, of course, knew that this was Lu Chen, that scoundrel, up to mischief; she raised her beautiful eyes and glared at him.

Lu Chen continued to control the puppet as it climbed further, eventually standing on Wu Junwan's shoulder.

Mu Zixuan, puzzled, said, "How did this little figure come to life?"

Wu Junwan said, "The Prince is controlling it."

Having been to the Misty Immortal Sect, Wu Junwan was well-versed in many things. Although she had been genuinely shocked when the puppet had begun to move, she soon came to understand what was happening.

Hearing Wu Junwan's words, Mu Zixuan turned to look at Lu Chen, finding that he had his eyes closed.

Mu Zixuan was still profoundly astonished in her heart; the Prince could actually control a wooden figure. But on recalling that Lu Chen was a disciple of the immortal, her emotions quickly settled down.

After all, as a disciple of the immortal, Lu Chen was practically half an immortal, so it was normal for him to be able to do things ordinary people could not.

At that time, Lu Chen tried to make the puppet speak. The next moment, the puppet asked from atop Wu Junwan's shoulder, "Ladies, how is my Puppet Skill?"

Seeing the puppet speak, Mu Zixuan was flabbergasted once more.

Mu Zixuan said blankly, "The Prince truly is a disciple of the immortal."

Curious, Wu Junwan inquired, "Prince, what use is this puppet?"

Lu Chen, controlling the puppet, replied, "I'm not sure yet; I've only just learned the Puppetry Technique and need to experiment a bit."

Lu Chen thought to himself that if he could control a puppet to go anywhere in the future, wouldn't that mean he wouldn't need to leave the North Prince Mansion? He could use the puppet to inspect the North Country on his behalf.

Furthermore, he could place a puppet beside certain people and give orders directly through puppet control if anything came up in the future; it would be faster than relaying information through a telegraph machine.

However, he realized he didn't yet know the maximum range of his connection to the puppet.

According to the Puppetry Technique heritage in his mind, the further the puppet strayed from his body, the more spiritual power he would need to expend. Currently, he was only a Pseudo Celestial, and if ranked according to the Cultivation World's standards, he feared he was still the lowest rank of cultivator. Therefore, it seemed unlikely he could control a puppet to travel all over the world.

At that moment, Lu Chen opened his eyes; he wanted to try multitasking to see whether he could control the puppet while doing other activities.

When he opened his eyes, another scene appeared in his mind, and his visual experience was particularly strange, as if he had gained an extra set of eyes. However, this didn't make him uncomfortable; it felt as though the puppet's eyes had become one with his own.

Lu Chen controlled the puppet to jump down from Wu Junwan's shoulder and then directed it over to Mu Zixuan.

Mu Zixuan quickly caught the puppet, and the puppet immediately climbed onto her shoulder. Seeing the wooden figure hop around, Lu Chen suddenly felt a sense of accomplishment.

He then controlled the puppet to jump down again, heading straight toward the courtyard's exterior. He wanted to test the furthest distance he could control the puppet.

Chapter 709 Yun Xianxian: Is this guy from the High-ranking Cultivation World?_2

After a while, the puppet ran to the entrance of Wind Cloud Court and was still linked to Lu Chen.

Lu Chen directly said to the guard at the entrance, "Tell Qin Yushan to go to the study, I need to see him."

The female guard, seeing the puppet speaking to her, was momentarily stunned, but she quickly realized it was the voice of the North Prince and promptly replied, "Yes, Prince."

At that moment, Lu Chen stood up and said to Mu Zixuan and Wu Junwan, "My love, you and Junwan discuss the management of the Prince's Mansion's properties. I have other matters."

Mu Zixuan immediately replied, "This concubine understands, Prince, take your time."

Lu Chen then proceeded to the study, waiting for the arrival of Qin Yushan.

It wasn't long before Qin Yushan appeared in the study.

"Greetings, Prince."

After finishing the salute, Qin Yushan looked up at Lu Chen and noticed that Lu Chen's gaze was fixed on the wooden puppet on the desk, which seemed to have come to life, jumping around on the desk.

Seeing this scene, Qin Yushan was completely taken aback.

Regaining his focus, Lu Chen looked up at Qin Yushan and said, "Commander Qin, take this puppet and leave Yan County. After a while, I will speak to you through the puppet. If there is no sound

from the puppet, ask actively. If I do not reply, return to North Prince Mansion immediately. I want to test and see how far I can control this puppet."

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Qin Yushan instantly understood his intent and quickly replied, "Yes, I will leave Yan County at once."

As soon as he finished speaking, Qin Yushan went to the desk, picked up the puppet, and then left North Prince Mansion directly.

Meanwhile, Lu Chen sat in the study, closed his eyes, and concentrated all his thoughts on the puppet.

Qin Yushan quickly rode out of Yan County on a horse. However, at this point, he noticed that the puppet had not made any sounds, and he wondered if perhaps the puppet had lost the Prince's control?

He took the puppet out of his hands, looked at it, was about to ask a question, when suddenly the puppet spoke, "Commander Qin, keep moving forward."

Hearing the puppet actually speak, and in Lu Chen's voice, Qin Yushan hurriedly replied, "Yes, Prince!"

Qin Yushan then continued southward along the straight roads constructed by the North Country, puppet in tow.

When Qin Yushan reached a military camp in the south, he once again stopped, took out the puppet, and Lu Chen again spoke through the puppet, "Continue forward."

Qin Yushan was astounded; he never imagined that, despite the distance, the North Prince could still control the puppet. With this means, couldn't the North Prince now inspect the entire North Country through the puppet?

Without further thought, Qin Yushan set off again, continuing south. After half a day, he reached another city in the North Country with the puppet, but Lu Chen was still able to speak through it.

Not only that, but Lu Chen could still control the puppet's movements, although he now felt noticeably more strained in his control, and even the puppet's vision was beginning to blur, not as clear as before.

Even though his control over the puppet wasn't as strong as before, as long as the link between them wasn't broken, Lu Chen decided to continue testing.

Then, Lu Chen spoke through the puppet to Qin Yushan, "Commander Qin, find a trustworthy subordinate, let him continue with the puppet southward; you need not proceed any further."

After all, Qin Yushan was the Commander of the Brocade Guard and there were many affairs waiting for him in Yan County. Considering it was unlikely to discover the upper limit of his control over the puppet that day, Lu Chen thought it better to switch people, specifically assigning someone to continue southward with the puppet.

Qin Yushan immediately entered the nearby city, found a Brocade Guard Commander, and briefed him on the matter with the puppet, instructing him to continue south with it.

When the Commander heard Lu Chen's voice coming from the puppet, he too was startled, but remembering that the North Prince was the Son of Destiny, a disciple of an Immortal, he soon accepted the fact.

Subsequently, the Brocade Guard Commander took Lu Chen's puppet and continued southward.

Over the next two days, Lu Chen could still speak through the puppet. Even when they reached Anping City, at the border of Qi Country, the puppet continued to emit faint sounds intermittently.

This truly shocked Lu Chen; he had not expected that mere Primary Puppetry Skill could allow him to control the puppet from such a distance.

Of course, he also realized that although he could currently control the puppet as far as Anping City, doing so greatly consumed his Spiritual Power. Just saying one sentence through the puppet left him feeling as though his energy had been drained.

With no other choice, Lu Chen had to ask the Brocade Guard Commander to stop moving south and directly send the puppet back.

Several days later, the Commander of the Brocade Guard delivered the puppet to the North Prince Mansion, and the carpenters had also created bigger wooden figures.

Morning.

After climbing off Wu Junwan's body, Lu Chen returned to the Wind Cloud Court, ready to refine new puppets.

Seeing several wooden puppets as tall as himself in front of him, Lu Chen revealed a slight smile.

At this moment, Lu Chen's wives and concubines, having heard about the puppets, all ran to the Wind Cloud Court to observe.

Then, Lu Chen bit his fingertip and drew some spell runes on the puppet. After a while, he closed his eyes and controlled the puppet, as tall as himself, to start walking.

However, no sooner had he begun to control it than Lu Chen distinctly felt the spiritual power within his body rapidly depleting.

Lu Chen instantly understood that the larger the puppet he created, the more spiritual power it consumed to control.

The previous puppet he had made was only the size of a palm, so it was very easy to manipulate and consumed hardly any spiritual power, allowing for a much greater controlling distance.

The controlling distance for this puppet certainly could not compare with the previous, smaller one.

Seeing Lu Chen's puppet come to life, Xiao Wenyao exclaimed in surprise, "It's moving, it's really started moving!"

The rest of the women were also stunned by the scene before them.

At that moment, Lu Chen tried to have the puppet throw a punch into the air, but as it did, he suddenly felt completely exhausted.

Lu Chen took a deep breath and then said to himself, "I hadn't expected controlling a life-sized puppet to consume so much spiritual power. It seems my strength is still insufficient."

Subsequently, Lu Chen gave up controlling the life-sized puppet and picked up the few thumb-sized puppets, quickly refining them.

Although he was currently unable to use life-sized puppets for combat, they still served some purpose. He could leave these puppets with the Brocade Guard and then have the Brocade Guard patrol the North Country with them.

If anything happened within the North Country's territory, the Brocade Guard could inform him immediately.

...

Afternoon.

Yun Xianxian was enjoying the Prince's Mansion's afternoon tea and pastries in the pavilion of the Yunrong Courtyard when Lin Wanyun entered the pavilion.

Yun Xianxian asked, "It seemed rather lively this morning at the Wind Cloud Court; what were you all doing there?"

Lin Wanyun immediately told Yun Xianxian about Lu Chen refining puppets.

Upon hearing that Lu Chen could refine puppets, Yun Xianxian's hand holding the teacup paused mid-air.

"Refining puppets?"

"This guy knows how to refine puppets too?"

Yun Xianxian fell into thought. The Dragon-Phoenix Yin-Yang Spell that Lu Chen had revealed was already a Heaven Rank cultivation technique, and now he had demonstrated the ability to refine puppets.

As far as she knew, puppetry was something only the high-ranking worlds possessed. Did Lu Chen actually have the art of puppetry?

If this guy was like her, hailing from a high-ranking cultivation world, how could it be possible for him to know about things from a lower world—those trains, electric lights, and such, those were clearly the products of a lower-level technological world.

Most people from the cultivation realm would not be familiar with such common knowledge, as those things did not exist in the usual cultivation worlds.

After thinking it over, Yun Xianxian still did not pay it much mind. So what if this guy came from a high-ranking world? After all, his current strength was lower than hers, and, besides, he had taken her as his mentor.

In her heart, Yun Xianxian still did not take Lu Chen seriously. She just wanted to recover her strength as soon as possible.

Chapter 710 It's all that disaster's fault_1

Since Lu Chen had learned Puppetry Technique, he had been practicing controlling puppets every single day and had reached the point of obsession.

He even had a craftsman carve several palm-sized puppets and distributed one to each of his wives and concubines so that they could use these puppets to contact him if they had any issues.

However, Lu Chen's gifting of puppets made Chu Yuqin feel very uneasy.

One night, Lu Chen came to Chu Yuqin's room, and after an intense exchange between them, Chu Yuqin expressed her concerns.

"Chen'er, you are still alive, yet you've made so many puppets that look exactly like yourself. Is that really appropriate?"

In the Great Xia Dynasty, "not making statues of the living" and "not erecting steles for the alive" was common knowledge, let alone these wooden "small people." Whenever "small people" were mentioned, people would first think of straw effigies.

These straw effigies are usually used when cursing someone. There had been several disasters related to witchcraft and curses in the Great Xia Dynasty, and they were all closely related to such effigies.

But those effigies were made by others to curse someone, and here was Lu Chen making so many effigies of himself—and the key was that all these little figures had his blood on them.

When it comes to the effectiveness of a curse, these little figures stained with his own blood would be more effective.

Therefore, Chu Yuqin felt that it was very inappropriate for Lu Chen to give away these little figures, and they should all be taken back.

After all, Chu Yuqin was from this era and possessed the thoughts of this era.

Upon hearing Chu Yuqin's words, Lu Chen gently stroked her jade back and said with a smile, "Madam Chu, I have never believed in such Witch Worm Skill."

Seeing Lu Chen's response, Chu Yuqin sighed inwardly; she knew that Lu Chen certainly did not believe in Witch Worm Skill, otherwise, he would not have let a craftsman carve so many little figures that looked like him.

Chu Yuqin then advised, "Chen'er, with such matters, it's better to err on the side of caution than dismiss the possibility."

Lu Chen then got up from Chu Yuqin's body, turned her around to face him, and gazed into her eyes as he asked, "The wooden figures I carved were also given to my women. Is Madam Chu suggesting that among them, someone would wish to harm me?"

Chu Yuqin blushed and said, "Maybe not now, seeing how robust your body is."

"But the human heart is unpredictable."

"As the number of your women increases, you may begin to neglect some of your wives and concubines in the future. And as your children multiply, once the kids grow up, those women may start harboring inappropriate thoughts for the sake of their own children."

"You are also a member of the royal family; you have experienced those incidents. You can't be too careful."

Moved by her words, Lu Chen felt in his heart that indeed, this woman cared for him the most in this world.

Lu Chen lifted his hand to touch Chu Yuqin's jade-like face and said with a smile, "Madam Chu, I have already considered all that you have said, but rest assured, my women will not harm me."

Despite Lu Chen's confidence, Chu Yuqin sighed internally; every time she reminded Lu Chen of potential dangers, he would respond the same way.

The more confident Lu Chen was, the more worried Chu Yuqin became.

Just then, Lu Chen leaned in close again and as Chu Yuqin let out a soft groan, he whispered in her ear, "There's a secret, and I am not sure if I have ever spoken to you directly about it. After much thought, I've decided to tell you because you are the person closest to me."

Chu Yuqin's curiosity was piqued by his words. What secret was Lu Chen about to reveal?

Lu Chen continued, "Madam Chu, do you know what Dragon and Phoenix Tea is used for?"

Looking puzzled, Chu Yuqin replied, "Isn't it used to enhance one's strength?"

Lu Chen said, "Enhancing strength is just one of the functions of Dragon and Phoenix Tea. It has another, greater purpose."

Chu Yuqin asked with curiosity, "What purpose?"

Lu Chen answered, "Dragon and Phoenix Tea can deepen and stabilize my wives and concubines' affections for me."

Chu Yuqin was taken aback by that revelation.

She quickly made a connection and her face flushed with embarrassment, "You... you little rascal..."

"No wonder you had me drink Dragon and Phoenix Tea, and you actually..."

Chu Yuqin felt a hint of emotion stirring within her; she had wondered why there had been a period where she constantly thought about getting involved with this rascal.

Although she found Lu Chen handsome and had wanted to protect him all her life while she was in the Capital city, she had never thought she would end up sharing a bed with him.

And yet, it hadn't been long since she arrived in North Country when this little rascal completely devoured her. It turned out that this little rascal had used some despicable methods on her.

As Lu Chen twisted his body, he said to Chu Yuqin, "Don't be angry; this tea was meant for my women, and besides, it can also enhance strength. My main intention in giving it to you was to help boost your power."

Chu Yuqin snorted lightly, then said, "I don't believe you, you little rascal!"

She had gotten pregnant by this little rascal, and he still told her it was to improve her strength. How could she possibly believe that? This little rascal had his eyes on her body from the start.

Finally, Lu Chen spoke plainly, "Since you don't believe me anyway, I won't pretend anymore. I coveted you, my lady, that's why I let you drink Dragon and Phoenix Tea. Anyway, it's all happened; what do you plan to do about it?"

"You... I..."

"Sigh..."

Chu Yuqin ultimately let out a helpless sigh, knowing full well that regardless of the Dragon and Phoenix Tea, her fate was already sealed. This little rascal had set his sights on her since he was small, and he was not going to let her go.

Chu Yuqin then said, "It's no use talking about it now; consider it my bad luck to have encountered you, this little rascal, in this lifetime."

Smiling, Lu Chen replied, "How can you call it bad luck? Meeting me, you should feel blessed instead."

Chu Yuqin huffed again, "I won't pester you with these matters anymore. No wonder every time I remind you to pay attention to the inner court's affairs, you appear so indifferent. It turns out you've long known that your wives and concubines will not betray you."

"And here I was, so worried about you."

Lu Chen said, "My dear wife, haven't I explained the reason to you just now? From now on, you don't have to worry."

Having said that, Lu Chen began to focus on his own matters, leaving Chu Yuqin with no choice but to immerse herself in the happiness he created.

Meanwhile.

At the Lu Mansion.

Xue Linglong, dressed in a silky undergarment, tossed and turned on the bed, her mind filled with the images of her entanglement with Lu Chen at the North Prince Mansion that day.

Whether practicing or sleeping, she would think of Lu Chen.

Xue Linglong felt as if she were becoming addicted to that sensation.

After rolling around on the bed with the blanket for a while, Xue Linglong sat up abruptly.

She muttered to herself, "Strange, several days have passed, why hasn't that fellow come to the Lu Mansion looking for me?"

Logically, her Charm Skill had succeeded, and though Lu Chen had regained consciousness, she had already planted a seed deep within Lu Chen's heart. Lu Chen should be feeling a profound sense of guilt towards her and would seek ways to compensate her.

She had estimated that Lu Chen would probably come to seek her out voluntarily the day after her return and try to find ways to offer words of amends.

But after so many days, that fellow hadn't made a single move, nor had he sent anyone with gifts to the Lu Mansion. She began to doubt whether her Charming Skill had been effective at all.

Xue Linglong's mind surged with a sudden realization of a possibility.

"Could it be that my Charm Skill was noticed by a Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace, and that Celestial helped the North Prince undo it?"

"If that's the case, it spells trouble."

If the Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace discovered that she had used the Charm Skill on Lu Chen, they would surely seek out the person behind it. If her actions were exposed, she would have no choice but to leave Yan County, which would prevent her from taking Lu Chen back to the Taiyin Divine Sect for the sacrifice.

This thought made Xue Linglong feel extremely unsettled.

She decided to visit the North Prince Mansion the next morning to investigate and see if her Charm Skill had indeed been undone by someone from the Mysterious Moon Palace.

Just then, she once again felt an overwhelming emptiness in her body, and she began to heat up all over.

Xue Linglong bit her silver teeth, her hands gripping the blanket tightly as she said angrily, "It's all that scoundrel's fault! I should never have done that with him!"

Another sleepless night ensued.

Early the next morning.

Xue Linglong arrived at the North Prince Mansion, using the same pretext as before—to chat with Mu Zixuan.

While drinking tea and chatting with Mu Zixuan, Mu Zixuan asked, "Sister Xue, have you been busy lately? Why haven't you come to the North Prince Mansion in several days?"

Xue Linglong said, somewhat sheepishly, "I... I've been tied up with some matters these past few days, but they are all settled now, and I'm free again."

Xue Linglong asked tentatively, "By the way, Sister Zixuan, has anything happened at the Prince's Mansion recently?"

Mu Zixuan inquired, "Sister Xue, why do you ask?"

Xue Linglong replied, "I heard that many craftsmen have been entering the Prince's Mansion these days, so I was a bit curious if the mansion was undergoing renovations."

Mu Zixuan answered, "Not at all."

"It's just that the Prince's behavior seems to have changed a bit recently; he brought in the woodworkers to the Prince's Mansion, actually it's to carve some wooden figures."

Upon hearing Mu Zixuan's response, Xue Linglong was taken aback.

His behavior changed a bit?

So, her Charm Skill hadn't failed after all. But why then hadn't he come looking for her?

Xue Linglong continued to ask, "What is the Prince carving wooden figures for?"

Mu Zixuan replied, "I don't know, but it seems like he wants to carve the figure of a certain woman."

"I even suspect the Prince might be bewitched."

Xue Linglong's heart jolted; was Lu Chen carving the figure of a specific woman with the intention of having something to remember her by?

This was indeed very likely!

No wonder he hadn't come looking for her!

So he planned to use the figure to comfort himself!

This wouldn't do; what she wanted was for him to actively seek her out, not for him to comfort himself!

In Xue Linglong's view, not only had her Charm Skill not failed, but its effect might have been so significant that it caused Lu Chen to feel too guilty towards her, making him fear and dare not face her, which was why he hadn't come to her.

For her, this was not a good sign. She was keener on Lu Chen taking the initiative to leave the North Prince Mansion to seek her out, providing her with the chance to take Lu Chen away from Yan County, away from the North Country.