

Es. Benefits 721

Chapter 721 Bastard, what are you doing!_1

Xue Linglong thought to herself that no matter what, she couldn't let the people of the Taiyin Divine Sect harm that dog of a man. If he were sacrificed, how could she go on living this life?

With this in mind, Xue Linglong spoke up, "Elder Cao, I have spent some time in Yan County and have come close to the North Prince. Naturally, I am aware of his character."

"In my view, everything that has happened to North Country has nothing to do with the North Prince. It is entirely the Mysterious Moon Palace that has been manipulating everything behind the scenes."

"The North Prince is nothing but a chess piece of the Mysterious Moon Palace. How could such a pawn possibly be the 'Son of Destiny' prophesied by our Sect Hierarchy?"

After hearing Xue Linglong's words, Cao Xianya pondered for a moment. She didn't doubt that Xue Linglong had already betrayed the Taiyin Divine Sect. After all, everyone in the sect was under the control of their Sect Hierarchy, and anyone who dared to betray the sect would ultimately end up as nothing more than a puddle of blood.

However, even with Xue Linglong saying so, Cao Xianya was not willing to give up. She then said, "Even if the North Prince is not the Son of Destiny, there must be something special about him. Otherwise, why would the Mysterious Moon Palace choose him as their pawn?"

"There is something the Saintess may not know. We slaughtered a city in the south, and with a blood sacrifice, we awakened a portion of the Sect Hierarchy's consciousness. The Sect Hierarchy is now in great need of a body."

"I have heard that the North Prince's martial arts talent is extremely high. Since his martial arts talent is so high, his body must be very suitable for the Sect Hierarchy."

"So, even if he is not the Son of Destiny, we should find a way to bring the North Prince to the south."

Just as Xue Linglong was about to continue, Cao Xianya spoke again, "Furthermore, the Sect Hierarchy is also very interested in the North Prince."

Upon hearing this, Xue Linglong immediately shut her mouth.

Even the Sect Hierarchy of the Taiyin Divine Sect had spoken, and nothing she could say would make a difference.

Xue Linglong couldn't help but think, this wasn't her fault. She had already tried to make the Taiyin Divine Sect lose interest in that dog of a man. If there was anyone to blame, it was only the dog of a man, who had made too much of a stir in North Country, creating so many problems.

Now that the Sect Hierarchy also wanted the body of the North Prince, she could only pretend to cooperate with Cao Xianya for the time being and then travel north again.

Once she reached Yan County, she would find a way to warn that fellow. As for what happened afterward, it would be up to him.

As the Saintess of the Taiyin Divine Sect, she knew the strength of the sect. Although the Taiyin Divine Sect didn't currently have any Celestials, there were quite a few in the sect whose power approached that of a Celestial.

Unless the Celestial of the Mysterious Moon Palace was by the dog of a man's side at all times, once the Taiyin Divine Sect found an opportunity, sooner or later, he would be captured and brought south for sacrifice.

At that moment, Xue Linglong said with a cold expression, "I understand."

"However, Elder Cao, I'm afraid that just you and I alone will not be able to bring the North Prince to the south."

"The Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace is still by the North Prince's side. I left Yan County and came to Anping City because I was afraid of being discovered by that Celestial."

At this, Cao Xianya said, "Didn't the Saintess say that the North Prince is lecherous? Why not use beauty to charm the North Prince? As long as we can control the North Prince, we are not without opportunity."

Upon hearing Cao Xianya's words, Xue Linglong laughed inwardly.

She had fallen into her own trap of the Charm Skill in the past, and not only had she failed to charm the North Prince, but now she couldn't even separate herself from him.

Of course, this was something she naturally couldn't admit. If the fact that she had lost her chastity were known by people in the Taiyin Divine Sect, her status as the Saintess would likely come to an end.

With a sneer, Xue Linglong said, "Elder Cao, I am the Saintess of the Taiyin Divine Sect. For me, a Saintess, to charm the North Prince, if the Sect Hierarch finds out, how will he view me in the future?"

Cao Xianya said, "What I mean is for the Saintess to use the Yin Yang Mirror, then combine it with the Charm Skill to control the North Prince. It's not about the Saintess offering herself up. Even if the Sect Hierarch finds out, I believe he won't say much about it."

Cao Xianya thought to herself that their Sect Hierarch was a person with a dislike for impurity. Any form of disloyalty, both of the body and the mind, would provoke the Sect Hierarch's dissatisfaction. Once Xue Linglong actually went to seduce the North Prince, and when she returned to the Taiyin Divine Sect, she could tell the Sect Hierarch, threatening Xue Linglong's position as Saintess.

As a former Saintess of the Taiyin Divine Sect, she hadn't been able to wait for their Sect Hierarch to awaken during her years of youth and beauty, and in the end, she was forced to step down, helplessly watching Xue Linglong rise above her, displaying arrogance and military might.

She had long wanted to get rid of Xue Linglong, and this was the best opportunity to do so.

However, Xue Linglong was very wary and not easy to deceive.

Seeing that Cao Xianya was urging her to go seduce the North Prince, Xue Linglong immediately understood Cao Xianya's intention. Cao Xianya was simply displeased with her and wanted to harm her.

But she could turn the tables on her.

If this were the past, she indeed might have struggled to fight against Cao Xianya—for Cao Xianya was the former Saintess and now a core Elder of the Taiyin Divine Sect.

Although Xue Linglong was the Saintess, and nominally, apart from the Sect Hierarchy, she was the highest-ranking individual within the sect, very few of the Elders actually listened to her.

These Elders hadn't betrayed the Taiyin Divine Sect; they simply didn't want to heed the words of a young girl.

What of a Saintess? In their eyes, a Saintess was nothing more than a plaything of the Sect Hierarchy, with no right to manage the whole Taiyin Divine Sect in place of the Sect Hierarchy.

Xue Linglong thought to herself, since this old hag wanted to harm her, she might as well go find the North Prince.

Anyway, I'm already the woman of the North Prince, she brought the core elders of the Taiyin Divine Sect to Yan County, which is a great achievement. After all, the Taiyin Divine Sect is the leader of the Demon Sect, and a core elder from the leader of the Demon Sect is such an important figure.

Thinking of this, Xue Linglong said, "I understand, Elder Cao will head north with us tomorrow, I will change my identity and find another way to approach the North Prince."

Seeing Xue Linglong actually agree, Cao Xianya was stunned for a moment, and then she was overjoyed inside.

Xue Linglong is indeed still too young, such a fool. Now she just needs to bring the North Prince to the south, and then she can report to the Sect Hierarchy.

By then, Xue Linglong's so-called Saintess will probably only turn into a dry corpse.

Thinking of this, a fierce smile appeared on Cao Xianya's face.

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North Country.

Several days passed in a blink of an eye, Yun Xianxian had already completely mastered the Puppetry Technique, and what Mysterious Moon Palace lacked the least was Spirit Wood. Soon, Yun Xianxian had made a puppet.

Hearing that Yun Xianxian had made a puppet, Lu Chen immediately went to the Yunrong Courtyard. He wanted to see if the puppet created by Yun Xianxian could mimic the aura effect.

Entering the Yunrong Courtyard, Lu Chen's gaze instantly fell on the puppet in the middle of the yard.

At this time, the puppet was still entirely made of wood, and didn't look like Yun Xianxian at all; Yun Xianxian hadn't even made the puppet in her likeness. Seeing this, Lu Chen asked, "Master, are you sure the puppet you made can deceive people?"

Yun Xianxian said coldly, "What's the rush? I haven't even started refining the puppet."

As she spoke, Yun Xianxian raised her finger, and the next moment, a drop of fresh blood flew from her fingertip straight onto the puppet's head, merging into its body.

Immediately afterward, Yun Xianxian began to channel Spiritual Power, and the next moment, the entire wooden figure was enveloped in a white Spiritual Energy.

About a quarter of an hour later, the white Spiritual Energy slowly dissipated. As the Spiritual Energy disappeared, the puppet reappeared before everyone's eyes.

When Lu Chen saw the puppet again, he was completely stunned. The puppet refined by Yun Xianxian was exquisitely lifelike, barely distinguishable from a real person.

Lu Chen was astonished. Wasn't this puppet just a wooden figure at first? How did it now look exactly like a real person?

What was this supposed to be, a Puppetry Technique?

This clearly seemed more like a technique to create a clone, right?

Was Yun Xianxian pulling a fast one on him?

He had learned the Puppetry Technique, and it was the system that had directly infused the knowledge into his brain. Why was his puppet still just a wooden figure, while Yun Xianxian's puppet was almost indistinguishable from a real person?

Seeing Lu Chen seemingly dumbstruck, Yun Xianxian felt somewhat proud inside. This mischievous disciple definitely hadn't expected her to use the Puppetry Technique to such an extent.

What use was it for this guy to have advanced cultivation techniques if he couldn't fully utilize them? It would still be herself, the true Immortal, who could put those advanced techniques to use.

When Lu Chen came back to his senses, he asked, "Master, the technique you used was the Puppetry Technique, right?"

"How is it completely different from my Puppetry Technique?"

Yun Xianxian scoffed and said, "You call that a Puppetry Technique? How could you, someone who hasn't even reached the Celestial Realm, possibly cultivate such an advanced technique?"

For the people of the Immortal world, the so-called Celestial Realm was just the beginning of cultivation. In Yun Xianxian's eyes, Lu Chen hadn't even crossed the threshold of cultivation, so how could he possibly display the Puppetry Technique in its entirety?

Hearing Yun Xianxian say this, Lu Chen seemed to understand something. It wasn't a problem with the Puppetry Technique but rather that his own realm was too low, and his body didn't have enough Spiritual Energy to use the Puppetry Technique.

It didn't matter though, once he had unified the several great dynasties and became a Celestial, he would be able to embark on the true path of cultivation.

At this moment, Yun Xianxian said, "Now that your master has a puppet, you don't have to worry about that mysterious weapon of Great Xia anymore."

Lu Chen said, "That's true, it's just I'm not sure if this puppet can actually deceive them or not."

Saying this, Lu Chen walked up to the puppet, raised his hand, and touched the puppet's face directly.

Seeing this, Yun Xianxian's beautiful eyes lifted, and a hint of displeasure appeared on her cold and beautiful face.

After all, the puppet looked like her, and this mischievous disciple had actually touched her face directly—oh no, he touched the puppet's face.

Just as Yun Xianxian was about to say something, she saw Lu Chen's hand reach down below the puppet's neck and said, "I must say, the puppet is quite lifelike, but the feel is off, it's just like wood, too hard."

This time, Yun Xianxian completely lost her patience, "You scoundrel! What are you doing?"

Chapter 722 The Birth of Yelv Nanyan and Xiao Wen Yao's Child_1

Hearing Yun Xianxian's angry voice, Lu Chen immediately moved his hand away from the puppet of Yun Xianxian, and then looked up with an innocent face, asking, "Master, why are you suddenly angry?"

Seeing Lu Chen's innocent look, pretending as if he knew nothing, Yun Xianxian felt a surge of nameless anger rise within her.

A faint blush appeared on Yun Xianxian's cold and beautiful face. "Although this is just a puppet, its body is exactly the same as mine. What are your intentions when you touch the puppet here and there!"

Lu Chen laughed and said, "Master, why are you so sensitive? It's just a puppet after all."

"This puppet was originally meant to attract the enemies; if enemies can touch it, why can't I, your disciple, touch it?"

Hearing Lu Chen's evasive argument, Yun Xianxian's brows furrowed slightly. True as it may be, she couldn't shake the feeling that this mischievous disciple was desecrating her.

Yun Xianxian snorted coldly, then said, "Alright, you can go about your business. When it's time to head south, let me know, and I will gather the disciples of Mysterious Moon Palace to assist you."

Upon hearing these words, the corners of Lu Chen's mouth lifted slightly. He was about to say something when a maid rushed into Yunrong Courtyard in a fluster, saying, "Prince, Lady Yelv and Lady Xiao are about to give birth!"

Lu Chen then said to Yun Xianxian, "Disciple will not disturb Master any further."

As soon as he finished speaking, Lu Chen turned and walked towards Spring Sound Court.

Upon entering Spring Sound Court, Lu Chen saw his wives all gathered outside the rooms of Yelv Nanyan and Xiao Wen Yao.

When they saw Lu Chen arrive, they immediately made way for him. I was about to say something when Chu Yuqin interrupted my train of thought. "Chen'er, go to Nanyan's room first, she can't hold on any longer."

Heeding Chu Yuqin's advice, Lu Chen quickly entered the room of Yelv Nanyan. At that moment, she was sweating profusely, her complexion pale, and she seemed to be in great pain.

Lu Chen immediately went to her side, took her hand, and used his Rejuvenating Skill to infuse Spiritual Power into her body. Soon enough, color began to return to Yelv Nanyan's face.

Lu Chen didn't plan on wasting much time since there was another waiting for him next door. He straightforwardly said to Yelv Nanyan, "My lady, get ready."

Yelv Nanyan gave a soft "Hmm" in reply.

Lu Chen then used his Spiritual Power to wrap around the child in Yelv Nanyan's womb. In the next instant, the baby smoothly emerged from Yelv Nanyan's body, and the room was instantly filled with the baby's crying.

The midwives and maids proficiently cleaned the baby and brought him to Lu Chen.

"Congratulations, Prince, it's a boy!"

Lu Chen immediately took the baby from the midwife and used his Rejuvenating Skill to help regulate the infant's body.

Gradually, the baby's cries quietened down.

Lu Chen then laid the child next to Yelv Nanyan. After his treatment, she also recovered quickly. She slowly sat up, looked at the baby next to her, and her face revealed a tender, loving smile.

The child she had been longing for was finally born, and now all those clothes she had sewn would come in handy.

Yelv Nanyan suddenly thought of something and quickly looked up at Lu Chen, saying, "Prince, Yaoyao is also about to give birth, please go to the next room quickly. I've almost completely recovered."

Lu Chen's Rejuvenating Skill had become incredibly proficient; anyone he treated could recover quickly unless they had serious injuries.

Although Yelv Nanyan was not yet fully back to her pre-pregnancy state, she had no problem moving about.

Lu Chen gently stroked Yelv Nanyan's disheveled hair, then kissed her on the face, saying, "Good, you've worked hard, my lady. I'll be back later."

Lu Chen hadn't had a chance to check what reward the system had granted him before he left Yelv Nanyan's room and headed to Xiao Wenyao's bedroom.

Xiao Wenyao was in a much better state than Yelv Nanyan; she lay quietly on the bed with a dazed expression, seemingly unaware of what was coming next.

Her stomach had hurt for a moment, and then there was nothing. She was incredibly calm.

Seeing Lu Chen come in, Xiao Wenyao shifted slightly and said, "This slave greets the Prince."

Although Xiao Wenyao was already pregnant with Lu Chen's child, she still saw herself as a servant before him. She always believed she was taken by Lu Chen from the Sky Wolf King's tribe, so no matter how special her current status was, she needed to show a submissive attitude before Lu Chen.

Lu Chen hurried to Xiao Wenyao's side, steadying her as he smiled and said, "You're about to have a baby, and you're still performing courtesies?"

Xiao Wenyao, curious, asked, "Has Nanyan given birth?"

She had heard faint crying sounds from the next room, which she figured must mean Yelv Nanyan had given birth.

Lu Chen replied, "Yes, she has. Now it's your turn."

Hearing this, Xiao Wen Yao paused, then said, "But it seems like there's no movement in my stomach?"

Lu Chen touched Xiao Wen Yao's head and said, "There'll be movement soon."

As he spoke, Lu Chen took Xiao Wen Yao's wrist and began to channel Spiritual Power into her.

After a short while, Xiao Wen Yao felt a strange sensation in her body. It seemed as if her stomach had started to move as well.

Just when Xiao Wen Yao thought she was going to experience the same pain as before, she suddenly found her body becoming incredibly relaxed.

Chapter 723 The Birth of Yelv Nanyan and Xiao Wen Yao's Child_2

Immediately following, a child's cry echoed through the room.

Hearing the child's cry, Xiao Wen Yao was momentarily stunned. Her instinct told her this was her child, but she hadn't felt anything just now—had the child simply come into the world like that?

Xiao Wen Yao slowly shifted her body, then looked down only to find that her bulging belly had disappeared.

Xiao Wenyao couldn't help thinking that the people of the Prince's Mansion hadn't been wrong—giving birth as a woman of the Prince's Mansion wasn't so difficult after all. She recalled the people of the grasslands saying that childbirth could cost half one's life, and she had always felt some fear regarding it.

But now, the child was born just like that.

Lu Chen said to a bewildered Xiao Wenyao with a smile, "Yaoyao, from today on, you are a mother too. You can't continue playing around as you did before."

Xiao Wenyao was a bit like those young modern women who weren't ready to have children but ended up giving birth; she hadn't yet gathered her playful spirit. Women like her generally didn't know how to take care of children and lacked a sense of responsibility, unlike mature women such as Yelv Nanyan.

Hearing Lu Chen's reminder, Xiao Wenyao said with a blushing face, "This servant understands."

Soon, the midwife brought the child to them, and it turned out that Xiao Wenyao had given birth to a boy as well.

Lu Chen thought for a moment, then named the child.

After staying with Xiao Wenyao for a while, Lu Chen then went to Yelv Nanyan's room. After all, he had left in such a hurry earlier, he hadn't even named the child.

Having spent roughly half an hour with Yelv Nanyan, Lu Chen finally headed to the study to see what rewards the system had given him.

Entering the study, Lu Chen couldn't wait to open the system interface.

[Congratulations to the host for obtaining a child, reward: Tai Chu Divine Hall.]

[Congratulations to the host for obtaining a child, reward: Sunset Sword Sect.]

Hm?

Seeing the two system prompts, Lu Chen paused for a moment.

That simple?

However, Lu Chen quickly realized that both the Sunset Sword Sect and the Tai Chu Divine Hall could be accessed; there were even second-level system pages.

Immediately, Lu Chen clicked on the words [Tai Chu Divine Hall].

[Tai Chu Divine Hall: Located on Tai Chu Island in the Southeast Sea, ruling over six million people, possesses one Heavenly Human Realm powerhouse, six Pseudo Celestials, numerous Grandmasters, and Grandmasters.]

Lu Chen was utterly stunned.

The rewards this time were too terrifying.

A Celestial, plus six Pseudo Celestials?

And that was just one of the rewards.

Lu Chen quickly exited and opened [Sunset Sword Sect].

[Sunset Sword Sect: Located on Sunset Island along the southeastern coast, ruling over seven million people, possesses one Heavenly Human Realm powerhouse, eight Pseudo Celestials, numerous Grandmasters, and Grandmasters.]

Reading the introductions of these two forces, Lu Chen couldn't help but think, did he still need to remain low-profile?

At this moment, the system prompt sounded.

[The host can issue one command to both the Tai Chu Divine Hall and the Sunset Sword Sect.]

Lu Chen immediately said to the system, "Have them contact this prince at once."

Lu Chen had never heard of the Tai Chu Divine Hall and the Sunset Sword Sect before, and given their locations in the Southeast Sea, it was clear without thinking that they were very far from the Great Xia Dynasty.

They probably couldn't make it over in a short time; it would be better to establish contact first.

[The Sect Master of the Sunset Sword Sect and the Divine Master of the Tai Chu Divine Hall have received the host's command. They are sending people to the Great Xia Dynasty.]

At this time, Lu Chen realized that in this world, Celestials were not as scarce as people thought; they simply stayed hidden in certain corners, which was why few knew about them.

He wondered why these Celestials kept such a low profile.

Now with the addition of two more Celestials to his forces, taking down the Great Xia Dynasty shouldn't be too much of a problem.

However...

A sudden concern arose in Lu Chen's heart. He had gained several Celestials through the system; what if other dynasties also had Celestials? Perhaps when he aimed to conquer the major dynasties, he might encounter obstruction from Celestials.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen rubbed his temples. Now was not the time to think about this.

First, he would become the Emperor of Great Xia.

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With the birth of the children of Xiao Wen Yao and Yelv Nanyan, the war of North Country against the Great Xia Dynasty also began. This time, Lu Chen prepared to dispatch three major armies to march southward.

One was led by Xuanyuan Chen, another by Mu Changtian, and the third was the Navy led by Wei Siyuan.

The army led by Xuanyuan Chen was to march directly south, first taking over Qi Country, and then continue southward.

The army led by Mu Changtian would attack from Youping County of the Great Wu Dynasty, entering Heyang County and directly overthrowing Lu Yi's stronghold.

The Navy led by Wei Siyuan, was naturally to travel along the sea southward, attacking from the seafront.

As for Song Xuelin and Dongmen Feiyue's army of two hundred thousand, they were to stay behind in North Country to guard against any acts from the Da Yue Dynasty and the Great Wu Dynasty.

To Lu Chen, security in the rear was equally important. He didn't want to come back from his campaign south only to find that his wives and children had been captured by the enemy.

At the same time, Lu Chen had also given an order to the Black Dragon Country, demanding that while he marched south, Black Dragon Country must exert substantial pressure on the Da Yue Dynasty, preventing them from deploying troops against North Country.

The constant mobilization of troops in the north soon caught the attention of the Sum Emperor. He began positioning his troops, first dispatching two hundred thousand soldiers northward to defend against Lu Chen's southern advance. On another front, he sent Heavy Cavalry to confront Lu Yi to the west.

Chapter 724 The Birth of Yelv Nanyan and Xiao Wen Yao's Child_3

Since the North Prince was no longer able to sit still, the time had come to remove the chess piece that was Lu Yi.

The Sum Emperor had allowed Lu Yi to expand his power precisely so that people in the north would believe that the Great Xia's time was up and the North Prince could move south to compete for the throne.

As for the rebels led by Lu Yi, the Sum Emperor had never taken them seriously from beginning to end.

The Da Yue Dynasty.

The Imperial Palace.

The Empress's Bedchamber.

Upon hearing of the North Country's war mobilization, the Yue Emperor, clad in a bright red Phoenix Robe and donning a Phoenix Crown, immediately felt an opportunity had arisen.

Although the Da Yue had not yet attained the North Country's mysterious weapon, if the North Country were to send its forces south, then even with some defenses, the north would inevitably have few troops left.

While the Great Xia Dynasty seemed to be on the verge of collapse, the depth of a dynasty's foundation is profound, and it wouldn't be easy to destroy it. The Yue Emperor had great confidence in the Sum Emperor; she believed he would be able to hold back the North Country, causing them to continuously deploy forces to the south.

A faint smile appeared on the face of the Yue Emperor as she looked at the intelligence in her hands. She hadn't smiled for a long time, not since her good sister had been sent to the North Country, and she had been feeling a vague sense of unease.

Murong Xue'er still hadn't taken control of the North Prince, and the Celestial from Mysterious Moon Palace had also gone to the North Country. She suspected her beauty scheme had completely failed, or more precisely, that Murong Xue'er might have already betrayed her.

However, that no longer mattered. If the North Prince were to move south this time, and Da Yue could take some important cities in the North Country, perhaps they could snatch the North Country's mysterious weapon right from their army's hands.

While the Yue Emperor was thinking this, a female guard suddenly entered the Empress's Bedchamber, knelt outside the red curtains, and reported, "Your Majesty, Black Dragon Country is making a move!"

Upon hearing this, the smile on the Yue Emperor's face instantly froze.

With a wave of her hand, the intelligence held by the female guard flew up, breezed through the red curtains, and landed directly in the Yue Emperor's hand.

After briefly scanning the contents of the intelligence report, the Yue Emperor's eyebrows knitted slightly, and her body emitted waves of murderous intent.

The maids both inside and outside the bedchamber felt this murderous aura and knelt down together, trembling.

After a while, the Yue Emperor said coldly, "Black Dragon Country really knows how to pick its moment!"

Black Dragon Country might not have the largest force, but it posed a significant threat to the Da Yue Dynasty. They had elite troops, their soldiers being so formidable that one could take on ten without an issue.

The Yue Emperor had initially planned to take advantage of the North Prince leading his troops south to launch a sneak attack on the North Country, but now with Black Dragon Country eyeing them rapaciously from the northwest, she did not dare act rashly.

If she were to act without due caution, and Black Dragon Country invaded in full force while the Barbarian Tribes moved south at the same time, Da Yue would find itself in a perilous situation.

But then again, although she couldn't move troops at will, sending someone to meddle in the North Country was still feasible.

With this in mind, the Yue Emperor directly inquired, "Have there been any recent updates on Junwan?"

The female guard replied, "Princess Wu has been staying in the North Prince Mansion and rarely goes out."

After thinking for a moment, the Yue Emperor then said, "Later, I will write a letter. Find a way to deliver this letter into her hands."

With the North Prince leaving the North Country, the Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace would surely accompany him, leaving no powerful figures behind.

She had recently heard that her dear sister had broken through to the Grandmaster Realm, and she had also dispatched a Grandmaster Protector for her.

With two Grandmasters in the North Country, they could surely stir up considerable chaos, such as stealing the weapons' blueprints or even capturing the North Prince's wives and consorts to bring back to Da Yue.

Chapter 725 Xue Linglong Returns_1

North Country, Yan County.

North Prince Mansion.

Lu Chen was ceaselessly perusing military documents in his study; with the war impending, his workload had increased—every day, he had to look through thousands of documents.

Not all these documents were for him to process; most were handled by Zhuge Zhongguang, but he had to review them all, for they pertained to military matters. As a ruler with absolute military authority, Lu Chen couldn't neglect his military responsibilities.

At that moment, a maid's voice came from outside the study.

"Prince, Commander Liang requests an audience."

With his gaze fixed on the document in front of him, Lu Chen said, "Enter."

The next moment, Liang Zong pushed the door open and entered.

"Greetings, Prince!"

Without looking up, Lu Chen asked indifferently, "What's the matter?"

Liang Zong replied, "The Crown Princess Consort has returned to Yan County, and she has brought many strong figures with her."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen was startled and lifted his head to look at Liang Zong, "She's back at the Lu Mansion?"

Liang Zong answered, "No, she didn't return under the identity of the Crown Princess Consort, but assumed a new one."

"They pretended to have encountered a band of mountain robbers on their way to Heyang County; the Crown Princess Consort was killed, and then she took on a new identity to go to Yan County."

Hearing this, Lu Chen was taken aback.

A new identity?

What is that enchantress planning to do?

Could it be that Xue Linglong feels her identity as the Crown Princess Consort is too sensitive, so she wants to discard it and come back to be her own woman?

After pondering for a moment, Lu Chen said, "Keep an eye on her. If the Taiyin Divine Sect makes any moves, report to me immediately."

"Yes, Prince!"

"I shall take my leave."

As soon as he finished speaking, Liang Zong promptly left.

However, it wasn't long before Liang Zong returned to the study.

When Liang Zong appeared again in the study, Lu Chen asked in confusion, "Why has Commander Liang returned?"

Liang Zong immediately said, "Prince, a Jinyiwei Guard was caught by the Crown Princess Consort by accident. She sent a message for you through that guard."

Hmm?

Curious, Lu Chen asked, "What's the message?"

Liang Zong replied, "The Crown Princess Consort says she knows you have been having her watched, and now she has an important matter to tell you, hoping you would meet with her."

After all, Xue Linglong was the Saintess of the Taiyin Divine Sect; the Brocade Guards had been tracking and monitoring them—how could she have been unaware?

But she was clear about who was sent to watch her; thus, she had ignored them until now. However, now that she had returned to Yan County, she wanted to inform Lu Chen about the Taiyin Divine Sect's affairs, and this was an opportunity to use the Brocade Guard's soldier to send a message back to Lu Chen.

After thinking for a moment, Lu Chen took off a jade pendant and threw it to Liang Zong, "Have that soldier give this jade pendant to the Crown Princess Consort and tell her she may come to the North Prince Mansion's study to meet with me tonight."

Catching the jade pendant, Liang Zong said, "Yes, I will go at once."

Immediately, Liang Zong left the study once more.

Lu Chen thought to himself that the enchantress had been wandering outside for months, probably unable to endure it any longer.

But she must have other reasons for seeking him out; perhaps the Taiyin Divine Sect was making a move?

No matter, he would find out what she wanted when he saw Xue Linglong later.

Lu Chen did not dwell on it further; he continued to look through the documents while waiting for Xue Linglong's arrival.

After an indeterminate amount of time, the maid's voice finally came from outside the study.

"Prince, Miss Xue requests an audience."

On hearing this, Lu Chen smiled. Xue Linglong had indeed discarded her identity as the Crown Princess Consort; even the way people announced her visit had changed to 'Miss Xue'.

"Let her in."

As soon as Lu Chen uttered the words, Xue Linglong pushed the door open and entered.

Lu Chen set down the documents in his hands and looked over at Xue Linglong.

Today, Xue Linglong wore a form-fitting purple dress that clung to her exquisite figure, accentuating her curvaceous body, and the dress was short enough to reveal her long, fair legs, her whole being radiated a seductive and enchanting charm.

Lu Chen said with a smile, "Weren't you supposed to head south to see Yi? Why have you come back?"

Xue Linglong ignored Lu Chen's question, instead glancing at the mound of documents on the desk, she then said with a sly smile, "I wouldn't have imagined that just a few months after leaving Yan County, the Prince would change his ways. Now he seems to be devoting all his attention to state affairs."

Lu Chen said with a smile, "You must be under some misunderstanding about me. I have always been a man with a strong sense of duty towards my work."

"It was true then, and it is true now."

Xue Linglong said, "Oh? So to speak, the Prince hasn't changed at all, which I find somewhat hard to believe."

"Why not let me check thoroughly to see if you really haven't changed at all."

As she spoke, Xue Linglong took the initiative to use her Charming Skill on Lu Chen, knowing full well that her Charming Skill was of no use to him, but employing it was just a ploy to seduce Lu Chen.

Lu Chen indeed rose from his seat at this moment and walked directly toward Xue Linglong, "Alright, then check as much as you want."

At this point, Lu Chen reached out and pulled Xue Linglong into his arms, then sealed her red lips with his own.

Xue Linglong immediately felt an intense excitement within her, it was this feeling she finally got to experience again today—the sensation of kissing Lu Chen.

Far from struggling, Xue Linglong became very proactive, lifting her tender arms like lotus roots to wrap around Lu Chen's neck, and as they kissed, she began to fiddle with his clothes.

While kissing Xue Linglong, Lu Chen pushed the enchantress into the study's adjoining rest area.

After a while, they finally moved to the bed, and after Lu Chen had pushed Xue Linglong down, he looked down at her from above.

At this moment, Xue Linglong's complexion was rosy, her eyes clouded over, a face full of seduction.

In a murmuring voice, Xue Linglong said, "Tonight I am your female slave, you can do whatever you want to me."

Seeing the seductive look of this enchantress Xue Linglong, Lu Chen could not hold back and bent down again to cover her mouth.

Afterward, Lu Chen gave a good lesson to the enchantress who had escaped for several months.

Xue Linglong also came to realize that, after all, she was a seductress from the Demon Sect, and people of the Demon Sect should release the desires in their hearts and act on their whims.

Since her current desire was to be Lu Chen's female slave, to be ravished by him, why should she resist? She just had to follow this man.

It was also an excellent opportunity for her to continue harnessing male energy for her feminine energy and to cultivate her Goddess Skill.

Having resigned herself to this, Xue Linglong became extremely eager, but she nevertheless quickly met her defeat against Lu Chen.

When the first rays of dawn shone into the room, Lu Chen held Xue Linglong's tender body in his arms and laughed, "Enchantress, now you know that I haven't changed a bit."

Xue Linglong giggled lightly, "Indeed, the Prince hasn't changed."

Flipping over to face Xue Linglong, Lu Chen supported her smooth and white chin with his hand, looking into her bewitching peach-blossom eyes, he said, "Tell me, what are you doing back this time?"

With a beaming smile, Xue Linglong said, "The Prince almost killed me with exhaustion yesterday, and now you're asking what I'm back for?"

"What I've come back for, doesn't the Prince already know?"

As she spoke, Xue Linglong lifted her delicate hand and began to draw circles on Lu Chen's broad chest.

Lu Chen chuckled lightly, then said, "It seems you've still not learned your lesson."

At this, Lu Chen prepared to roll over again, but Xue Linglong quickly spoke sensing his intention, "The Sect Hierarchy has awakened. He wants your body."

Hearing this, Lu Chen was startled.

Regaining his senses, Lu Chen said, "Continue."

Xue Linglong went on to say, "The Taiyin Divine Sect slaughtered a city in the south to perform a blood sacrifice, awakening the Sect Hierarchy's spirit. He is now in desperate need of a perfect body."

"The Elders of the Taiyin Divine Sect believe you are the Son of Destiny and that your body is ideal for the Hierarch. Even if you're not the Son of Destiny, your martial arts talent is so high, your body is also very suitable for our Hierarch, so they plan to capture you and take you to the Taiyin Divine Sect to offer you to our Hierarch."

"This time the Taiyin Divine Sect has sent the core Elder, Cao Xianya, who is the previous Saintess, and her realm is roughly at the Pseudo-Celestial Level."

Hearing Xue Linglong's words, Lu Chen fell into thought.

Seeing Lu Chen fall silent, Xue Linglong spoke coyly, "For reminding you, I have taken the risk of being discovered to come to the North Prince Mansion. How does the Prince intend to reward me?"

Lu Chen came back to his senses and, pinching Xue Linglong's chin, looked into her eyes and asked with a smile, "You want a reward?"

"How about I reward you with a few children?"

Upon hearing this, Xue Linglong snorted with laughter, dropping the act, instantly switched her expression, and resumed her cool tone, "The Prince really hasn't changed at all."

Lu Chen said, "Didn't you realize just now that I haven't changed?"

Lu Chen then asked, "Tell me, what do you plan to do this time? Are you planning to run away again, or do you intend to stay at the North Prince Mansion?"

Xue Linglong said, "Isn't the Prince already well aware? What tricks has the Prince used on my body that now I can no longer leave you and can only be your female slave, become a plaything for the Prince?"

Continuing, Xue Linglong went on to say, "I'm just fated to be a plaything. Although I am the Saintess of the Taiyin Divine Sect, in truth, I am also merely a maid for the Sect Hierarch and will need to serve him once he is resurrected."

"Now that I've come here, I am also to be a female slave, so why shouldn't I choose a handsome and capable young man as my master?"

At this, Xue Linglong cast a seductive glance toward Lu Chen, "Right, my master..."

Hearing this, the dormant wildness in Lu Chen's heart was once again stirred.

He snorted with laughter, then said as he rolled over, "If you want to be my female slave, then I must thoroughly test you."

"Enchantress, are you ready to face my test?"

Hearing this, Xue Linglong was startled.

A test?

What kind of test?

Didn't this guy just last night...

As Xue Linglong's thoughts drifted, Lu Chen suddenly swooped down and once again sealed her red lips.

Since Wang Qingci had a child, Lu Chen hadn't been rough with her for a long time. Now that an enchantress was here, he could finally unleash his true nature again.

Chapter 726 Then This Humble One Will Trust the Prince Once

Xue Linglong suddenly felt some regret.

She felt that coming back to Yan County was like walking into a trap.

Although she had long considered this man to be very formidable, it was precisely because he was formidable that she was able to indulge herself.

Now she realized that this man was even more brutal than she had imagined.

From dawn to dusk, then from night to dawn...

When Xue Linglong woke up, she found herself in an unknown room.

Her head still felt muddled, and after getting up, she shook her head vigorously and glanced around the room's layout.

This should not be the resting room of the North Prince Mansion's study; she remembered that the resting room was decorated with many calligraphy and paintings and had a scholarly aroma.

But this room was filled with fragrance, predominantly pink in color, and the atmosphere seemed somewhat seductive.

Seeing Xue Linglong wake up, a maid in the room immediately came over, "Lady Xue, you're awake?"

"Do you need to bathe? The hot water is already prepared."

Upon hearing the maid's words, Xue Linglong raised her hand, massaging her temples while asking, "Where is this place?"

The maid answered, "This is the bedroom prepared by the Prince for Lady Xue. The Prince said from now on Lady Xue will live in this courtyard."

Upon hearing this, Xue Linglong scoffed in her heart; that bastard really intends to keep her as a plaything for his pleasure.

Anyway, now was not the time to think about these things. She felt sticky all over and needed to take a quick bath.

With that in mind, Xue Linglong said, "Where is the tub? Lead me to it."

Xue Linglong had not bathed in the North Prince Mansion before, so she was unaware of the facilities and assumed it would be soaking in a tub.

The maid promptly said, "Please follow this servant, Lady Xue."

Then the maid led Xue Linglong into the Prince's Mansion's bathing chamber. Upon seeing the bath in front of her, Xue Linglong was momentarily stunned. She hadn't expected that the room Lu Chen had arranged for her was this nice, even featuring a bath.

She stepped into the bath, and the warm water enveloped her body. The fatigue from yesterday slowly dissipated, and she felt much more alert, her head no longer as cloudy as before.

At that moment, Xue Linglong lifted her smooth and fair arms, gently agitating the warm water in the bath while sighing.

She didn't know if her choice was the right one. Although she was beautiful, she would grow old one day; she couldn't be Lu Chen's plaything forever. Eventually, the bastard would tire of her.

Therefore, she had to find a way out for herself.

But just the thought of what that man had done to her yesterday made a blush involuntarily spread across Xue Linglong's face. She felt her mind was breaking, despite how much that man tormented her, she had already become infatuated with that sensation.

Xue Linglong thought to herself that all this must have something to do with that man; he must have done something to her; that's why she was like this...

In fact, Dragon and Phoenix Tea could indeed deepen a woman's feelings for Lu Chen, but that was all; it was just an intensification of feelings. As for Xue Linglong's reactions, they were completely driven by her own desires.

Take the other women in the Prince's Mansion, for example. After being with Lu Chen, they remained quite chaste and abstinent for a few days, unless Lu Chen actively stirred their emotions.

The women of the Prince's Mansion were not like Xue Linglong, who, despite being tormented to death by Lu Chen, was already thinking about it again after not much time had passed.

When Xue Linglong emerged from the bath, a maid entered the room and said to Xue Linglong, "Lady Xue, after you have bathed, the Prince has asked you to find him in the study."

Upon hearing this, Xue Linglong paused, but then she thought that after the man had tormented her for so long, he probably wouldn't continue that sort of thing again; it was likely he wanted her cooperation to round up those from the Taiyin Divine Sect.

Thinking this, Xue Linglong let the maids quickly dress her up, and then she wore her favorite black dress and headed once more to the place where they had battled yesterday.

When Xue Linglong arrived at the study, Lu Chen was reviewing documents with a very serious look.

Xue Linglong said, "The Prince is truly formidable, able to go without sleep for days and nights."

Without looking up, Lu Chen said, "I have reached the Pseudo-Celestial Realm; going without sleep for days and nights is nothing to me."

Xue Linglong went straight to the point, "Just say it, Prince; why have you summoned me here?"

"I don't believe the Prince wants to assault me again."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen chuckled, then raised his hand, and in the next instant Xue Linglong's body flew into the air, landing directly in Lu Chen's arms.

With Xue Linglong's soft body in his embrace, he whispered in her ear, "Assault, when have I ever assaulted you?"

As he spoke, Lu Chen's hands started to roam, fondling her restless body, and Xue Linglong became restless once again.

She quickly said, "The Prince must be concerned about the matter of the Taiyin Divine Sect. I will do my best to cooperate with the Prince to deal with those people from the Taiyin Divine Sect."

Lu Chen stopped teasing Xue Linglong and said, "I will soon be leading troops southward. With members of the Taiyin Divine Sect in Yan County, I cannot be at ease. Therefore, those from the Taiyin Divine Sect must all die."

Chapter 727 Then This Humble One Will Trust the Prince Once_2

Upon hearing these words, Xue Linglong's heart quivered, and then she asked, "Is Prince also planning to kill me?"

Lu Chen raised his hand and pinched Xue Linglong's delicate chin, saying, "How could that be? You are my female slave, my plaything, and my private property. I am not one to casually destroy my own private property."

Feeling Lu Chen's words, Xue Linglong immediately felt a surge of warmth inside her heart. In no time, this warmth spread throughout her body, and she began to feel feverish.

Xue Linglong was puzzled. Why was her body reacting in such a strange way?

Especially upon hearing Lu Chen say that she was his plaything, his private property, her heart throbbed with excitement.

Xue Linglong's heart gave another jolt. It was definitely this damned man's doing!

How could she harbor such contemptible thoughts!

It must be this man who had used some Charm Skill on her, altering her thoughts and making her willing to be Lu Chen's plaything.

Although that's what she reasoned in her mind, Xue Linglong didn't utter a word.

Lu Chen then continued, "I plan to lure those from the Taiyin Divine Sect to the outskirts of Yan County and take care of them all there."

"So, I will need your help."

Xue Linglong immediately understood Lu Chen's intention, and then she said, "I understand what Prince means."

Xue Linglong then asked, "When does Prince plan to make a move on them?"

Lu Chen took out a scroll and said, "Let's do it tomorrow. This is the route map, you'll lead them out of the city on this route to where I'll be waiting to ambush them."

Receiving the route map, Xue Linglong still asked with some concern, "Prince won't stab me in the back afterwards, right?"

Xue Linglong knew all too well her status as a Demon Sect Sorceress. She was afraid that Lu Chen didn't trust her, thinking she was only pretending to defect and that, once he disposed of the Taiyin Divine Sect members, he might eliminate her as well.

Lu Chen said with a smile, "After all, I am the ruler of a feudal state. How could I possibly go back on my word?"

Xue Linglong retorted, "The higher one's position, the more ruthless one becomes. Since ancient times, the fate of female slaves of such powerful beings has never been good. They were either given away or secretly killed by their own masters."

Lu Chen chuckled and then, looking into her eyes, said, "You're right, most female slaves indeed meet grim fates, but those are someone else's female slaves. The end for my female slaves is always a good one."

"I believe you have also investigated me, so you should know that Wang Qingci is my female slave. Look at her now, isn't she living well in North Prince Mansion? Not only is she living well, but now she also bears my offspring."

Thinking it over, Xue Linglong then said, "Then I will trust Prince this one time."

At that moment, Lu Chen placed a heavy hand on Xue Linglong's bottom and patted it, saying, "A Demon Sect Sorceress like you, I have never collected one before. You are one of my rarest collections; how could I possibly bear to destroy you?"

With that, Lu Chen's hand moved to Xue Linglong's petite mouth as he continued, "I can make you a promise. Once I become the Great Xia Emperor, you will, at the very least, have the status of a consort."

Upon hearing this, Xue Linglong spat out Lu Chen's finger and chuckled lightly, "Prince better not make empty promises to me. I'm no fool. For a Demon Sect Sorceress like me, at most, Prince will keep me as a female slave for entertainment. How could you possibly grant me an official status?"

Lu Chen said, "If you don't believe it, so be it. But I always honor my words."

Xue Linglong then struggled slightly, attempting to rise from Lu Chen, "Prince should let me go now. I've been missing for two days. If I don't show up soon, that old wretch Cao Xianya will start to suspect."

Lu Chen no longer made it difficult for Xue Linglong and released her.

Xue Linglong then headed towards the doorway, speaking as she walked, "Although I don't know what tactics Prince used on me, I have to admit that the days spent with Prince have been the happiest. I hope, in the end, Prince won't renege on his word and will spare my life."

As her voice fell, Xue Linglong left the study. She ultimately chose to trust Lu Chen. If this despicable man wanted to kill her, she wouldn't be able to resist anyway, with a Celestial from Mysterious Moon Palace present.

She was a Demon Sect Sorceress, and she rarely trusted anyone, not even members of the Taiyin Divine Sect. This was the first time she had chosen to trust someone, and it was someone who considered her no more than a plaything.

She was taking a gamble. If she was right and the North Prince indeed liked her body and wouldn't kill her, then she might have a happy time in North Prince Mansion. Even if this period might not last long, it would be better than never having experienced such a life.

Watching Xue Linglong's enchanting figure leave, Lu Chen's lips curled into a faint smile. It seemed the sorceress had been thoroughly subdued by him.

Still, this sorceress was rather dangerous. It might be better to take her with him when heading south.

After all, as a sorceress of the Taiyin Divine Sect, even if she had been subdued by him, she might not necessarily be kind to other people in the North Prince Mansion. He had to be cautious about this.

...

When Xue Linglong returned to the temporary base of the Taiyin Divine Sect, Cao Xianya immediately appeared before her, "Saintess, where have you been these past few days? Why couldn't this old one find you?"

Chapter 728 Then This Humble One Will Trust the Prince Once_3

Xue Linglong said indifferently, "Didn't Elder Cao want me to seduce the North Prince? Don't you know where I have been? Naturally, I went to investigate the North Prince's whereabouts."

Hearing this, Cao Xianya felt a surge of joy in her heart, not expecting Xue Linglong to actually do it.

Excellent, when they returned to the Taiyin Divine Sect, it would be time for Xue Linglong to be pulled down from her position as a Saintess. She wanted to witness with her own eyes as their Sect Hierarch turned Xue Linglong into a withered corpse.

Cao Xianya then said with a smile, "So the Saintess went to the North Prince Mansion to gather information; I was too presumptuous."

"What news did the Saintess gather?"

Xue Linglong replied, "The North Prince has already prepared to lead his troops southward."

Upon hearing this, Cao Xianya snorted coldly inside, isn't that obvious? The North Country has already issued a call to arms, and even the North Prince's proclamation calling for the eradication of traitors has been issued; who doesn't know that the North Prince is preparing to lead his troops south to seize the throne?

Was such information even worth the trouble of running to the North Prince Mansion to gather?

However, at that moment, Xue Linglong continued, "I have discovered that to boost the soldiers' morale, the North Prince will visit a military camp in the southern forest at noon tomorrow and give a speech to inspire their spirits."

"This is our best opportunity."

"Because Yan County is not too far from that camp, the Celestials of the Mysterious Moon Palace will not leave Yan County at that time."

Upon hearing this, Cao Xianya said with some concern, "If Yan County is too close to the military camp, and if the Celestials of the Mysterious Moon Palace notice, I'm afraid..."

Cao Xianya didn't continue.

Xue Linglong said, "That's why we must strike quickly and decisively, abduct the North Prince swiftly, so the Mysterious Moon Palace's Celestials won't have time to react."

"Tomorrow morning everyone from the Taiyin Divine Sect should go. We can split into several groups to confuse the Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace."

Cao Xianya did not doubt Xue Linglong's words at all, as it never crossed her mind that Xue Linglong would betray their Sect Hierarchy.

Cao Xianya also felt that Xue Linglong's plan was feasible.

After all, it was one of their few opportunities to kidnap the North Prince. If they missed this chance, once the North Prince marched south with his troops, there would be many more powerful people around him, and the Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace would be there to protect the North Prince, making it impossible for the Taiyin Divine Sect to approach the North Prince.

Therefore, whether they could succeed or not, they had to try as best as they could.

After thinking for a moment, Cao Xianya said, "Then fine, we will do as the Saintess has suggested."

...

In the evening.

The setting sun cast a red glow over the land as a flock of geese flew south in a "v" formation.

After finishing a busy day, Lu Chen was preparing to return to the Wind Cloud Court.

At that moment, Lu Chen suddenly smelled the scent of barbecue.

Startled by the aroma, Lu Chen wondered if there was barbecue for dinner tonight.

He followed the fragrance to its source, soon realizing it wasn't emanating from the Wind Cloud Court but from Qin Yuwei's courtyard instead.

Lu Chen didn't often visit Qin Yuwei's courtyard, not because he disliked her. Qin Yuwei was, after all, a woman of over ninety points in appearance, very beautiful, with the air of an aristocratic family lady, and Lu Chen liked her too.

It was just that Lu Chen had too many women. The women in his inner courtyard were all beautiful, and his strong desire to conquer made him most intent on subduing chilly fairies like Chen Wanrong or defiant beauties like Wu Junwan.

Chen Wanrong and Wu Junwan alone kept Lu Chen quite occupied, not to mention his other women, leading him to neglect this lady from an aristocratic family.

As soon as Lu Chen entered the courtyard, he found Qin Yuwei, dressed in green cloud attire, sitting on a stone bench in the courtyard, personally sprinkling seasoning on a roasting whole lamb.

Witnessing this scene, Lu Chen was stunned.

At that moment, Qin Yuwei was the furthest thing from a demure aristocratic lady, with her sleeves rolled up to reveal her fair arms—she looked like a maid hard at work.

Qin Yuwei was directing the maids, turning the lamb over.

One of the maids suddenly realized Lu Chen's presence and hastily bowed, saying, "This servant greets the Prince!"

Hearing this, Qin Yuwei quickly looked toward the entrance of the courtyard and indeed spotted Lu Chen.

She was utterly dumbfounded, "Prince... Prince... Your Highness..."

Frightened pale, Qin Yuwei hurriedly bowed, "I greet Your Highness..."

"Your Highness, I know my mistake, I will never dare again..."

???

Qin Yuwei's hastiness in apologizing left Lu Chen speechless. Was he that frightening?

Lu Chen asked, "What mistake? Where did you go wrong?"

Hearing this, Qin Yuwei thought Lu Chen was angry and quickly said, "I shouldn't be doing such demeaning tasks in the courtyard."

Lu Chen chuckled and walked toward Qin Yuwei, saying, "When did I ever say you were forbidden from doing such things in the courtyard?"

This...

Qin Yuwei hesitated.

Did the Prince imply he doesn't intend to blame her?

She hardly dared to believe it and thought that Lu Chen would be furious.

Although she had been intimate with Lu Chen a few times, she didn't spend much time with him; she knew more about Lu Chen through her maids than personal interaction. She didn't understand him well.

In her eyes, Princes were always quick to anger.

To her surprise, Lu Chen appeared not to hold her accountable.

Lu Chen continued, "But back to the matter at hand, Yuwei, if you wanted roasted lamb, couldn't you have just asked the folks at the Food House to make it? Why must you do it yourself?"

Blushing, Qin Yuwei said, "Ever since we started eating meals separately, I haven't tasted food as delicious as those from Wind Cloud Court, so I wanted to try making it myself to see if I could replicate the flavor."

Lu Chen burst into laughter, considering the aristocratic lady before him quite the food lover!

Chapter 729 Qin Yuwei is Pregnant_1

...

After becoming Lu Chen's woman, Qin Yuwei had been very low-key, no longer flaunting the temper of a young lady from an aristocratic family as she had when she was in the Qin Family.

The Qin Family had been annihilated, and she was very clear about her current situation; Lu Chen was her only support from now on. As long as she served Lu Chen faithfully and did not vie for power or profit, she might just have a stable life.

Previously, dinners at the Prince's Mansion were always held in Wind Cloud Court, which offered exceedingly sumptuous meals that tasted especially good. Even as a young lady from an aristocratic family, Qin Yuwei had never had food as delicious as that served in the North Prince Mansion.

However, ever since Xiao Wenyao and Yelv Nanyan had children, dinners at the North Prince Mansion were no longer held together, given the increase in people.

When the chefs at the Food House were cooking, they prioritized making meals for Wind Cloud Court. Although the communal dinner had been cancelled, Lu Chen still returned to Wind Cloud Court every day for dinner, so the chefs still had to give priority to Lu Chen, the Prince.

This also meant that during meal preparation, the chefs at the Food House might neglect the people in the other courtyards, and Qin Yuwei was among those overlooked. Though the meals prepared by the Food House for her were still more delicious than what she had eaten in the Qin Family, the chefs generally did not make her any elaborate dishes.

For instance, something like a roasted whole lamb was out of the question, and even if she requested the Food House to prepare one for her, the flavor would not match what she had enjoyed in Wind Cloud Court.

Qin Yuwei, craving a good meal, finally decided to take matters into her own hands.

She had seen chefs roast things on the spot before in Wind Cloud Court, so she started to wonder if having all the seasonings the chefs used would allow her to reproduce the roasted lamb that tasted just like the one from Wind Cloud Court?

Anyway, she did not have much to do, and the North Prince rarely visited her; plus, she did not have any children, and there was nothing in the Prince's Mansion that required her attention. With time on her hands, she might as well find something to do.

What Qin Yuwei did not expect was that Lu Chen, who had not visited her courtyard for a long time, suddenly appeared today, which caught her off guard.

Lu Chen came to inspect the roasting lamb, then picked up a pair of chopsticks from a plate on a nearby table and poked the lamb meat, "Hmm, it should be cooked by now, just sprinkle some cumin, and it should be almost perfect."

"However, when you're roasting, try to make more cuts in the meat. It's possible it might not be flavored thoroughly."

Having said that, Lu Chen took a knife from the table next to him and started scoring the lamb.

Seeing Lu Chen taking action personally, Qin Yuwei stood there stunned.

As Lu Chen continued cutting, he said, "In the future, if there's something you want to eat, tell the people at the Food House earlier. You can also find a few maids and have them learn specifically at the Food House, then cook on your own stove, which is permissible here in the Prince's Mansion."

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Qin Yuwei immediately responded, "Thank you, Prince!"

Lu Chen continued, "I'll have dinner here tonight. Send a maid to Wind Cloud Court to inform the Princess."

The knowledgeable maidservant by Qin Yuwei's side said, "I will go right away."

Subsequently, the maidservant went to Wind Cloud Court and relayed to Mu Zixuan that Lu Chen was eating roasted lamb in Qin Yuwei's courtyard. Mu Zixuan, of course, did not care too much.

When they had separated the meals, Mu Zixuan had anticipated such a day. Since they were eating separately, it was not possible for them to dine together. Lu Chen couldn't possibly eat at Wind Cloud Court every day without visiting any of his other concubines.

However, at that moment, Mu Zixuan thought of something and had the maidservant go to the Food House to send over some nourishing items to Qin Yuwei, such as sheep kidneys and deer tendons.

When Lu Chen saw the food brought by the Food House staff, he was somewhat helpless; probably in the entire North Prince Mansion, the only one who worried about his health was his Princess, constantly urging him to strengthen himself. He was already a Pseudo Celestial; what else was there to fortify?

In truth, eating these things at most increased his vitality and had a limited ability to enhance certain aspects. It was more of a placebo effect. With Lu Chen's existing strength, these nourishing items were largely inconsequential.

Nevertheless, Lu Chen did not say much; this was all Mu Zixuan's deep love. So, he thought, let it be.

However, seeing the food delivered by the Food House, Qin Yuwei, a maiden born to an aristocratic family, blushed at the sight. Although she did not often deal with culinary matters, she could tell at a glance what those items were.

Moreover, during the communal dinners at Wind Cloud Court, the Princess often prepared these things for Lu Chen; she was well aware of their effects.

The thought of spending the whole night with Lu Chen after dinner made Qin Yuwei's cheeks burn.

At this moment, Lu Chen asked, "Yuwei, are you getting used to living in the North Prince Mansion?"

Qin Yuwei responded, "Thank you for your concern, Prince. I have indeed adapted."

While eating, Lu Chen said, "As long as you're comfortable."

Lu Chen went on to say, "If there's anything you need, you can talk to the steward of the Prince's Mansion or to the Princess."

Qin Yuwei responded, "I understand."

Though she said this, Qin Yuwei would not actually approach the Princess. She knew the Prince's Mansion was very busy, and how could she possibly bother the Princess over her minor issues?

Besides, it seemed she lacked for nothing; she was provided with food, clothing, and even silver every month, not much different from when she lived in the Qin Family.

The only difference, perhaps, was that she did not have much status in the North Prince Mansion, and she had to offer herself to serve Lu Chen. But these were not issues.

...

Compared to those Qin Family members who were beheaded, she was already very fortunate to be alive.

Everything she had now was brought to her by the man in front of her, and thinking about this filled Qin Yuwei's heart with gratitude, making her body feel even warmer.

After dinner, Lu Chen and Qin Yuwei spent a while in the courtyard before heading to the bath to soak in hot water together.

When held in Lu Chen's arms, Qin Yuwei felt an immense happiness and only wished that this moment could last forever, that this man would never abandon her.

About half an hour later, the bathing ended, and Lu Chen and Qin Yuwei went to bed to commence their "official business."

It was yet another sleepless night.

The morning sun spilled onto the bed, and as the sleeping figure awoke, Qin Yuwei opened her eyes to see the handsome face of Lu Chen.

Lu Chen had his eyes closed and seemed to still be deep in sleep; they lay side by side, bodies pressed together, still enveloped in a tender state. Qin Yuwei didn't dare wake Lu Chen, so she just kept watching him.

After what seemed like an eternity, Lu Chen opened his eyes. He shifted his body slightly, prompting Qin Yuwei to involuntarily let out a soft "yng" sound. She immediately closed her mouth, afraid of angering Lu Chen.

Seeing Qin Yuwei's reaction, Lu Chen said with a smile, "I'm not such a fierce person; you don't need to be so afraid of me."

Qin Yuwei's face instantly turned bright red.

At that moment, Lu Chen glanced at the system interface, which was invisible to others, allowing him to check it without worry. The system interface had a string of prompts.

With a thought from Lu Chen, the system prompts expanded.

[For cultivating affection with a wife or concubine, Qi Refinement Mantra...]

[Qin Yuwei is pregnant with the host's child, reward host with diesel engine production blueprint.]

[The pregnancy reward is an encouragement reward; please ensure the child is safely born.]

Lu Chen's lips curved into a slight smile, not expecting Qin Yuwei to have gotten pregnant so soon after arriving at the North Prince Mansion.

It seemed that one really can't rush the matter of having children.

Indeed, planting flowers with intent does not bring blossom, yet willows planted casually may grow into shade.

He had previously tried so hard to have children, and yet, neither Mu Zixuan nor Dazhou's Xiaozhou had become pregnant. He had come over last night for a roast whole sheep and casually spent an evening with Qin Yuwei, which led to her winning the jackpot naturally.

Lu Chen gently caressed Qin Yuwei's pretty face and said with a smile, "You are pregnant. Pay more attention in the coming days."

Hearing Lu Chen's words, Qin Yuwei was momentarily stunned.

Pregnant?

Was she really pregnant?

Could it truly be?

Did she carry the North Prince's child?

While finding it hard to believe, Qin Yuwei thought of the legends she had heard from the maids about Lu Chen's ability to diagnose pregnancy far beyond any physician's skill. As soon as one of his wives or concubines was pregnant, Lu Chen could instantly detect it.

If he said she was pregnant, then it was highly likely that she really was.

She had not expected to have the North Prince's child so soon.

Having the North Prince's child meant her life in the future was secure.

Qin Yuwei was extremely excited in her heart.

"Thank you for giving me a child, Your Highness."

Hearing this, Lu Chen chuckled lightly, always feeling that this phrase sounded a bit familiar, as if he had heard it somewhere before.

Lu Chen slowly separated from Qin Yuwei and said, "All right, you should rest well today. I have some matters to attend to, so I'll be getting up first."

Today he had to take care of the Taiyin Divine Sect, and he couldn't just linger in the tender affections forever.

Chapter 730 The Appearance of the Taiyin Divine Sect Sect Hierarch_1

After coming out from Qin Yuwei's courtyard, Lu Chen called for Xuanyuan Chaoge and then took some people to the outside of the city.

He believed that Xue Linglong had already gathered all the people from the Taiyin Divine Sect and was ambushing them somewhere outside Yan County.

As long as he appeared, those from the Taiyin Divine Sect would show themselves, and then they could be captured all at once.

Indeed, the people from the Taiyin Divine Sect had already set up an ambush on a road that Lu Chen was set to pass, whether they could capture the North Prince or not depended on this attempt.

In fact, there was no need for Lu Chen to leave the Prince's Mansion this time; all of the Taiyin Divine Sect's people had been lured to one place by Xue Linglong, and Lu Chen simply needed to have Xuanyuan Chaoge take people to deal with them.

However, Lu Chen thought about some of the martial artists in the Taiyin Divine Sect who possessed profound skills, considering it a waste to kill them so easily and forgo their valuable abilities.

It might be better for him to also go and see the situation, absorb their skills, and after he had absorbed enough, he could transfer those skills to his own wives and concubines.

...

After the people from the Taiyin Divine Sect reached the designated place, they waited quietly. The forest was particularly silent, and hardly a sound could be heard.

After an unknown amount of time, a scout returned, excitedly saying, "The North Prince is really coming this way, and he only has one Grandmaster with him, the rest of the soldiers are not very strong."

Upon hearing this, the hearts of those from the Taiyin Divine Sect raced with excitement.

They had not expected such a good opportunity today. If there was only one Grandmaster, then wouldn't they be able to easily capture the North Prince and take him to the south?

Cao Xianya was a Pseudo Celestial; a Pseudo Celestial could easily hold off a Grandmaster. It wasn't just holding off a Grandmaster; even killing one was not impossible.

As long as Cao Xianya could hold off that Grandmaster, then their Saintess and the other Elders could directly capture the North Prince. Although the North Prince had some abilities of his own, those paled in comparison to their Saintess and the several external Elders.

The sect members prepared themselves for battle, only waiting for the North Prince's convoy to arrive.

After an unknown period, Cao Xianya sensed the sound of hooves coming from not far away; obviously, the North Prince was on his way.

Cao Xianya's lips curled up slightly, her wrinkled face revealing a sinister smile, surprised at how easy this mission seemed.

While the people of the Taiyin Divine Sect held their breath, the approaching carriage suddenly came to a stop.

This caught the people of the Taiyin Divine Sect off guard. What was going on?

Xue Linglong said at this moment, "Something's not right. Stay here and don't move; I will go up front to scout the situation."

As her voice fell, Xue Linglong slowly approached the front, and Cao Xianya did not have any doubts since she had never suspected that Xue Linglong might betray the Taiyin Divine Sect.

After Xue Linglong headed to the front, she directly approached Lu Chen's convoy. Liang Zong recognized Xue Linglong instantly.

Since Xue Linglong had already come over, they did not have to worry about hurting her, and then Liang Zong said, "Attack!"

Just when the people from the Taiyin Divine Sect were waiting for their Saintess's command, countless cannonballs suddenly fell from the sky, and the members were blasted into the air.

Cao Xianya shouted, "No good, we've been discovered!"

Although Cao Xianya realized they had been discovered, she did not run away. Rather than running, she even allowed herself to get closer to Lu Chen's convoy.

Although the weapons of the North Country had great power, they could not harm her, a Pseudo Celestial. This was the best opportunity to capture the North Prince, and she would not let it slip away. If she missed this chance, the North Prince would surely become much more cautious in the future.

Xue Linglong quickly noticed Cao Xianya's approach and immediately pretended to attack Liang Zong.

Liang Zong seemed to understand the ruse and pretended to fight back.

Liang Zong shouted, "Who are you people? How dare you attempt to assassinate the Prince!"

Seeing that Liang Zong was tied up, Cao Xianya did not waste any time. She glanced at the convoy and locked onto the most luxurious carriage in the middle.

Without a doubt, the North Prince was inside that carriage.

The next moment, Cao Xianya charged towards that carriage. Liang Zong pretended to be nervous, shouting, "Assassins, protect the Prince!"

Although Liang Zong's shouts were fierce, none of the surrounding soldiers approached the carriage.

Up to now, Cao Xianya had not realized anything was amiss. After she approached the carriage and cleaved open the door, a young man came into view.

The young man had a smile on his face as he said, "Old lady, at such an old age, shouldn't you be at home taking care of your grandchildren, enjoying your later years, instead of running around playing bandit?"

Seeing that the North Prince was not at all panicked, Cao Xianya scoffed and then said, "Worthy of the North Prince, such courage."

"Now, please accompany this old lady on a trip!"

As Cao Xianya was about to grab Lu Chen, at that moment, Lu Chen's aura burst out, "To ask this Prince to go on a trip, we'll have to see if the old lady has the ability."

Feeling the aura released from Lu Chen, Cao Xianya froze for a moment.