

Es. Benefits 761

Chapter 761 Wasn't she just killed? How is she still alive?_3

Yu Changqing hurriedly dodged, but as soon as he began to move, a beam of black light shot out from the Divine Weapon in the Sum Emperor's hand.

The speed of this light was extremely fast, and even though Yu Changqing had already sensed the danger in advance, he nevertheless was injured by the black light, his arm vaporized instantly.

As for "Yun Xianxian" in the sky, her fate was even worse; the black light struck her right in the chest, her body was instantly destroyed and turned into dust.

Yu Changqing, who had fallen to the ground, was incredibly angry, and he looked back with venomous eyes at the Sum Emperor on the city tower.

Yu Changqing and Fu Hongchou had long been aware that the Sum Emperor might ambush them, so they were always on guard; still, they had underestimated the power of that Divine Weapon.

When that beam of black light was released, the heavens and earth changed color, as if night had fallen, and dark clouds suddenly shrouded the sky, the thick clouds moving ever closer to the ground, as though the sky was about to collapse.

Seeing Yun Xianxian's body instantly reduced to ash, the Sum Emperor laughed heartily.

"Hahaha, what of a Celestial! In Great Sum, I am the one who reigns over everything!"

The ministers nearby, as if awakening from a dream, snapped back to reality, and they immediately bowed to the Sum Emperor, saying, "Congratulations, Your Majesty, for eliminating such a formidable foe!"

"With no Celestial in Mysterious Moon Palace, Great Sum shall no longer suffer from internal strife!"

"Your Majesty is truly a Real Dragon Emperor!"

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Hearing the people's praise, the Sum Emperor's heart swelled even more.

He directly picked up the Divine Weapon in his hand, and in an instant, he leapt from the city tower, heading straight for Lu Chen.

Now that Mysterious Moon Palace's Celestial was dead, that scourge of a child posed no threat, and since Fu Hongchou had just failed to kill Lu Chen, he would personally take care of this menace.

He had wanted to do this for a long time, and now he was absolutely certain that Lu Chen could not possibly be of his own bloodline; he was but a bastard.

As the Sum Emperor jumped down from the city tower, Lu Chen clearly saw the so-called Divine Weapon in the Sum Emperor's hand, which bore a strong resemblance to an anti-tank sniper rifle, except for the dark aura emitted from the barrel, it was clear this was not a mere artifact of a pure technological world.

This must be a weapon from some high martial world that fell into this one; could it be that the metal structure on Fengyin Island was actually a spaceship that had fallen from another world?

While lost in thought, Lu Chen was fiercely stared at by the Sum Emperor who said, "You spawn of evil, do you have anything left to say?"

Hearing this, Lu Chen came back to his senses, showing no trace of panic but instead responded with a smile, "Father, I am curious, where did you get that Divine Weapon in your hand?"

"A Divine Weapon that emits such evil aura, and you're using it personally; do you realize what this means, Father?"

Seeing no panic in Lu Chen but instead hearing him talk about the Divine Weapon in his hand, the Sum Emperor sneered and said, "What business is it of yours, a man about to die?"

Lu Chen straightforwardly said, "Such an evil Divine Weapon, such heavy blood qi, it is clearly an object of the Demon Sect. Father has indeed been bewitched by someone from the Demon Sect, so far as to use their wares!"

Upon hearing Lu Chen's words, the officials on the city tower immediately began to stir.

What? The Sum Emperor is in league with the Demon Sect?

How is that possible?

No, if the Sum Emperor was not in league with the Demon Sect, how would one explain the weapon in his hand, its malevolence palpable to anyone who felt it?

The sovereign of a great empire, conspiring with the Demon Sect, if other kingdoms found out about this, they would certainly unite in opposition!

The Sum Emperor coldly said, "Stop your wicked nonsense. Since you have nothing to say, I shall personally send you down to see your mother!"

As he spoke, the Sum Emperor prepared to make a move against Lu Chen, but at that moment Lu Chen loudly said, "The emperor's mind has been controlled by the Demon Sect, and I ask all the ministers on the city tower to bear witness. Everything I do today is to restore the Emperor to clarity, all for the glory of Great Sum!"

Hearing Lu Chen's words, the Sum Emperor instantly felt uneasy.

This isn't right; the Celestial of Mysterious Moon Palace was already killed, so why was this bastard not panicking in the slightest?

The weapons of the North Country were formidable, but they shouldn't be capable of killing a Pseudo Celestial, could they?

What on earth was giving this bastard confidence?

No matter, he must be killed quickly.

As long as he killed this bastard, he would become a Celestial!

After that, Great Sum would be his alone, and no one would ever dare to oppose him again!

With that thought, the Sum Emperor raised his hand, ready to strike at Lu Chen.

Just at that moment, a tremendous pressure descended from the sky, instantly oppressing everyone present, leaving them gasping for breath.

The people were instantly dumbfounded.

The Sum Emperor, Yu Changqing, and Fu Hongchou were also dumbfounded.

What was happening?

The Celestial of Mysterious Moon Palace was supposed to be dead, so why was there still a Celestial presence?

While the crowd was still perplexed, a cold voice rose from behind Lu Chen.

"Elder Yu, Elder Fu, long time no see!"

Hearing this familiar voice, Yu Changqing and Fu Hongchou shuddered.

Their eyes widened in disbelief as they looked toward Lu Chen's back, where a woman dressed in a white gown, barefoot, and wearing a veil of black hair was slowly making her way to the front.

The next moment, the woman took off her veil, and as it fell to the ground, her hair slowly turned completely white.

Upon seeing the true face of Yun Xianxian, the Sum Emperor and the people on the city tower were stunned in place.

Hadn't she been killed just now?

How was she still alive?

Could it be that Celestials cannot be killed?

At that moment, terror surged in the Sum Emperor's heart; he couldn't believe what he was seeing. The woman had clearly turned to ashes, so how could she have been resurrected?

He had used his Divine Weapon once already, and there was no blood essence left in it, so it was unlikely he could use it a second time.

Against a Celestial, they stood no chance at all.

No! They weren't completely without a chance!

The Sum Emperor suddenly remembered something!

He immediately took out a jade bead from inside his clothing.

Chapter 762 The Fall of the Emperor_1

Before anyone on Lu Chen's side could stop the Sum Emperor, the Sum Emperor had actually stuffed the jade bead directly into his mouth.

Seeing this scene, Yun Xianxian's eyebrows knitted slightly, and she immediately said, "No good, he's trying to forcibly elevate his strength to the Heavenly Human Realm!"

Lu Chen was taken aback, could that jade bead be the Sacred Artifact of the Mysterious Moon Palace?

As soon as the words of Yun Xianxian fell, an overwhelming force was released from inside the Sum Emperor's body, and in an instant, the wind and clouds shifted and thunder roared in the sky.

Bolts of Heavenly Thunder struck directly upon the Sum Emperor's head, instantly turning his hair into a mess, his clothes torn and tattered like a beggar on the streets.

However, even after being struck by Heavenly Thunder several times, the Sum Emperor still did not die. At this moment, feeling the power surging within his body, he laughed maniacally.

"Is this the power of a Celestial?"

"I am the true ruler of Great Sum, no one can overthrow my reign!"

Having said that, the Sum Emperor immediately made a move against Yun Xianxian.

With a wave of his hand, all the rubble on the ground gathered together, quickly forming a massive stone sphere, which then crashed towards Yun Xianxian.

Seeing this, Yun Xianxian was not the slightest bit flustered. She simply raised her hand gently, and a bunch of Ice Cones flew out. When the Ice Cones hit the stone sphere, it shattered immediately, turning back into countless rubble.

But this was not the end, as the Sum Emperor continued to wield the power within his body that was not his own. Immediately thereafter, the phantom of a giant dragon appeared in the sky.

Upon seeing the dragon phantom, Yun Xianxian was slightly stunned. The move the Sum Emperor used was obviously not simple; it must not be a Cultivation Technique of this world. It seemed that the ruling house of Great Sum really had some hidden cards to have ruled for so many years.

Yet, the dragon phantom posed no danger to her.

Yun Xianxian gently lifted her jade hand, and a trace of cold air swirled around her fingertips. In the next moment, the icy chill instantly transformed into an Ice Dragon.

When the two dragons appeared in the sky, it was quite spectacular. In the next moment, both dragons opened their mouths wide and roared at each other.

The deafening roar spread throughout the entire Capital District, overwhelming the people who were unable to withstand the sound waves, quickly covering their ears with their hands.

After a while, the two dragons charged towards each other, and the moment they collided, waves of Spiritual Power dispersed, knocking people who weren't standing steadily flying out.

The battles between Celestials had a very wide impact, and such a scene was almost unheard of to the people of this world.

At that moment, Lu Chen immediately turned his head and waved to the soldiers from the North Country, signaling them to continue retreating. Upon receiving Lu Chen's order, the North Country soldiers hastily retreated once again.

Meanwhile, the two dragons in the sky gradually faded away, and it looked as if neither side was injured.

The Sum Emperor laughed loudly and said, "Celestials, that's all there is to it... *cough*..."

The Sum Emperor had barely finished speaking when he suddenly vomited a mouthful of black blood. At that moment, the evil divine weapon in his hand emitted a thick black mist.

The Sum Emperor seemed to understand something, and immediately lifted the barrel of the gun, aiming once again at Yun Xianxian. Yun Xianxian, sensing that something was amiss, quickly took to the sky.

The Sum Emperor activated the evil divine weapon once again. Following that, he felt his Spiritual Power draining rapidly, as if it was being siphoned by the Divine Weapon.

Then a beam of light shot out from the muzzle, a black light streaking straight towards Yun Xianxian. Although it was much smaller than the first light, it still posed a significant danger to Yun Xianxian. Just as the beam was about to hit Yun Xianxian, her figure flickered and vanished.

How could a focused Celestial be hit so easily?

Seeing Yun Xianxian dodge the attack, the Sum Emperor roared, "I want to see how much you can dodge!"

As he spoke, the Sum Emperor prepared to use that evil Sacred Artifact again.

Lu Chen could no longer stand by, addressed Xia Tianyuan and Mu Hongguang behind him, "Sect Master Xia, Hall Master Mu, make your move!"

As Lu Chen's voice fell, three terrifying presences descended. When the Sum Emperor and the ministers of the Capital city felt these two pressures, they were immediately dumbfounded.

The Sum Emperor looked in disbelief at the two people beside Lu Chen.

"How is this possible... "

"No... it can't be..."

"How could you, a bastard of rebellion, find so many Celestials to help you!"

In the Sum Emperor's view, Lu Chen was nothing more than a bastard, while he himself was the True Dragon of Great Sum. And yet, it turned out that beside Lu Chen, not only was there a Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace, but suddenly, there were three more Celestials!

That is to say, there were four Celestials by Lu Chen's side!

In this world, where no Celestial had appeared for hundreds of years, it had only been a few decades ago that the Celestial of the Mysterious Moon Palace had suddenly appeared and gone on a killing spree.

Yet today, four Celestials appeared all at once, and moreover, these four Celestials were all related to Lu Chen!

In a world without Immortals, Celestials are as good as Immortals. Now, the four emerging Immortals were all standing with Lu Chen. What did that imply?

It implied that fate was on Lu Chen's side!

The Sum Emperor absolutely could not accept it.

How could a bastard like him attract four Celestials!

The Sum Emperor was unwilling!

Every time he thought about how he had meticulously cared for Great Sum all his life, and yet in the end, his throne would be usurped by a bastard.

Although he was being pressured by the might of several Celestials, the Sum Emperor's emotions were already out of control, and his body began to emit a thick black aura at this moment.

The Divine Weapon in his hand seemed excited as well, radiating a black and red glow.

Seeing this, Yun Xianxian immediately said, "He's becoming possessed! We must resolve this quickly!"

Upon hearing this, Xuanyuan Chaoge and the other two immediately sprang into action, appearing around the Sum Emperor in an instant before striking simultaneously.

Sword Qi and palm energy headed straight for the Sum Emperor, who did not dodge; after being hit, he seemed as if nothing had happened to him.

Everyone was taken aback. What was going on?

Yun Xianxian seemed to understand, and she said at once, "He has been controlled by the Divine Weapon in his hand, that thing is sinister!"

Upon hearing this, everyone instantly realized.

Xuanyuan Chaoqe immediately said to Lu Chen, "Your Majesty, please retreat first!"

Without a word, Lu Chen immediately used the Shadow Shifting technique to leave the battlefield, as the upcoming battle was clearly not something he could partake in.

As soon as Lu Chen left, the black aura on the Sum Emperor's body swelled rapidly and enveloped his entire body.

Xuanyuan Chaoqe and the others held nothing back anymore.

Something was very wrong with the Sum Emperor; they had to make it quick.

At that moment, the Sum Emperor's eyes turned a blood red, and he said in a rough voice, "Die! Everybody must die!"

However, just then, the four Celestials, including Yun Xianxian, struck at the same time. White, yellow, red, and green Spiritual Energy quickly converged into a single formation, constructed by Yun Xianxian, with the other three only reinforcing it with their Spiritual Power.

As soon as the formation appeared, the black aura from the Sum Emperor's body halved in size, and the four Celestials continued to press their attack.

The next moment, sensing something amiss, the Divine Weapon attempted to flee, but the formation on the ground quickly contracted, trapping both the Sum Emperor and the Divine Weapon.

The Sum Emperor bellowed, "I am the ruler of Great Sum! I am the Real Dragon! No one can kill me!"

As he spoke, the Sum Emperor's body exploded violently, and seeing this, the ministers on the city wall were so frightened they collapsed on the ground.

At this point, the Sum Emperor's power was almost on par with the Celestials'; if he self-detonated his Dantian, the entire Capital city would be his funeral pyre.

Clearly, the four Celestials, including Yun Xianxian, were aware of the Sum Emperor's intent, and Yun Xianxian quickly reminded Xuanyuan Chaoge and the others to reinforce the formation!

Then Xuanyuan Chaoge and the others continued to pour their Spiritual Power into it, and at this moment, the Sum Emperor's body turned into a ball of red light so bright it made it impossible for people to keep their eyes open.

After the Sum Emperor self-detonated his Dantian, shockwaves erupted, sending everyone on the city wall flying.

Just as people believed they were doomed, they were astonished to find that the blast had only caused them injuries and possibly broken bones at worst, but they were still alive.

As the dust outside the city gradually cleared, they realized that the Sum Emperor was no more, and the four Celestials, including Yun Xianxian and Xuanyuan Chaoge, looked rather pale and unsteady.

At that moment, Yun Xianxian seemed to remember something; her figure flashed, and she appeared directly in front of Yu Changqing and Fu Hongchou.

By now, the two had realized their plan had failed and hastily knelt down begging for mercy, "Honorable one, please spare us! We..."

Before they could finish speaking, Yun Xianxian waved her hand, and their bodies were instantly frozen into ice sculptures, the next moment shattering into dust.

Chapter 763 Yun Xianxian Runs Away_1

After the dust settled, where the Sum Emperor originally stood, there was only a spear emitting a dark aura. Seeing that the father he knew in this world had not even left a complete corpse, Lu Chen couldn't help but sigh.

In Lu Chen's heart, it was difficult for him to judge whether the Sum Emperor's actions were right or wrong throughout his life, for many things the Sum Emperor did were also what he himself wanted to do.

For instance, exterminating the Aristocratic Families, or weakening the feudal princes.

If he were in the Sum Emperor's position, he might have made the same choices, so to a certain extent, one could say he and the Sum Emperor were similar people.

It's just that he didn't have any father-son affection for the Sum Emperor. If the Sum Emperor had shared such affection with him, perhaps they would not have ended up clashing swords in the end.

But now, there was no point in thinking about these things. The Sum Emperor was gone, and he had to quickly deal with what was to come.

Lu Chen then gave a gesture to the army behind him, and the next moment, Xuanyuan Chen led the troops to press toward the ramparts of the Capital city.

Seeing the distant army approach, all the ministers and princes on the city walls stood there dumbfounded.

Now that the Sum Emperor was dead, they had lost their pillar of strength. Although a few princes didn't want Lu Chen to ascend to the throne and even thought of resistance, they had seen the spectacle that had just unfolded before their eyes.

Even though the Sum Emperor had become a Celestial, he was still suppressed by four Celestials. Now, with four Celestials by his side and such a powerful army at his command, the North Prince was seemingly invincible.

No matter how much they struggled, they stood no chance against the North Prince.

The soldiers on the city walls lost any will to defend. It made no difference to them who became Emperor, as it would still be someone from the Lu family. Why should they risk their lives?

At this moment, everyone's gaze fell on the State Preceptor, Situ Ce, and the Prime Minister, Lin Gaoyuan.

Without an Emperor, the only ones who could make decisions were these two.

Situ Ce glanced at the princes behind him, then said, "The Emperor was bewitched by the Demon Sect, which led to his demise through demonic cultivation. If it weren't for the North Prince, the Capital city might already be reduced to rubble. Given the North Prince's great contribution, I suggest we crown the North Prince as the new Emperor. Do any of the princes have any objections?"

Upon hearing this, the princes looked at each other.

What other thoughts could they have?

How could they dare to have any other thoughts?

There were four Celestials by the North Prince's side!

Although they were extremely reluctant at heart, what could they use to contend with the North Prince for the throne?

Just one Celestial dispatched by the North Prince could wipe out all the forces behind them.

The emergence of Celestials would overpower all schemes and conspiracies, and Great Sum's political landscape was about to undergo significant changes.

At this moment, what worried the princes most was the possibility that, once their younger brother ascended to the throne, he would begin a large-scale purge.

Although most of the princes among them had not provoked Lu Chen, they were still the sons of the Sum Emperor, and to some extent, they also had a claim to the succession.

Throughout history, princes who had risen through rebellion were most uneasy about their fellow princes.

If Lu Chen could ascend to the throne through rebellion, then the other princes could employ the same method.

It wasn't a matter of whether they had the capability to rebel, but rather the identity of a prince itself posed a threat to the throne. Even if some princes had no desire to rebel, some ministers would rally around a prince, putting them forward as a spokesperson.

Prince Lu Shuyun was a prime example.

Therefore, the best solution was to either kill all these princes or imprison them.

Thinking of the fate that might await them, the princes on the city walls felt great trepidation.

But they were powerless and could only steel themselves to elevate Lu Chen to the throne. Should they stand against him at this juncture, their fate would only be execution.

At that moment, Prince Liu stepped forward and said, "This prince agrees with the State Preceptor's suggestion!"

"Since Prince Lu Chen went to the North Country, he managed to vastly strengthen it in an incredibly short amount of time, and his own power has surpassed that of a Grandmaster."

"A king like Prince Lu Chen, who is skilled in both pen and sword, will surely lead Great Sum to an even more powerful future."

No sooner had Prince Liu finished speaking than Prince Wu Ming also said, "This prince also agrees with the State Preceptor's proposal."

Following that, the other princes also voiced their agreement. Seeing that the princes had no objections, Situ Ce's gaze fell upon the ministers.

Then Lin Gaoyuan spoke up, "This minister concurs with the State Preceptor. A country cannot be a single day without a ruler; the North Prince is the best choice for this role."

Seeing that Lin Gaoyuan agreed, the other ministers also came forward, one after another, declaring their support for the North Prince to ascend to the throne as the new Emperor.

Certainly, many among them were reluctant to see Lu Chen become Emperor. Judging by what Lu Chen had implemented in the North Country, it was very likely he would bring the same policies to Great Sum, which would inevitably hurt these ministers' interests.

However, they had no choice. This was not the time to consider personal gains; it was a time to consider whether they could survive.

Seeing that the court's ministers also agreed to Lu Chen's coronation, Situ Ce then said, "Since a decision has been made by all, let us open the city gates and welcome the new Emperor."

Forthwith, under Situ Ce's lead, the court ministers and several princes descended from the city wall.

Soon, the gates of the Capital city slowly opened.

Chapter 764 Yun Xianxian Runs Away_2

Situ Ce led his ministers to personally walk outside the city gates, forming several rows to welcome Lu Chen's entrance into the city.

Lu Chen did not immediately lead his troops toward the city gate. He stood in place, his gaze still fixed on the evil Divine Weapon.

Such an evil Divine Weapon must be dealt with; if it fell into the hands of the Demon Sect or someone else, it would pose a huge threat to them.

After all, it was a weapon capable of killing Celestials; now that he had four Celestials by his side, he could not allow this weapon to threaten their lives.

At this moment, Lu Chen approached the Divine Weapon and then mentally said to the system, "System, can you identify what kind of weapon this is?"

The next moment, a system interface appeared before Lu Chen's eyes.

[Slayer Spear: Originates from the High Martial Plane, requires a vast amount of Spiritual Power to use, Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact.]

Seeing the system introduction in front of him, Lu Chen was stunned for a moment.

An Earth Grade weapon?

Just this?

He had thought the weapon was much more powerful.

However, that being said, this weapon was indeed powerful in a Lower World like this.

Of course, it would be considered insignificant in the Immortal world.

Lu Chen continued to ask, "How can this Spiritual Artifact be sealed?"

[If the host does not use it, then it is sealed.]

This...

What Lu Chen wanted to ask was how to destroy this thing; after all, the Sum Emperor's self-destruction did not manage to destroy the Spiritual Artifact, which obviously was not easy to destroy.

As Lu Chen was about to continue inquiring with the system, Yun Xianxian directly approached the Slayer Spear.

Then she said to Lu Chen, "This Spiritual Artifact is quite evil, let your mentor keep it safe for you."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen's heart skipped a beat; he instantly saw through Yun Xianxian's ulterior motive.

Yun Xianxian wasn't planning to save it for him; she clearly wanted to monopolize this Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact.

Though an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact might not mean much in the cultivation world, in this world, it was capable of killing a Celestial; how could he possibly hand it over to someone else so easily?

Lu Chen hastily said, "There's no need to trouble my mentor. This Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact is too dangerous. It is better for the disciple to seal it away to prevent others from using it in the future."

Hearing Lu Chen mention that the artifact was an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact, Yun Xianxian's brows furrowed slightly; it seemed difficult to deceive him now. This errant disciple really knew it was an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact.

Yun Xianxian coldly said, "Since you want it, take it. But this seat must remind you, the Sum Emperor was led astray by the influence of this Spiritual Artifact just now. If you intend to use it, be careful not to fall into the same madness."

Hearing Yun Xianxian say this, Lu Chen came to a realization.

"That's right, the Sum Emperor was just influenced by this Spiritual Artifact; if I come into contact with it, won't I also be influenced?"

This thing was truly a hot potato.

To give it to someone else, he was afraid they might use it to attack him.

To keep it, could affect his own mind, easily leading him into madness.

Just as Lu Chen was unsure what to do,

the system notification suddenly rang out.

[This is an ownerless Spiritual Artifact; the host only needs to refine it and let it recognize an owner, then there will be no need to worry about being counteracted by it.]

Hearing the system notification, Lu Chen's eyes lit up. So, this Spiritual Artifact had not recognized an owner yet, which is why it counteracted the user?

But how should he refine it?

[The host can unload the magazine of the Slayer Spear, drop a drop of blood inside, and then refine it with Spiritual Power.]

This...

Lu Chen immediately went to the front of the Slayer Spear and then crouched down, reaching out to the Slayer Spear.

Seeing this scene, Xuanyuan Chaoge and the others panicked, with Xuanyuan Chaoge immediately saying, "My king, do not!"

They had just witnessed the Sum Emperor fall into madness because of using the Slayer Spear. This weapon was simply too sinister; they did not wish to see Lu Chen follow in the Sum Emperor's footsteps.

Lu Chen calmly said, "No worries, I know my own limits."

Lu Chen then picked up the Slayer Spear. When he touched it, he did not feel any discomfort.

Lu Chen then examined the spear, noting that the Slayer Spear was very similar to modern firearms, except that the Slayer Spear had some special patterns on it, which likely were the channels for Spiritual Power flow.

Lu Chen looked at the Slayer Spear from left to right, his gaze eventually settling on its magazine below.

It seemed odd for the Slayer Spear, which used Spiritual Power, to have a magazine.

Curious, Lu Chen decided to remove the magazine. He pressed the button to release it, but the magazine did not fall out.

If it had been a regular firearm, one press of the magazine release would have easily removed it.

The magazine of the Slayer Spear did not appear to be easily detachable. Lu Chen then pulled hard for a while but was unable to remove it.

At that moment, the black mist on the Slayer Spear burst out suddenly, becoming thicker, as if it were angered.

Lu Chen laughed. So, the Slayer Spear was enraged at him? Quite spirited for a Spiritual Artifact, aware enough to get angry.

Lu Chen did not give up at this point; he did not believe he could not remove the magazine of the Slayer Spear.

Continuing to pull vigorously on the magazine, he focused all his Spiritual Power into his hands. Then he stepped on the spear body with his feet and pulled on the magazine with his hands, as if he was pulling up a radish.

Chapter 765 Yun Xianxian Runs Away_3

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Witnessing this scene, everyone was stunned, not knowing what Lu Chen was doing, even Yun Xianxian couldn't understand what he was up to.

Unable to contain her confusion, Yun Xianxian asked, "What are you doing?"

Lu Chen didn't immediately respond to Yun Xianxian's question, as he was now focusing all his attention on his hands.

After a short while, Lu Chen finally managed to pull out the magazine.

The moment the magazine was extracted by Lu Chen, the Slayer Spear seemed to wilt, with the dark aura on its body instantly diminishing to mere wisps.

At that time, Lu Chen took a look at the magazine, noting that it was quite special, nothing like ordinary firearm magazines.

The magazine had several strange patterns etched upon it, with two gems radiating red light embedded in its center.

Without a moment's hesitation, Lu Chen bit his fingertip and dropped a bead of blood into the magazine.

The next moment, the red gems flared brightly, blinding Lu Chen so that he could barely keep his eyes open.

After the red light had subsided, Lu Chen reinserted the magazine back into the body of the Slayer Spear, which began to emit a dazzling red glow as the magazine was put in place.

The entire body of the Slayer Spear then underwent a transformation, its ominous black aura vanishing completely.

Immediately after, Lu Chen infused Spiritual Power into the Slayer Spear, attempting to refine it and make the weapon recognize him as its master.

This time, the Slayer Spear did not resist. As Lu Chen poured in copious amounts of Spiritual Power, the patterns on the weapon began to glow with a blue light.

Gradually, the color of the Slayer Spear's body changed, from its original black and red to silver and white.

At that moment, a system notification sounded in Lu Chen's mind.

[Congratulations Host for subduing the Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact, Slayer Spear]

Upon hearing the system notification, Lu Chen chuckled dismissively, "What's there to congratulate? There's no system reward."

The next moment, Lu Chen felt as if the Slayer Spear was somehow linked to his consciousness; with just a thought, the Slayer Spear actually shrank in size.

Seeing this, Yun Xianxian felt very uncomfortable at the side.

This disciple had actually refined an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact!

How did he know the method of refinement?

To refine a normal Spiritual Artifact, it was enough to just drop blood on it and infuse it with Spiritual Power, but Earth Grade or higher Spiritual Artifacts all had special methods of refinement.

If the proper refinement method is not found, one cannot refine the Spiritual Artifact, yet Lu Chen seemed to know exactly what the Spiritual Artifact was, easily finding the method of refinement, and directly refining it.

This is troublesome; this undisciplined disciple now possesses an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact capable of killing a Celestial, and who knows how inflated his ego will get. Maybe this fellow could even threaten his own master, expecting her to wait on him.

No, she needed to hurry back to the Mysterious Moon Palace!

With that thought, Yun Xianxian waved her hand, and a jade bead emitting blue light flew directly out from the dust, into Yun Xianxian's hand.

Seeing Yun Xianxian put away the jade bead, Lu Chen curiously asked, "Master, is that bead the Sacred Artifact of the Mysterious Moon Palace?"

Yun Xianxian answered indifferently, "You could say that."

Yun Xianxian continued, "Now that the Sum Emperor is dead and the Sacred Artifact has returned to my hands, it's time we went back."

Lu Chen was taken aback by these words.

"Master, you don't plan to continue to stay with your disciple and regain your strength?"

At this remark, Yun Xianxian scoffed, "Don't think I'm not aware of what you're plotting. What, you're waiting to claim the throne and then take your master as a concubine in your Harem?"

"I won't waste words with you. Rongrong can stay with you for a while longer; I'm leaving first."

As her words fell, Yun Xianxian's body disappeared from the spot in an instant.

Yun Xianxian left Chen Wanrong behind because, as the Palace Master of the Mysterious Moon Palace, it was expected that the Palace would make some form of gesture once Lu Chen claimed the throne.

Seeing Yun Xianxian abscond so suddenly, Lu Chen sighed lightly. It seemed that breaking down this fairy's defenses would not be an easy task.

He would take it slow, first claim the throne and then proceed.

With that thought in mind, Lu Chen's gaze turned toward the city walls of the Capital city.

Looking at the court officials standing in respectful silence, awaiting his entry into the city, he murmured softly, "The day I return to the Capital city is the day I rule over all; it seems that the boastful promise I made back then has come true..."

Chapter 766 The Secret Chamber of the Late Emperor_1

Lu Chen led his troops to the city gate, and as soon as they arrived, Situ Ce immediately led the civil and military officials in a salute, saying, "North Prince has shattered the Demon Sect's conspiracy and saved Great Xia, establishing outstanding merit! Now that His Majesty has passed away, the country cannot remain without a sovereign for a day. We all respectfully request that North Prince ascend to the throne and take charge of Great Xia!"

As soon as Situ Ce's words fell, the civil and military officials knelt down and said in unison, "We respectfully request North Prince to ascend to the throne!"

Lu Chen glanced over the ministers and then at the princes who were bowing their heads to him; he then said indifferently, "Among the many princes, I rank only ninth. According to the line of succession, I am afraid it is not yet North Prince's turn to take that position, is it?"

Upon hearing this, cold sweat instantly coated the faces of the princes. Lu Chen's words implied that there were other princes ahead of him, hindering his ascension to the throne, didn't they?

Could it be that he intended to start a massacre?

At that moment, Prince Wu Ming hurriedly stood up and said, "There is no need for my ninth brother to worry. The succession to the Great Xia throne has long since ceased to adhere to the principle of the eldest legitimate son. Recent generations have seen the throne pass to the most capable."

"Currently, the world is in chaos and in urgent need of a capable leader to guide Great Xia out of trouble. Neither I nor the other princes have any experience in governance, and we are not your equals in either civil or military affairs. I believe that only you, ninth brother, are capable of making Great Xia stronger. Please, do not continue to refuse!"

As soon as these words were spoken, Prince Qi also quickly said, "What second brother said is true. With rebels in the south and the ravages of the Demon Sect, Great Xia has reached a critical point of life and death. We need a capable person to lead Great Xia out of this predicament. Among all of Father Emperor's children, only you, ninth brother, have such capabilities!"

After Prince Qi finished speaking, the other princes also voiced their agreement.

A while later, Lu Chen finally spoke, "Since my royal brothers all recommend me, I shall not be pretentious."

"However, since Father Emperor has just passed away, let's set aside the matter of ascension for now and attend to Father Emperor's funeral first."

"Besides, the Demon Sect caused Father Emperor to become possessed and, ultimately, led to his death. We must settle this score."

"Starting today, a citywide search for members of the Demon Sect will commence. Anyone identified as part of the Demon Sect shall be killed on sight!"

Upon hearing Lu Chen's declaration, the hearts of the officials trembled.

This wasn't merely a search for the Demon Sect; Lu Chen was using this as an excuse to settle his accounts. If anyone opposed him at this time, he would inevitably declare that person colluding with the Demon Sect and eliminate them directly.

After Lu Chen's words, the ministers immediately shouted in unison, "Long live the Emperor, long live, long live!"

Although Lu Chen had not yet formally ascended the throne, since he had agreed to do so, he was, from that moment, the Emperor. The supreme center of power in Great Xia could not remain vacant for long.

Lu Chen said indifferently, "Rise."

"Thank you, Your Majesty!"

Then, Lu Chen, leading the Brocade Guard and the hundred officials, directly entered the Capital city.

Upon entering the Capital city, Lu Chen immediately ordered various affairs to be taken care of. By the time these matters were dealt with, it was already ten o'clock at night.

Lu Chen, guided by Situ Ce, made his way to the Imperial Study Room, where the Sum Emperor once handled state affairs.

Entering the Imperial Study Room, Situ Ce clasped his hands towards Lu Chen and said, "Congratulations to Your Majesty on achieving your first goal. Your Majesty will certainly unify the world and command awe from the four seas!"

Hearing this, Lu Chen gave a faint smile, then responded, "When has the State Preceptor started to flatter so well?"

Situ Ce said, "Your Majesty is a Real Dragon, not a horse."

Lu Chen replied, "Let's not talk about that now; I have some questions I wish to ask the State Preceptor."

Situ Ce said respectfully, "Your Majesty, please speak. This old minister will not withhold any information."

"How many Grandmasters are there among the royal family currently?"

Hearing this, Situ Ce thought for a moment, then answered, "Your Majesty, there are seven in total."

Lu Chen thought to himself, seven Grandmasters - that was not a small number, especially considering that the Grandmasters of the Great Xia Dynasty had been purged by a Celestial from the Mysterious Moon Palace.

This made him realize that other dynasties likely had even more hidden Grandmasters.

No wonder the Martial Emperor of the Great Wu was so willing to send two Grandmaster Military Generals to attack the North Country.

With Grandmasters available, he wondered if there were any Pseudo Celestials, or perhaps hidden Celestials among them.

At that moment, a shadow suddenly appeared from behind a column in the study, and then a person appeared before Lu Chen.

Just as Bai Qingqing thought it might be an assassin and immediately stood in front of Lu Chen to protect him, she quickly realized her mistake.

This was the Shadow Guard of the Sum Emperor.

At that time, dressed in black armor, the commander of the Shadow Guard knelt down and said, "Shadow Guard Great Commander Zhou Hai, greets Your Majesty!"

The Shadow Guard had been directly subordinate to the Sum Emperor, but now that the Emperor was dead, they had lost their allegiance.

To some extent, the Shadow Guard was free; they could leave the Capital city. However, they had all consumed the Emperor's poison, and nobody knew when it might take effect.

Therefore, the Shadow Guard ultimately decided to continue serving the new Emperor, to become the new Emperor's fangs and claws. After all, serving one Emperor was the same as any other.

Seeing that the Shadow Guard Commander had appeared, Lu Chen felt a surge of joy inside. Compared to Situ Ce, the State Preceptor, the Shadow Guard was the most trusted by the Emperor. They must know many things about the Sum Emperor.

Now, Lu Chen was very curious about what secrets the Sum Emperor might have had.

Thinking this, Lu Chen glanced at Zhou Hai and used his system to identify his identity.

[Name: Zhou Hai]

[Identity: Great Commander of the Shadow Guard]

[Strength: Master Realm]

[Loyalty: 80]

Among the people he had met for the first time, a loyalty of eighty was already considered high. The loyalty of those court ministers toward him was generally not even fifty, all of them being two-faced.

It made sense, after all, the Shadow Guard were more reliant on imperial power, hence their high loyalty toward him.

Lu Chen said indifferently, "Rise."

"Thank you, Your Majesty."

At this moment, Bai Qingqing was still protecting Lu Chen, even though it was confirmed that he was the Great Commander of the Shadow Guard. After all, the Shadow Guard were the previous Emperor's dogs, and no one knew if Zhou Hai would strike against Lu Chen.

Lu Chen patted Bai Qingqing's shoulder and said, "Bai, don't be nervous, he won't make a move against me."

Upon hearing this, Bai Qingqing stepped aside.

Lu Chen then addressed Zhou Hai, "You are the Great Commander of the Shadow Guard, you must know many of my father's secrets."

Zhou Hai asked promptly, "What would Your Majesty like to know? I shall disclose everything truthfully."

Lu Chen spoke, "I want to know if my father had any secret hiding places."

Zhou Hai immediately understood what Lu Chen meant and replied, "Your Majesty has a secret chamber, within which are stored a great number of the royal family's secrets."

Lu Chen immediately asked, "Where is it?"

Zhou Hai answered, "Please bring the Jade Seal, Your Majesty."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen did not hesitate and walked over to the desk in the study, taking the Jade Seal into his hands.

At that moment, Zhou Hai approached a bookshelf and removed several scrolls, "Your Majesty, please place the Jade Seal in this hole."

Lu Chen promptly went up to the bookshelf and did as Zhou Hai instructed; then, the bookshelf suddenly began to tremble. Following that, it slowly moved aside to reveal a huge tunnel entrance.

Zhou Hai then said, "Only the past Emperors have ever entered the secret chamber, and I do not know what it contains. Should Your Majesty wish to investigate what is stored inside, you may enter the chamber."

Upon hearing Zhou Hai's words, Bai Qingqing quickly approached Lu Chen and said, "Your Majesty, beware of traps inside. Allow me to scout ahead for you."

Bai Qingqing still did not quite trust Zhou Hai. With Zhou Hai's status as the Great Commander of the Shadow Guard, it was enough to keep her on guard against him all the time.

Lu Chen thought for a moment, then said, "Wait outside for now."

Without further ado, Lu Chen started walking into the tunnel.

Seeing that Lu Chen insisted she wait outside, Bai Qingqing could not say much else and quietly waited by the tunnel entrance.

After entering the tunnel, Lu Chen quickly arrived at a large hall, within which hung portraits of the previous Emperors.

Under each Emperor's portrait was a bookshelf filled with scrolls.

Lu Chen walked directly under the portrait of the Sum Emperor and picked up the scrolls from the shelf, looking through them one by one.

The scrolls detailed everything the Sum Emperor had done, including how he rose to power and claimed the throne, and even the cunning schemes and trickery he employed were documented, as if he had been writing a diary.

After flipping through the scrolls, Lu Chen finally found one about his mother.

Having read the scroll, Lu Chen sighed. His mother had indeed been killed by the Sum Emperor, naturally, for the Sacred Artifact of the Mysterious Moon Palace.

The Sacred Artifact of the Mysterious Moon Palace could help one enhance their Cultivation State, but if the enhancement was forced, one's Cultivation State could no longer advance after one enhancement.

Several of the Grandmasters in the Great Xia royal family had their Cultivation State forcibly enhanced with that artifact from the Mysterious Moon Palace.

After reading the scroll about his mother, Lu Chen did not linger in the secret chamber. Now that everything in the Imperial Palace was his, he had plenty of time to peruse these royal secrets.

Relieved, Bai Qingqing saw Lu Chen emerge from the tunnel and stood guard at the entrance.

In the following period, Lu Chen visited the chamber almost daily to examine the Emperor's scrolls, which were likely all written by the Emperor himself.

What concerned Lu Chen the most were the scrolls left by the first Sum Ancestor. According to Sum Ancestor's records, he had been able to establish the Great Xia due to the guidance of an Immortal, who also foretold that the Great Xia would inevitably produce a Son of Destiny. One day, Great Xia would unify the world and venture beyond it.

The Sum Emperor had aspired to revitalize the Great Xia, largely because he read those scrolls left by the Sum Ancestor; he believed he was that person of destiny.

Of course, those were the thoughts of the Sum Emperor in his youth. After reigning for decades, he gradually realized the drawbacks of the Great Xia and awoke from his dream, returning to reality.

In actuality, not only the Sum Emperor but several Emperors of the Great Xia Dynasty after the Ancestor had considered themselves to possibly be the people of destiny.

Lu Chen was somewhat moved; the "system" had indeed caused much harm.

He did not know if the person the Sum Ancestor had encountered was truly an Immortal, but given the predicted emergence of the Son of Destiny, it must have been arranged by the "system."

Now more curious about the "system," Lu Chen wondered why it had been planning so early and what exactly his transmigration was all about.

After reading the scrolls left by the Sum Ancestor, Lu Chen also tried to question the "system." However, the "system" remained silent, leaving him with no choice.

He could only take things one step at a time, and perhaps once he became a Celestial, he would be able to uncover the secrets of the "system."

Chapter 767 The Surrender of Zhao King_1

After Lu Chen became Emperor, it immediately caused panic among the common people, who all knew about the things Lu Chen had done in the North Country.

To avoid causing further panic among the common people, Lu Chen immediately issued some tax reduction policies, temporarily stabilizing them, and he did not immediately have people measure the land.

The most important thing now was not the land policy, but to completely quell the civil unrest in Great Sum.

Currently, there were mainly two "rebellious" forces in Great Sum, one was Zhao King, and the other was Prince Lu Yi.

To be honest, Lu Chen did not want to see the soldiers of Great Sum kill each other and deplete Great Sum's strength, so he decided to resolve the problems from the top down.

By directly dealing with Zhao King and Prince Lu Yi, the soldiers around them would naturally submit as well.

Before moving against Prince Lu Yi and Zhao King, Lu Chen still decided to give them both a chance, so he immediately issued an announcement, vigorously proclaiming all the evil deeds of the Demon Sect, and he blamed the death of Sum Emperor entirely on the Demon Sect.

In the announcement, Lu Chen appealed to all the forces of Great Sum to see the evil nature of the Demon Sect clearly, not to cooperate with the Demon Sect, and if they continued to collaborate with the Demon Sect and sought to split Great Sum, he would send troops to suppress the rebellion.

Because newspapers existed, the announcement issued by Lu Chen quickly spread throughout Great Sum in a short time, and naturally, Zhao King and Prince Lu Yi also saw the announcement issued by Lu Chen.

Within a certain city.

Zhao King was in the courtyard, picking up the newspaper and repeatedly reading the announcement issued by Lu Chen, while his subordinates stood anxiously in front of him.

The fact that Lu Chen had four Celestials by his side had long been spread throughout the whole of Great Sum, after all, so many people had been on-site when Lu Chen attacked the Capital city.

Once this news spread, it deterred all the forces in Great Sum that were restless. Previously, Great Sum did not have a single Celestial, but now, suddenly four Celestials appeared beside the North Prince, and if they continued to oppose the North Prince, they probably only faced destruction.

In recent times, some Aristocratic Families that had supported Zhao King began to distance themselves from him. Although the North Prince was not kind to the Aristocratic Families, he would not massacre the Aristocratic Families outright; at most, he would just take back the land ownership.

If those Aristocratic Families continued to follow the rebels, they would likely lose not just their lands but their heads as well.

Also because of this, Zhao King's power weakened significantly, losing a lot of supporters.

Seeing Zhao King's gaze repeatedly returning to the newspaper in his hands, one of his subordinates couldn't help but ask, "Your Majesty, what should we do next?"

"The North Prince not only possesses such powerful weapons, but also has four Celestials standing on his side."

No sooner had this subordinate finished speaking than another one followed up, saying, "Yes, Your Majesty, the announcement issued by the North Prince is clearly directed at us and Prince Lu Yi. If we do not submit to the court, the North Prince will probably treat us as forces colluding with the Demon Sect and exterminate us together."

The subordinates of Zhao King were not fools; they could see that Zhao King's cause was clearly lost.

The power of the North Prince was simply too strong. No, they could no longer call him the North Prince, but the new Emperor.

The new Emperor had the support of four Celestials, and just because of this, their rebellion had no chance of success.

Although they had never seen a real Celestial in action, in their view, a single Celestial could instantly destroy one of their armies.

With the Celestials present, they had no chance of victory.

Although Zhao King's subordinates did not say it outright, from their tone, Zhao King could hear that they had already entertained the idea of surrendering.

To continue fighting, there was no doubt they would all be doomed.

Just then, a soldier ran frantically into the courtyard saying, "Your Majesty, calamity has befallen us, Mu Changtian has arrived at the city outskirts with an army of two hundred thousand!"

Upon hearing this, Zhao King's heart skipped a beat.

They've arrived so quickly!

This announcement had just been issued for a few days, and Mu Changtian had already mobilized his troops.

At this moment, another soldier ran into the courtyard, "Your Majesty, the North Prince Faction has sent a letter!"

As the words fell, that soldier handed the letter in his hand to Zhao King.

Zhao King frowned, directly took the letter from the soldier's hand, then opened the envelope, took out the letter, and started to read it carefully.

Lu Chen's meaning was very simple, since Zhao King was his uncle, he would not make things too difficult for him, provided that he was willing to lead his soldiers to surrender, he would not pursue any responsibility. However, from then on, he was never again to be involved in politics.

Lu Chen did not plan to purge all members of the Lu Imperial Family; the Royal Family was still of some use to him. If all Royal Family Members were gone, it would likely become impossible to keep a lid on outsiders in the future.

Moreover, after Lu Chen examined the scroll in the secret chamber, he found that Zhao King had indeed always been one of the Sum Emperor's men. It seemed Zhao King had rebelled and was leading an uprising, but he was the first to eliminate other Seigniors, meaning no Seigniors were left in the South.

The original plan of the Sum Emperor was to have Zhao King hand over the military power and voluntarily give up his fief after eliminating Lu Chen, and then there would be no more Seigniors in Great Sum.

Unfortunately, the Sum Emperor encountered Lu Chen, and his plan failed. With the Sum Emperor's failure, Zhao King's position became quite awkward.

Sum Emperor and Zhao King had only maintained contact in secret, without the Sum Emperor, the Zhao King was an actual rebel.

Chapter 768 The Surrender of Zhao King_2

Therefore, Lu Chen decided to give Zhao King an opportunity to choose for himself. If Zhao King had thoughts of avenging the Sum Emperor, then Zhao King would be sent to accompany his late father.

If Zhao King chose to surrender, then he would be detained in a location and have his fiefdom revoked, never again allowing him to interfere with politics.

Zhao King looked at the letter in his hand and fell into deep thought. After a long while, he sighed.

It seemed that the dream his elder brother, the Emperor, had failed to achieve would now have to be fulfilled by Lu Chen. It was just uncertain whether Lu Chen was a pawn of some power.

But now, it was not up to him to ponder over much. Regardless of whether the words in Lu Chen's letter were true or false, his only option was to surrender.

With this in mind, Zhao King looked up at his subordinates and said, "The new Emperor has sent a letter. He says as long as I willingly relinquish my military power and my fief, he will not hold past actions against me, and you will all remain soldiers of Great Sum."

Upon hearing this, everyone in the courtyard fell silent, realizing that the new Emperor's letter was undoubtedly an attempt to convince them to surrender.

But whether the promises made in the letter would be kept was another matter. As a newly enthroned Emperor, he would certainly not tolerate anyone who posed a threat to his rule.

In other words, once Zhao King surrendered, it was very likely he would face retribution.

Seeing his subordinates fall into silence, Zhao King continued, "You have followed me for decades, and you know that I am not so selfish as to drag you down with me."

"Since the tide has turned, I have decided to surrender. If the new Emperor wishes to kill me, then so be it."

"You are soldiers of Great Sum, and I believe the new Emperor will not purge you. He harbors great ambition and will want to unify the Celestial realm in time. You will still have a chance to distinguish yourselves in battle."

Hearing Zhao King's words, one of his subordinates stepped forward and said, "Your Majesty, you must not do this!"

"Once you truly surrender, the new Emperor will surely go back on his word. You are now the most significant threat to his throne, how could he possibly spare you!"

Zhao King replied, "There is no need for further discussion, my mind is made up."

"So be it. Those who wish to surrender with me, stay; those who do not, head south to join Prince Lu Yi."

"Since Prince Lu Yi chose to go south from the beginning, it shows that he is still not willing to let go and still has aspirations for that position. Now is the time when he needs people. If you go south to join him, he will surely value and utilize your service."

This...

The people in the courtyard exchanged glances, but in the end, no one stepped forward to say they would head south to follow Prince Lu Yi.

They all knew very well that with the support of four Celestials, Lu Chen's imperial seat was secure. Even if they went south to follow Prince Lu Yi, it was unlikely they would end up with a good fate.

Rather than that, it was better to surrender now with Zhao King, as he said. The new Emperor aimed to unite the land under one rule, he would need them to conquer other dynasties in the future; they would be of use to him, so it's very possible he wouldn't purge them.

Seeing that no one came forward, Zhao King continued, "Since you have all made your decision, follow me to the city gates."

Thereafter, Zhao King stood up and led his subordinates to the city tower.

At that moment, Mu Changtian was already waiting outside the city. He did not order an attack, believing that Zhao King was no fool; after all this time, he should know how to choose.

When he saw Zhao King appear on the city tower through his telescope, Mu Changtian immediately shouted loudly, "Zhao King, have you made up your mind?"

"The new Emperor has been enthroned and has granted amnesty to the realm. You do not want to miss this opportunity."

"If there is no answer today, I will attack the city tomorrow."

Zhao King glanced at the vast army of the North Country; then he turned to his soldiers and commanded, "Raise the white flag!"

The soldiers were stunned at these words, but they quickly understood and briskly hoisted the white flag.

For those Zhao soldiers who had seen the weapons of North Country, they had no wish to fight; hearing Zhao King's decision to surrender, they were incredibly thrilled, as this meant they no longer had to face the mysterious weapons of North Country.

Ah no, there was no North Country anymore. The North Prince was the new Emperor, and now they would be facing the court.

Seeing the white flag raised on the tower, Mu Changtian smiled faintly, but he did not immediately order his troops to advance until the city gate opened and Zhao King came out. Only then did Mu Changtian truly believe that Zhao King had surrendered.

Mu Changtian then led the army to the city gates. After dismounting, he looked at Zhao King opposite him and said, "Zhao King, you have made the right choice."

Zhao King chuckled and then said, "Whether it is the right choice remains to be seen. Who knows, upon my return to the Capital city, the new Emperor might 'reward' me with a cup of poisoned wine."

Mu Changtian replied, "I don't know about poisoned wine, but as far as I know, the new Emperor is not a man of bloodthirst. Even the family of Qi Prince is living well now."

"Not just Qi Prince, but also those Princes of the Capital city are all alive, and even the Palace Maids and Consorts of the Imperial Palace were all released. The new Emperor even abolished human sacrifice."

Hearing Mu Changtian's words, Zhao King still did not take it seriously and replied, "The new Emperor has just taken the throne; isn't it expected of him to show some kindness?"

Chapter 769 The Surrender of Zhao King_3

"After a while, perhaps not even half a year, those princes of the Capital city will die one by one for various reasons."

Mu Changtian didn't continue to argue but said instead, "Whether His Majesty is that kind of person, after you meet him, I believe you will have your own judgment."

At this point, Zhao King spoke up, "Let's not talk about me anymore. I'm now very curious about you. How did you survive back then?"

Mu Changtian calmly replied, "All thanks to His Majesty. Anticipating danger for the Mu Family, he sent people to save us. If not for His Majesty, I probably would have died at the hands of the late emperor's Shadow Guards long ago."

Hearing Mu Changtian's answer, Zhao King exclaimed with a sigh, "It seems that everyone was blind to the truth in the past!"

"Enough about that. I will go with you to the Capital city right now," he said.

Having made up his mind, Zhao King thought, if Lu Chen wants to kill, then kill. Just now, on his way to the city tower, he had already sent his trusted aides to flee through the east gate to inform his family of his surrender.

If he doesn't write to them, it would mean he has encountered trouble in the Capital city. By then, his family must immediately find a way to change their identity or find a place to hide.

Seeing Zhao King's forthrightness, Mu Changtian didn't delay any longer. After taking over Zhao King's hundreds of thousands of troops, he sent people to escort Zhao King to the Capital city.

Meanwhile.

In a city in the south.

Prince Lu Yi was also holding a newspaper, scanning the announcement issued by Lu Chen.

Seeing the content that Lu Chen published, Prince Lu Yi's face turned incredibly grim. Although he had anticipated that Lu Chen would ascend to that position, he had not expected Lu Chen to actually receive the support of four Celestials.

Those are Celestials!

Within the forces following him, there wasn't a single Celestial.

What now?

Though they've created weapons similar to those used by the soldiers of the North Country, their power is significantly weaker, and most importantly, they lack the raw materials to manufacture these weapons. And Lu Chen has already issued his announcement.

If he doesn't surrender, Lu Chen will certainly accuse him of conspiring with the Demon Sect and send a large army to besiege him.

Wait a minute...

Demon Sect?

Prince Lu Yi suddenly remembered something. He once heard from someone in the Taiyin Divine Sect that their Sect Hierarchy was a being whose strength surpassed that of a Celestial, but due to some reasons, the Sect Hierarchy's power had not yet recovered.

Thinking this, Prince Lu Yi mused that if he could re-establish contact with the Taiyin Divine Sect, perhaps he wasn't without a chance.

But now, the crucial question was how to reconnect with the Taiyin Divine Sect?

Previously, he had contacted them through the Xue Family and Xue Linglong.

However, that woman Xue Linglong had long since vanished without a trace. There had been news from the North Country a while ago claiming that when Xue Linglong came to see him, she was ambushed by bandits, and they were all killed.

Prince Lu Yi naturally didn't believe that Xue Linglong was dead. After all, she was a member of the Taiyin Divine Sect. Even though he didn't know her status within the sect, the fact that the sect had sent an Elder to accompany her proved that Xue Linglong had some use to the Taiyin Divine Sect.

He didn't believe that the Taiyin Divine Sect would kill Xue Linglong or let her come to harm.

With this in mind, Prince Lu Yi immediately instructed his men, "Start searching for the Crown Princess Consort right away. Use any means necessary to find her."

"I want to see her alive, or see her corpse!"

Chapter 770 This Enchantress!_1

Great Sum Capital City.

Imperial Study Room.

It was already deep into the night, and the subtle flicker of candlelight filled the tranquil Imperial Study Room, with only the sound of a steel pen scratching against paper.

Lu Chen was attending to memorials when Bai Qingqing's voice erupted from outside the Imperial Study Room, "Your Majesty, the Zhao King seeks an audience!"

Lu Chen immediately responded, "Let him in!"

The Zhao King then entered the Imperial Study Room and immediately knelt, saying, "This guilty subject pays his respects to Your Majesty. Long live Your Majesty, long live, long live!"

Lu Chen said indifferently, "Uncle, please rise."

Upon hearing these words, the Zhao King promptly stood up, "Thank you, Your Majesty!"

After the Zhao King rose, he noticed that Lu Chen was not looking at him but was still bent over, holding a steel pen produced in the North Country, continuing to work through the memorials.

At that moment, Lu Chen said, "Uncle, I am well aware of the secret trades you conducted with my father. That's why I have given you this opportunity. After all, you have indirectly resolved a great trouble for me."

Even if the Sum Emperor did not deal with the Seigniors, the first thing Lu Chen planned to do upon his ascendancy to the throne was to handle the Seigniors within Great Sum's realm, rendering the Zhao King as having earned merit.

Of course, Lu Chen would not reward him openly.

The Zhao King promptly said, "This guilty subject does not deserve such praise."

Lu Chen continued to work through the memorials, and while flipping through them, he swept a glance at the Zhao King with the corner of his eye, then followed with, "Uncle has made the right choice."

"If Uncle had not chosen to surrender in the end, it's likely that before your confidants could have returned to Zhao Country, the Brocade Guard would have already brought your family members directly to the Capital City."

Hearing this, the Zhao King's heart skipped a beat; he instantly understood the implication behind Lu Chen's words.

Lu Chen was reminding him that he knew about the confidants he sent back to Zhao Country as messengers. The thought made the Zhao King's forehead bead with sweat involuntarily.

Originally, he had thought that if something happened to him and he failed to write home in time, he would tell his family to hide or leave Great Sum.

But now it seemed Lu Chen had already placed his family members under surveillance in advance. If something were to happen to him in the Capital City, his family would likely be unable to escape their fate.

The Zhao King hastily said, "Thank you for Your Majesty's mercy!"

Lu Chen then casually asked, "I wonder what place Uncle is fond of?"

The Zhao King understood Lu Chen's implication once again and immediately said, "This guilty subject enjoys the sea."

Lu Chen said, "In that case, Uncle will head to Donghai County from now on. I have already sent someone to Zhao Country. Aside from your land, your gold, silver, and treasures will also be sent to Donghai County. In the future, Uncle should not leave Donghai County unless there is something important."

The Zhao King knelt down once again, promptly kowtowing to Lu Chen and saying, "Thank you for Your Majesty's great grace!"

The Zhao King had thought that not only would Lu Chen confiscate his lands but would also take his gold and silver wealth. He did not expect that Lu Chen would only take back his lands.

With this, even if he went to Donghai County, there would be no problems with his livelihood.

Lu Chen continued, "Uncle must be tired from the journey. Go back and rest."

Once more, the Zhao King thanked him, "Thank you for Your Majesty's concern; this guilty subject takes his leave."

The Zhao King then got up and left the Imperial Study Room.

Once the Zhao King had stepped out of the Imperial Study Room, he realized his back was completely drenched.

The Zhao King was somewhat shocked; from the aura that Lu Chen exuded, he was at least a Grandmaster. Yet, there were Grandmasters among his own subordinates, and the pressure they exerted on him was not as intense, suggesting that Lu Chen's level was likely above that of a Grandmaster.

So young, yet his strength was already so formidable!

No wonder those four Celestials had such high regard for Lu Chen, choosing to stand by his side. Perhaps under his leadership, Great Sum could become even stronger.

It was just uncertain whether he would eventually settle accounts with the Zhao King's Mansion.

With this thought, the Zhao King could not help but sigh.

Although Lu Chen did not seem to have any intention of settling accounts with the Zhao King's Mansion, there was always the possibility of someone whispering in Lu Chen's ear. If one day Lu Chen suddenly felt the Zhao King's Mansion was a threat, it was highly plausible that he would decide to eliminate them.

The Zhao King felt a touch of melancholy as he turned his head towards the direction of the palace where the late emperor had lived, and couldn't help but think that if the Sum Emperor had passed the position of Crown Prince to Lu Chen from the start, none of this would have happened.

Unfortunately, there are not so many 'what-ifs' in this world.

With no further thought, the Zhao King walked straight towards the exit of the Imperial Palace.

Zhao King had just left when the voice of Bai Qingqing came from outside the Imperial Study Room again, "Your Majesty, Commander Qin requests an audience!"

Lu Chen replied indifferently, "Enter."

Qin Yushan entered the Imperial Study Room soon after, "Greetings, Your Majesty!"

Lu Chen, still without lifting his head, asked, "What's the matter?"

Qin Yushan reported, "Upon seeing the decree you issued, Prince Lu Yi does not intend to surrender, and he harbors delusions of colluding with the Taiyin Divine Sect, hoping to use them to continue the rebellion."

"During this period, Prince Lu Yi has sent people searching everywhere for Lady Xue's whereabouts, trying to establish a connection with the Taiyin Divine Sect through Lady Xue."

Since Lu Chen had not yet granted titles to his consorts, Qin Yushan still referred to Xue Linglong as Lady Xue.

Upon hearing Qin Yushan's report, Lu Chen stopped writing and looked up at Qin Yushan to ask, "How is their manufacture of gunpowder coming along?"

Qin Yushan answered, "They have already created some weapons similar to firecrackers, which possess a certain lethality, but are not very powerful."

Hearing this, Lu Chen pondered for a moment before saying, "Leave this matter to the Sunset Sword Sect, you should speak to Sect Master Xia later."

Lu Chen no longer had the inclination to continue this cat-and-mouse game with Lu Yi. Ever since the Sunset Sword Sect and Tai Chu Divine Hall had joined him, Lu Chen considered himself above engaging in such conspiracy and trickery.

Since Prince Lu Yi was unwilling to surrender and was even thinking about colluding with the Taiyin Divine Sect, he was an enemy of Great Sum, and there was no need for mercy towards an enemy.

Originally, Lu Chen had no intention of killing Lu Yi. Through Xue Linglong, he learned that Lu Yi had long since become incapable of fathering children—essentially, he was a eunuch.

Lu Yi posed little threat to the throne, even as the Prince Lu Yi. A prince without heirs, what right did he have to vie for the throne? Therefore, Lu Chen initially bore no malice towards him.

But if Lu Yi insisted on courting death, then there was nothing to be done.

"Yes, Your Majesty!"

"Your subordinate takes his leave!"

As Qin Yushan's words fell, he turned and left the study.

Lu Chen continued to deal with official documents for a while. After a long time, the voice of Bai Qingqing came from outside the study once more, but this time it was not about granting an audience.

"Your Majesty, it's late at night, time to rest."

Since entering the Capital city, Lu Chen had been busy until late every day. On one hand, he had to study the royal secrets left by the previous emperors, and on the other, he had to process a great number of memorials.

His team was still in the North Country, and the current administrative efficiency of the Great Sum court was quite worrisome, with work piling up on Lu Chen's desk.

Upon hearing Bai Qingqing's cool voice, Lu Chen stood up from his seat, stretched, and walked out of the Imperial Study Room.

Bai Qingqing asked, "Your Majesty, are you going to visit that lady's room?"

The Imperial Palace was large, and although Lu Chen had lived there since childhood, he was not as familiar with it as Bai Qingqing, the former Deputy Commander of the Shadow Guard.

So, if Lu Chen wanted to visit a certain palace, Bai Qingqing might still need to guide him.

Chen Wanrong and Xue Linglong had already moved into the Harem ahead of others, and Lu Chen's other consorts would arrive in the Capital city after some time.

Lu Chen thought for a moment and then said, "Let's go to Xue Linglong's place, it's been some time since I've seen her."

Bai Qingqing then said, "Yes."

She then led Lu Chen to Linglong Palace, where Xue Linglong resided.

Just as Lu Chen approached the entrance to Linglong Palace, he sensed voices coming from Xue Linglong's room. Now a Pseudo Celestial, his perception was very strong, and he could hear even the faintest sounds.

"Master... please spare your servant..."

"Master..."

"Ah..."

Upon hearing this series of sounds, Lu Chen was taken aback. What was Xue Linglong doing?

The sounds made him wonder if Xue Linglong was cheating on him.

Using Shadow Shifting, Lu Chen arrived at the doorway of Xue Linglong's chamber. Without waiting for the maids to speak, he pushed open the door of the chamber.

Seeing the scene before him, Lu Chen chuckled.

This enchantress!