

Es. Benefits 871

Chapter 871 This Old Man Would Rather Die Than Let You Have It Easy!

Upon hearing Xia Tianyuan's words, Zou Yangping laughed loudly and said, "To kill us, you three also have to see if you have the ability!"

At this point, Zou Yangping immediately released his Spiritual Power, and in the next instant, streaks of red flames surrounded him.

Even Si Yuhua, who was seriously injured, quickly sealed his wounds with Spiritual Power, temporarily stopping the bleeding. He then drew his longsword and pointed it at Xia Tianyuan, saying, "Even if I die, I want to take you down with me!"

Having said this, Si Yuhua was the first to attack. His figure flashed, charging straight at Xia Tianyuan, while Zou Yangping did not stand idle either, rushing directly towards Yun Xianxian.

Zou Yangping still had some tricks up his sleeve; unlike Si Yuhua, who had been ambushed and seriously injured, it was highly unlikely that he could escape.

But Zou Yangping was still unharmed, and as long as he could break through a gap, he would have a complete chance to escape.

Zou Yangping knew that the Yue Emperor had comprehended Sword Intent and was very difficult to deal with, so he chose to go straight for Yun Xianxian.

Although Zou Yangping had not seen the Yue Emperor and had no idea what she looked like, Li Qianrou was wearing a Phoenix Robe, and her demeanor was very much like that of a superior, making it clear she was the Yue Emperor.

Watching Zou Yangping charge toward her, Yun Xianxian's face was expressionless. She was somewhat puzzled as to why this man thought she was the easiest among the three to deal with.

Did she really look that weak?

As Zou Yangping reached Yun Xianxian, he threw a punch, and an image of a tiger appeared instantly, engulfed in roaring flames, as if it was specifically designed to counter Yun Xianxian's ice-based Cultivation Technique.

This time it seemed Yun Xianxian understood why this man thought she was an easy target. It turned out he felt her Spiritual Power was of the ice element and believed that a fire-based Cultivation Technique would counter her.

Unfortunately for him, he miscalculated.

Just as the flaming tiger was about to touch Yun Xianxian's body, she suddenly raised her hand.

Ice seals the heaven and earth!!!

The next moment, the land and forest within a kilometer radius were completely encased in ice.

The phantom of the Cultivation Technique released by Zou Yangping was also encased in ice, and then, as Yun Xianxian's delicate fingers pointed at the image, it shattered into pieces and fell to the ground.

Seeing this scene, Zou Yangping was completely stunned, and an incredulous look immediately appeared on his face.

How is this possible!

This was his strongest technique; he had thought as long as he could hold this woman off for a moment, he would have the chance to escape, so he had used his strongest technique right from the start.

But the other party had simply blocked his strongest move with a wave of her hand. Was this white-haired woman truly a Celestial?

How could a Celestial possibly be so powerful!

He had already chosen the weakest opponent to fight, and yet he was still no match for her. In that moment, Zou Yangping felt an immense despair in his heart.

No, he couldn't just give up like this!

He refused to believe that he couldn't even handle a woman!

With that thought in mind, Zou Yangping gathered all his Spiritual Power and threw another punch.

A giant tiger image reappeared. Yun Xianxian did not intend to waste too much time on Zou Yangping.

She raised her delicate hand once again and with a sweep, countless ice cones appeared above her head and immediately flew towards Zou Yangping.

Seeing so many ice cones, Zou Yangping instantly felt the danger and came down from the sky, diving straight into the forest, intending to forcefully break through Yun Xianxian and Li Qianrou's blockade.

Witnessing Zou Yangping's escape, the Yue Emperor snorted lightly as spiritual energy burst forth from her body in an instant.

Immediately after, numerous Sword Qi formed around Li Qianrou's body. Clutching the sword in her hand tightly, she swung her sword, and the Sword Qi zoomed towards Zou Yangping.

Zou Yangping, who was fleeing, sensed the threat and quickly turned his head back, once again employing the same cultivation technique he used before. However, the tiger's phantom was instantly slashed apart by Li Qianrou's Sword Qi.

Zou Yangping's face turned ashen with shock. How could both women be so formidable? He was, after all, a Celestial who had broken through many years ago and yet, he couldn't handle even this woman who looked so young.

What Zou Yangping didn't know was that in terms of age, Yun Xianxian was much older than him. It was only because she had cultivated the Physical Appearance Retaining Technique, and also due to her unique physique, that she appeared to be a woman in her thirties at most.

In fact, this was fairly common in the High-Level Cultivation Realm. Many who appeared to be in their twenties or thirties were actually thousands or even hundreds of thousands of years old.

At this moment, Zou Yangping let out a loud shout and directly burned his own essence blood. Roaring, he said, "You want to kill me? I won't make it easy for you even in death!"

This time, Zou Yangping didn't run. He turned and thrust his legs, charging straight towards Yun Xianxian.

Meanwhile, the fight between Xia Tianyuan and Si Yuhua had also begun. Si Yuhua had already been injured earlier, and he stood no chance against Xia Tianyuan.

After all, Xia Tianyuan was the Sect Master of a Sword Sect, and in terms of strength, he was even more formidable than Li Qianrou.

Si Yuhua gripped his sword and thrust it toward Xia Tianyuan, a massive golden Sword Intent materializing in the air.

Xia Tianyuan remained unruffled. He drew his sword and gathered spiritual power within it.

"Out of respect for you wielding a sword as well, I shall let you die by the sword!"

As Xia Tianyuan's voice faded, he executed a sword strike and a tremendous Sword Qi swept towards the golden Sword Intent in front of Si Yuhua.

Seeing this scene, Si Yuhua's face instantly turned even paler. As he prepared to dodge, the Sword Qi sliced through his golden Sword Intent and bore down on him.

Si Yuhua quickly circulated the spiritual power in his entire body and made another sword strike. The next moment, Xia Tianyuan's Sword Qi collided with the sword in Si Yuhua's hand.

Feeling the immense pressure, Si Yuhua's recent wound tore open, blood spurting wildly as he kept coughing up blood.

Realizing he would likely die there, Si Yuhua laughed loudly and said, "If you wish for my death, then you shall die with me!"

With those words, Si Yuhua prepared to self-destruct his Dantian. However, just as he gathered all his spiritual power into his Dantian, a massive ice cone, seemingly out of nowhere, came flying and impaled him straight through the body.

"Puh..."

Si Yuhua spat out another mouthful of blood as the giant ice cone pierced through his Dantian, preventing him from continuing to gather spiritual power, let alone self-destruct.

Quickly, the light flickered out from Si Yuhua's eyes, his body lost its liveliness, and he fell from the sky.

In the High-Level Cultivation World, even being struck by that ice cone might not result in death, as many there possess spiritual artifacts to protect their bodies and have cultivated defensive cultivation techniques or possess protective talismans.

But unfortunately, this was just a low-level world, where Celestials of the same rank could possibly be defeated by a single move from another Celestial.

Chapter 872 From Now On, This Is My Imperial Palace

Seeing that Si Yuhua had been killed before he could self-destruct, Zou Yangping's complexion turned even paler.

Clearly, the prowess of these three Celestials was beyond his own; he and Si Yuhua stood no chance against the three of them.

Suddenly thinking of something, Zou Yangping ceased his actions and said, "I surrender! Don't kill me! From now on, I will follow His Majesty's orders without question. If His Majesty tells me to go east, I will never go west!"

Hearing these words, the expressions of Yun Xianxian and the others seemed unchanged.

Zou Yangping glanced at the three people's faces, all of which were extremely calm, as if they didn't care whether he surrendered or not.

Seeing their expressions, Zou Yangping's heart immediately cooled by half, wondering if they were determined to kill him after all.

After all, he was a Celestial!

How many Celestials were there in the world?

If they kept him alive, he could create more value for the Sum Emperor.

At this moment, Xia Tianyuan said, "Zou Sect Master, to His Majesty, you are more valuable dead than alive."

Upon hearing these words, Zou Yangping's face instantly darkened, "If you are unwilling to spare me, even if I must drag you down with me in a fight to the death, I will not go alone!"

As he finished speaking, Zou Yangping, like Si Yuhua before him, started to concentrate all his Spiritual Power into his Dantian, preparing to self-destruct and perish together with Xia Tianyuan and the others.

Yet the expressions on the faces of Xia Tianyuan and his companions remained unchanged; they seemed to have no fear of Zou Yangping's self-destruction.

Seeing that their expressions remained the same, still indifferent like before, Zou Yangping was deeply disappointed.

Though he spoke of a fight to the death, deep down he truly did not wish to die; he was merely threatening the three of them, trying to force them to give in and spare his life.

Zou Yangping was puzzled; why were these three not afraid of death at all? Could it be that they believed they had the ability to stop his self-destruction before he could execute it?

Now driven into a corner, Zou Yangping shouted, "Do not push me too far! I will self-destruct right now!"

Zou Yangping also realized he could not escape. Since these three were bent on killing him, they might as well die together!

Immediately, Zou Yangping prepared to self-destruct, but just as he was about to gather all his Spiritual Power into his Dantian,

Li Qingrou and Yun Xianxian acted simultaneously, sending countless streams of Sword Qi instantly flying towards Zou Yangping, while numerous ice spears fell from the sky. In just an instant, Zou Yangping was pierced by both the ice spears and Sword Qi.

Like Si Yuhua, Zou Yangping never got the chance to self-destruct his Dantian. In truth, if he had wanted to self-destruct, he still could have; however, without concentrating all his Spiritual Power into his Dantian, the explosion wouldn't have been very powerful nor caused much damage.

As Zou Yangping's body slowly fell to the ground, their task there was also considered complete.

Meanwhile,

In Yan County,

The disciples from the various Sects had been planning to charge into Yan County to carry out their plans of looting and pillaging. But before they could get close to Yan County, a strange Formation appeared in the sky above the city.

Before the people from the Sects could react, the Formation suddenly fired countless beams of light. Then, the bodies of the Sects' members were pierced by the light from the Formation.

Some were so frightened they immediately fled, yet the rays from the Formation were so fast that they reached their targets in the blink of an eye. These Sect members had already approached the gates of Yan County, and by this point, it was too late to escape.

Soon, the dead bodies lay strewn all around the entrance to Yan County, all belonging to members of the major Sects.

At this moment, Wu Ming was still unaware of what had happened outside the city gates, but after seeing the formation in the sky, he faintly sensed a hint of unease.

Just then, a disciple of the Tian Wu Sect appeared behind Wu Ming, "Your Highness, good news!"

Relieved by the arrival of this voice, Wu Ming spoke with some displeasure, "Why have you come so late? I thought something had happened outside."

The disciple said with a smile, "We encountered some obstacles just now, so there was some delay, but now all the obstacles have been cleared, and all the people in the Imperial Palace are under our control. Your Highness can lead the people directly to the Imperial Palace now."

Upon hearing this, Wu Ming was overjoyed, and he immediately confirmed, "Yan County has been taken by you?"

The Tian Wu Sect disciple replied, "Yes, Your Highness, the Celestial of Yan County has died in battle, and we now fully control Yan County."

Laughing heartily at this news, Wu Ming then said, "Very good, very good! I indeed did not misjudge you. I wonder what kind of expression Lu Chen will have when he returns to see everything in Yan County, hahaha!"

"Let's go! We will head to the Imperial Palace now, I want to see just how beautiful Lu Chen's wives and concubines really are."

Immediately after, Wu Ming led a group of Wu Family's people directly out of the Wu Residence.

Wuhe also sensed the commotion outside and asked a servant, "What is happening outside?"

The servant hastily replied, "Your Highness, the Second Prince, along with some Imperial Family Members of the Wu Family, has left the residence directly."

Upon hearing this, Wuhe furrowed his brows.

Looking up again at the formation in the sky that was gradually dissipating, he couldn't help thinking, could it be that those Sect forces have really taken down Yan County?

If that were the case, if Wu Ming became the Emperor supported by those Sects, wouldn't his own position be extremely awkward?

No, that can't be right...

Could Yan County really have fallen so easily?

Could there be some deceit at play here?

Wuhe then instructed the servant, "Send someone out to gather information, and come back immediately with any news."

Wuhe always felt something was amiss; he didn't believe that Lu Chen had left no contingency plans. After all, there was Zhuge Zhongguang by Lu Chen's side - even if Lu Chen wasn't that smart, was Zhuge Zhongguang not either?

Zhuge Zhongguang would surely have advised Lu Chen to keep some moves in reserve, or even some trump cards. Wuhe felt that Wu Ming and his group rushing out now would likely be facing nothing but a dead end.

Wu Ming didn't realize that his countdown to death had already begun.

Not long after, Wu Ming arrived at the entrance of the Imperial Palace in a horse-drawn carriage. There were no guards at the gates of the Imperial Palace, not even a single sentry, as if the Imperial Palace had indeed been captured.

Stepping down from the carriage, Wu Ming saw this scene and said with a laugh, "From this day forth, this will be this King's Imperial Palace!"

At this moment, a flattery-seeking servant said, "Your Majesty, you should refer to yourself as 'We' now."

Wu Ming immediately realized, "Oh right, now that Yan County has been occupied, hereafter 'We' will be the ruler of Great Sum! Hahaha!"

"Let's go, let's see what 'Our' beloved consorts look like!"

As the words fell, Wu Ming led a group of the Royal Family Members of the Wu Family further into the Imperial Palace. However, as they entered the palace gates, soldiers armed with muskets quickly appeared and surrounded them all.

Seeing these soldiers, Wu Ming was suddenly stunned. Wasn't it said that the Imperial Palace had been captured? Why were there still soldiers of Great Sum?

Chapter 873 Heartbroken Wu Junwan

Wu Ming regained his senses and turned his head quickly, intending to ask the disciple from the Tian Wu Sect what was going on.

But when he looked back, there were no Tian Wu Sect disciples to be found, only people from the Wu Family remained.

Wu Ming's mind went blank in an instant, and even if he was foolish, he now understood what was happening.

Just as Wu Ming was about to defend himself, a loud voice from the Daxia Imperial Guard Commander rebuked, "Audacious traitor, how dare you conspire against the Imperial Palace!"

"Those who conspire against the Imperial Palace, kill without mercy!!!"

As the head of the Imperial Guards's voice fell, the soldiers made ready to fire their guns.

At that moment, Wu Ming burst out laughing, saying, "Hahaha, Lu Chen, oh Lu Chen, I always knew you had no intention of sparing the Wu Family. You're ruthless, truly ruthless. Even if I become a wandering ghost, I will come back to haunt you!!!"

Wu Ming had realized what his fate was going to be and he no longer cared.

As soon as Wu Ming's voice faded, the Imperial Guard Commander fired the first shot and was quickly followed by all the soldiers pulling their triggers. Bullets struck the Wu Family's people, and soon bodies lay scattered across the ground amidst pools of blood.

Wu Ming was also hit by bullets and fell to the ground. His eyes were wide open, as if he refused to close them even in death.

Of course, he truly did refuse to die with eyes closed. Having thought mirthfully that he was about to become the Emperor, he only realized upon entering the Imperial Palace that he had been baited and then shot. How could he possibly rest in peace?

In the wake of the Imperial Guard's actions, it wasn't long before Yan County regained its peace once more. The forces that had been drawn out by deception were completely purged.

After things were settled, Wu Junwan returned to her own chambers. As soon as she got back, Li Qingrou also returned.

Seeing Li Qingrou, Wu Junwan asked with concern, "Qingrou, there were no problems, were there?"

Li Qingrou replied with a light chuckle, "It was just two old undying ones, what problems could there possibly be? Forget three Celestials, I alone would have been enough to deal with the two of them."

"That bastard only chose to act against them now to have a justifiable cause. If he didn't care about his reputation and wanted to act sooner, those Sect forces would have been cleaned up a long time ago."

Hearing this, Wu Junwan seemed to realize something.

Just then, a maid rushed into the courtyard in a panic, "Mistress, something terrible has happened!"

The maid who came in belonged to Wu Junwan, so Wu Junwan was considered her mistress.

Hearing the maid's words, Wu Junwan's ominous premonition grew stronger, and she quickly asked, "Nuannuan, what has happened?"

The maid Nuannuan replied, "Prince Wu Ming led a portion of the Wu Family in rebellion, conspired against the Imperial Palace, and was directly shot dead by the head of the Imperial Guards."

Wu Junwan was momentarily stunned.

Indeed...

Just as she had thought.

She seemed to understand why Lu Chen insisted on leaving Yan County before taking action.

With Lu Chen away from Yan County, the one to make the move wasn't Lu Chen himself. He wasn't present and could therefore blame everything on others.

Lu Chen, he...

Seeing Wu Junwan's face looking so grim, Li Qingrou snorted coldly from the side and said, "The ruthless ambivalence of emperors since ancient times. That bastard has never trusted the Dawu and Dayue Royal Families. It seems all of this was orchestrated by him, to draw out the Imperial Family Members of Dawu and Dayue to rebel and then use this opportunity to eliminate them."

Wu Junwan did not speak. Her face was pale, and Li Qingrou quickly supported her, saying, "Junwan, you mustn't let that bastard's actions harm your health."

Wu Junwan sighed softly and said, "You can't blame him for this. If it weren't for the fact that some members of the Dawu Royal Family still hadn't given up, they wouldn't have..."

Li Qingrou said, "Junwan, people are always driven by desire. Seeing such a good opportunity, how could the members of the Dawu Royal Family not be tempted? In my opinion, all of this is that bastard's fault."

Wu Junwan fell silent once again.

She certainly understood that all this was very likely orchestrated by Lu Chen. After all, no Emperor could truly tolerate the existence of the former dynasty's Imperial Family Members, especially those whose treacherous hearts were not yet dead.

These people, if left unchecked, would sooner or later cause trouble.

Although she understood Lu Chen's actions, the fact that he had never shared these matters with her made Wu Junwan feel as though he treated her as an outsider, and at that moment, her heart ached with a dull pain.

Was this the feeling of being hurt after falling in love with someone?

Perhaps Lu Chen had never trusted her...

After Wu Junwan became pregnant, her emotions grew unstable, prone to wild thoughts. And now she started to overthink again.

Seeing Wu Junwan's sorrowful expression, Li Qingrou decided not to continue upsetting her. Speaking further ill of Lu Chen would probably only make Wu Junwan sadder.

Li Qingrou then consoled her, saying, "Junwan, it's okay, stop thinking about those things. Give birth to the child first, we can talk about other matters later."

Wu Junwan said, "Yes, I know."

A few days later.

In Xinyang City, at the border between Great Xia and Great Qian.

Lu Chen was in the study of the collapsing site, reading the intelligence gathered by the Brocade Guard. Through those reports, he also realized that the plague in Great Qian likely had little to do with the Qian Empress.

The Daqian Empress was also in favor of actively eliminating the plague, but she did it to accumulate more political capital for herself, wanting the people to believe that it was under her initiative that Great Qian was able to solve the plague.

In the future, whenever the citizens of Great Qian thought about the plague, they would remember that it was she, the Daqian Empress, who resolved it and saved the subjects of Great Qian.

Lu Chen had a feeling that the Qian Empress's rise in fame must have a special purpose.

As Lu Chen was pondering over the intelligence in his hands, the voice of Bai Qingqing came from the doorway, "Your Majesty, a letter from Yan County!"

Hearing this, Lu Chen instantly refocused, guessing what the letter might contain.

"Bring it in," he said.

As the words fell, Bai Qingqing entered the study and handed the letter over to Lu Chen.

Lu Chen took the letter, glanced through its contents, and then a smile crept onto his face.

"It's been dealt with thoroughly, it's just a pity that they didn't eliminate all the members of the Dawu Royal Family in one go."

Lu Chen knew that resolving the matter with all the members of the Dawu Royal Family would upset Wu Junwan, but in his heart, the members of the Dawu Royal Family remained a significant annoyance.

If they were all like the members of the Dayue Royal Family, who knew only to indulge in eating, drinking, and pleasure, Lu Chen would not have considered getting rid of them.

After reading the letter, Lu Chen placed it on his desk, "Now that the matter in Yan County has been resolved, it's time to deal with Great Qian."

At that point, Lu Chen looked at Bai Qingqing, "Summon all the Generals, call for an immediate military council. In two days, we will launch the war of annihilation against Great Qian!"

Hearing Lu Chen's order, Bai Qingqing immediately responded, "Yes, Your Majesty!"

Chapter 874 I Hope You Don't End Up Like Yue Emperor

When the military conference was convened, the concern that most preoccupied the generals was still how to handle the plague.

Although Lu Chen had long said he had a way to resolve the plague, his solution was merely isolation and maximum prevention. But what if the plague accidentally spread to their troops?

Xuanyuan Yunqi glanced at those military generals. She was now the commander of a military camp, so the concerns of these generals were equally her concerns. She directly asked, "Your Majesty, with respect, I wish to inquire how to handle the plague. Please instruct me, so I can prepare the soldiers on the battlefield in advance."

Hearing this, Lu Chen smiled and said, "Strange, haven't I already passed on the method to prevent and treat the plague to you all?"

"Have you forgotten? The Demon Burying Spell cultivation technique I imparted to you a while ago?"

Hearing this, everyone looked at each other, seemingly still somewhat incredulous.

Lu Chen continued, "The outbreak in Great Qian is not an ordinary plague, but one caused by a malevolent force, and the Demon Burying Spell is specifically designed to counter this malevolent force."

Xuanyuan Yunqi immediately identified a new problem and continued, "Your Majesty, although soldiers who have cultivated the Demon Burying Spell can control the plague, most soldiers in the army are ordinary soldiers."

Although the promotion of Spirit Rice has led to an increasing number of lower-tier martial artists in Great Sum, the army still primarily consisted of ordinary soldiers who did not have the capacity to cultivate the Demon Burying Spell, an Earth Rank cultivation technique. Even though the Earth Rank cultivation techniques taught by Lu Chen were simplified, they were still unachievable for them.

Lu Chen said, "You do not have to worry about this. The True Qi of the Demon Burying Spell can directly neutralize the plague in a person's body. As long as there is one Half-step Grandmaster in a military camp, that camp need not worry about the plague."

"Moreover, I have a Spiritual Artifact that dispels the plague. Once we are on the battlefield, I will dispel the plague beforehand, then let the soldiers advance."

Hearing this, the generals were still somewhat anxious, but since their Emperor had spoken to this extent, they now could only choose to trust the Emperor.

Lu Chen continued, "Let's leave the matter of the plague here, and now we'll discuss the attack routes."

With that, Lu Chen's gaze fell on the map in front of him. Then, he picked up a command stick and began assigning tasks to various commanders on the map.

Meanwhile.

Great Qian Dynasty, Imperial Palace.

Clothed in azure robes, Liu Qingqiu stood beside the lotus pond, watching the fish swim back and forth in the pond, when a voice appeared behind her, "You really can keep your composure. Great Sum has already marshaled its forces, and you're still here watching fish."

"I'm quite curious, what kind of methods does the Sum Emperor have to resolve the plague issue?"

Mu Yunxi said with a laugh, "Is there a possibility that he actually has no way to eliminate the plague, and is simply disregarding the lives of his soldiers?"

Liu Qingqiu said, "I don't think he is such a foolish man."

Although Liu Qingqiu was not very aware of where Lu Chen's confidence came from, she had still heard of the preventive measures taken by the Daxia Army as they approached Great Qian.

The preventive measures taken by the Daxia Army were enough to show that Lu Chen truly valued the lives of his soldiers; otherwise, he would not have had them take those measures.

However, in Great Qian, just those measures alone would absolutely not suffice, nor would they halt the spread of the plague.

Liu Qingqiu had long noticed activities of people from Great Sum within the territory of Great Qian. She believed Lu Chen must be aware of this, so she felt that Lu Chen must have other methods to control the spread of the plague.

Of course, this was just her speculation. Now it was to be seen whether the soldiers of Daxia would contract the plague during the attack, which would indicate whether Lu Chen had a method to eliminate the plague or not.

At that moment, Mu Yunxi asked with a smile, "Setting aside the matter of the plague for a moment, what do you think the odds are for the two of us against Lu Chen in a battle?"

Liu Qingqiu said indifferently, "One hundred percent."

"Oh? You have such confidence in me?" Mu Yunxi asked.

Liu Qingqiu snorted and laughed, "I am not confident in you, I believe in my own strength.

"Even without you, I would never let Lu Chen occupy Great Qian."

Hearing Liu Qingqiu's words, Mu Yunxi smiled faintly and did not say much.

Liu Qingqiu must be the incarnation of some great power, which is why she is so confident, or rather, arrogant.

It is normal for the incarnation of a great power to look down on someone from a lower world, but underestimating Lu Chen could lead to a great loss eventually.

Mu Yunxi looked at Liu Qingqiu's plump figure and thought to herself, hoping you don't end up like Yue Emperor.

For some reason, seeing Liu Qingqiu so arrogant made Mu Yunxi want her to be captured by Lu Chen and be humiliated by him night after night.

At that moment, Liu Qingqiu stopped talking with Mu Yunxi and turned directly towards the court hall, while instructing the guards, "Summon the full court of civil and military officials to discuss the matter of resisting Great Sum."

Watching Liu Qingqiu's departing figure, Mu Yunxi suddenly had a strange idea that, with Liu Qingqiu's beauty, perhaps she could attract that lascivious Lu Chen, right?

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Several days passed.

Great Sum officially sent troops to attack Great Qian, and the first city they attacked was Danxin City.

This time, in attacking Danxin City, Lu Chen personally participated to see what the situation in Great Qian really was.

Soon, Lu Chen led his army to the outskirts of Danxin City. On the way to Danxin City, Lu Chen saw many human bones by the roadside, making the whole of Great Qian appear very desolate and oppressive.

As soon as Lu Chen and his men arrived at Danxin City, they found several officials already waiting outside the city with their seals and surrender documents.

The person dressed as the county magistrate was emaciated and kept coughing continuously, clearly suffering from the plague with not much time left.

At that moment, Lu Chen dismounted and walked directly towards the county magistrate. Seeing this, the military generals beside Lu Chen were frightened and hurried over to stop him, saying, "Your Majesty, this is not advisable!"

"That man is clearly infected with the plague. What if..."

Lu Chen raised his hand to stop them from continuing and then said calmly, "If I don't demonstrate how to expel the plague myself, how could the soldiers truly believe that I can eliminate it?"

This...

The generals looked at each other, eventually deciding not to continue blocking him but cleared the way instead.

Lu Chen walked directly up to the county magistrate. Seeing a young man in Black Gold Armor approaching, the Danxin City magistrate thought Lu Chen was a commander from Great Sum.

Since Lu Chen was quite far from the magistrate and considering the magistrate was critically ill, he had not heard the Great Sum generals addressing Lu Chen as "Your Majesty."

The Danxin County magistrate then tremblingly said, "The magistrate of Danxin County pays his respects to the lord..."

Chapter 875 Miracle! This is a miracle!!!

As soon as the words of the Prefecture Governor of Danxin County left his lips, Bai Qingqing, who was beside Lu Chen, immediately corrected him, "This is our Your Majesty."

Upon hearing this, the Prefecture Governor of Danxin County's eyes widened in disbelief that the Emperor of Great Sum would dare venture to this place.

By now Danxin City hardly had anyone left who had not been infected by the plague, did the Sum Emperor not fear being infected himself by coming to such a place?

Bearing his imminent death, the Prefecture Governor of Danxin County was not so afraid of Lu Chen. He opened his mouth and said, "I greet Your Majesty, may Your Majesty live for ten thousand, ten thousand years!"

"I am already gravely ill, please forgive me, Your Majesty, for being unable to kneel."

Seeing the Prefecture Governor's look of despair, Lu Chen said indifferently, "No matter."

Immediately after, Lu Chen asked, "How many people were in Danxin City before the outbreak of the plague?"

The Prefecture Governor answered, "Your Majesty, there were a hundred thousand people."

Located near Great Sum and as an essential path for merchant caravans, Danxin City was quite bustling before the outbreak of the plague.

Lu Chen continued to ask, "And how many remain now?"

The Prefecture Governor replied, "Your Majesty, perhaps less than a thousand remain. I have not conducted a recent count, and the precise number is unknown to me now."

Lu Chen frowned upon hearing this, the plague brought by the Heavenly Demon was truly horrific, turning what was once a large city of a hundred thousand residents to less than a thousand.

Lu Chen further inquired, "What of the soldiers stationed in your city?"

This location, being a vital passage for merchant caravans, held significant importance for Great Qian, which previously deployed a large garrison here.

The Prefecture Governor answered, "After the plague broke out, they retreated."

Hearing the Governor's response, Lu Chen felt no surprise; Great Qian had abandoned Danxin City.

Lu Chen then looked towards Danxin City and saw what seemed to be a layer of black air hovering overhead. It wasn't just an atmospheric description; through his sight, there were indeed streams of black air, reminiscent of the smoke trailing behind automobiles.

Seeing the black air, Lu Chen wondered whether it could be the cause of the plague.

Lu Chen then asked Bai Qingqing, who was beside him, "Bai, do you see anything above Danxin City?"

After a glance at the sky above Danxin City, where blue skies and white clouds remained undisturbed, Bai Qingqing answered, "Your Majesty, I have not noticed anything."

Lu Chen thought, could it be that only he could see it, or perhaps only those of a higher Realm could?

With this thought, Lu Chen then asked Mu Hongguang, "President Mu, can you see anything above Danxin City?"

Confusion crossed Mu Hongguang's face upon hearing Lu Chen's question.

Something above Danxin City?

There was supposed to be something above Danxin City, why hadn't he seen anything?

Mu Hongguang then honestly responded, "Your Majesty, I have not seen anything either."

Seeing even Mu Hongguang, a Celestial, answer this way, Lu Chen almost confirmed that, apart from himself, they could not see the black air spreading over Danxin City.

It seemed that the black air was indeed a serious issue.

Lu Chen then took out the Demon-Expelling Banner directly from his system space.

As soon as the Demon-Expelling Banner was unveiled, it emitted a golden radiance.

The next instant, all the black air around Lu Chen was dispersed.

At that moment, Lu Chen noticed that many people in Danxin City also had their black air gradually dissipating. As the black air vanished, those infected by the plague visibly regained their color and soon flushed with blood again.

The Prefecture Governor of Danxin County also noticed the change in them; they looked at their own hands in some disbelief.

At this moment, the common people of Danxin City were too excited to speak.

Suddenly, the Prefecture Governor of Danxin knelt down and then shouted loudly, "A miracle, this is a miracle!!!"

"Thank you, Your Majesty, for saving the people of Danxin County!"

Upon hearing this, the common people behind the Prefecture Governor of Danxin also quickly knelt down, "Thank you, Your Majesty, for saving the people of Danxin County!!!"

Not only were the common people of Danxin City stunned, but the soldiers of the Daxia Dynasty were also stunned.

In their hearts, they had always harbored some doubt about whether their Emperor could really dispel the epidemic, but to their surprise, in such a short time, their Emperor had cured all the people infected with the plague.

At this time, everyone's gaze fell onto the Demon-Expelling Banner in Lu Chen's hand.

Clearly, it was this banner that had dispelled the plague.

With this banner, wouldn't the Daxia Army no longer have to fear the plague?

For a moment, the morale of the Daxia Army surged.

Lu Chen then said to the generals behind him, "I have said that I can dispel the plague, now you all should believe it, right?"

Having said this, Lu Chen walked towards Danxin City and said as he walked, "Spread word of what happened here."

Bai Qingqing immediately responded, "Yes, Your Majesty."

Lu Chen intended for all the common people of Great Qian to know that he had the ability to dispel the plague. In this way, when he wanted to take over other cities, he wouldn't need to spend a single soldier, and instead, some of the city defenders might even come to him to surrender.

After Lu Chen entered Danxin City, he once again manipulated the Demon-Expelling Banner, which flew up into the air, emitting dazzling golden light. After the golden light shone down, the dark aura covering the entire Danxin City dissipated completely.

In the blink of an eye, several days had passed.

With the promotion of the Brocade Guard, the deeds of Lu Chen in Danxin City were also spread throughout the various prefectures of Great Qian.

Upon hearing that Daxia was capable of dispelling the plague, the common people in the prefectures, even the high-ranking officials, began to entertain the thought of defecting to Daxia.

By that time, Liu Qingqiu could no longer control the situation in Great Qian, and within a few days, several prefecture governors along with their soldiers came to Danxin City and directly surrendered to Lu Chen.

After Lu Chen demonstrated how to dispel the plague in front of those who had come over, these people instantly revered Lu Chen as the Son of Destiny.

Suddenly, from the local level up to the royal court of Great Qian, the calls for surrender grew louder.

Daqian Imperial Palace.

Qianning Palace.

Liu Qingqiu, looking at the intelligence gathered, grew more and more furious. She had not expected that such a large portion of Great Qian's territory would fall into the hands of the Daxia Dynasty so quickly.

Lu Chen had swallowed up so much of Great Qian's land without deploying a single soldier, and key to this was that after Lu Chen led his troops to Danxin City, he had stayed there without sending troops to attack other prefectures of Great Qian. It was the high-level officials of these prefectures who, along with Great Qian soldiers, had run to Danxin City to surrender to Lu Chen.

This was tantamount to completely disregarding the Great Qian Royal Family and her, who was about to become the Empress Dowager.

At this moment, Mu Yunxi appeared in Liu Qingqiu's bedchamber, leaning against a pillar with a smile, "Quite rare to see, I had not thought you could also get angry."

Liu Qingqiu snorted coldly, "Wait until I get rid of Lu Chen, then I will deal with those traitors!"

Mu Yunxi said, "It's just that you might fail to get rid of Lu Chen and end up sacrificing yourself."

"But to get back to the point, you guessed right, Lu Chen does indeed have a way to dispel the plague."

Chapter 876 Liu Qingqiu: The real final battle should begin now

Hearing Mu Yunxi's words, Liu Qingqiu suddenly seemed to remember something, and her previously stern expression softened, calming her heart.

Afterward, Liu Qingqiu said, "I am rather curious, how it is that when Lu Chen arrived, the plague in Great Qian simply vanished."

"It couldn't be that the plague was fabricated by Great Sum from the beginning."

Hearing this, Mu Yunxi laughed and said, "You really know how to frame and entrap people. Even I know that the plague came from the seas to the south, and yet you dare to pin it on Lu Chen."

Liu Qingqiu said indifferently, "Who did it is not important, what matters is the outcome."

Then she said to the guard at the door, "Go find Assistant Minister Li."

Mu Yunxi opened her mouth and asked, "Do you plan to spread rumors that the plague was brought by Great Sum, then ignite the people's anger against Great Sum?"

The plague in Great Qian had lasted for over a year, decimating nearly half of the population. On average, nearly every household had lost someone to the plague.

Most people had lost loved ones to the plague. When news suddenly spread that Great Sum was the spreader of the plague, with the intent of ruling Great Qian without spilling any blood, it would certainly fuel the hatred of the Great Qian populace against Great Sum.

Liu Qingqiu said with an impassive face, "Before Lu Chen arrived, the plague in Great Qian had persisted for more than a year and could not be eliminated no matter what was tried. However, as soon as Lu Chen arrived, the plague disappeared immediately. Don't you think that's too much of a coincidence?"

"I believe the people of Great Qian will also find that unreasonable in due time."

Hearing this, Mu Yunxi smiled faintly and then said, "I hope your approach will win back the hearts of the people of Great Qian."

Although Mu Yunxi said this, in her heart, she didn't believe that this approach would bring any real benefits to Great Qian.

You can spread rumors, and so can Great Sum. Right now, the key point is by siding with Great Sum, one can avoid the impact of the plague. How to choose is obvious even to a fool.

Of course, as Liu Qingqiu's ally, Mu Yunxi naturally wouldn't discourage her.

Several days later.

A rumor began to circulate within the borders of Great Qian. It was said that the Sum Emperor was behind the plague, aimed at annexing Great Qian. The best proof was that before the Sum Emperor came to Great Qian, the plague persisted. But once the Sum Emperor arrived, the plague vanished instantly, and such coincidences don't happen in this world.

Only if the plague was caused by Great Sum could they know the cure so effortlessly.

In an attempt to annex Great Qian, Great Sum had committed such inhumane acts, killing who knows how many of Great Qian's people. The people of Great Qian must not acknowledge the culprit as their ruler.

...

Danxin City.

Lu Chen's temporary study.

Lu Chen was currently looking through some memorial reports sent from Yan County when Bai Qingqing outside said, "Your Majesty, Commander Qin has returned!"

Since Qin Yushan was dispatched to Great Qian to investigate the plague, he had been staying in Great Qian and had established quite some influence there.

Lu Chen put down the report in his hand and said, "Come in!"

The next moment, Qin Yushan hurried into the study, then bowed to Lu Chen and said, "This subordinate pays respects to Your Majesty, long live, long live, forever and ever!"

Lu Chen nodded his head, "Dispense with the formalities."

Qin Yushan said, "Your Majesty, please forgive my incompetence, but in the end, I was unable to find the specific cause of the Great Qian pandemic."

Although they had discovered that the Great Qian pandemic was related to a box, where that box was now located, and why it had caused the pandemic, the Brocade Guard still had no clue.

Lu Chen said, "No matter, I already know the origin of the pandemic. Has there been any new intelligence from Great Qian recently, or has the Daqian Empress made any moves?"

Qin Yushan replied, "Your Majesty, recently the Daqian Empress has been spreading rumors everywhere, claiming that the pandemic was spread by you, and she has been inciting the people of Great Qian to oppose Great Sum."

Hearing this, Lu Chen showed a trace of a smile, just as he had expected, the Daqian Empress really did just that.

However, he had already thought of how to counter this rumor. Immediately, Lu Chen said to Qin Yushan, "You will now spread the word that the reason for the pandemic in Great Qian is because a demoness rules the government, a punishment sent down by the heavens. Now that I, the true Son of Heaven, have arrived, the pandemic has been dispersed, only I can subdue the demoness. Once I subdue the demoness, the pandemic in Great Qian will be driven away."

Hearing this, Qin Yushan immediately responded, "Yes, Your Majesty, your subordinate will see to it at once!"

The 'demoness' referred to by Lu Chen, the common people of Great Qian were certainly very clear on. As soon as they heard that a demoness ruled the government, they would definitely think of Liu Qingqiu, the Daqian Empress.

Furthermore, it was a tradition in this world to believe that a woman's rule would incur divine punishment; the moment this rumor spread, the people of Great Qian would quickly accept his version of events.

And then, Liu Qingqiu's position as Empress would not be so comfortable after all.

Having received Lu Chen's orders, Qin Yushan spread the word across all of Great Qian in the shortest time that a demoness ruled the government, causing chaos and bringing punishment from the heavens upon them.

Ever since Qin Yushan came to Great Qian, he had been building a network of spies. In Great Qian, it was unclear how many agents of the Brocade Guard were present. Spreading this kind of rumor was the simplest task for them.

Just as Lu Chen had predicted, compared to the claim that the pandemic was brought by Great Sum, the public were far more likely to believe it was due to the rule of the demoness of Great Qian, hence the divine punishment.

Suddenly, there were complaints everywhere in Great Qian, all blaming the Demon Queen Liu Qingqiu for sowing chaos in the court and bringing such disaster upon Great Qian.

As a result, more and more people made their way to Danxin City to surrender to Lu Chen, with some members of the Royal Family of Great Qian even appearing among those who surrendered later on.

The Royal Family of Great Qian were no fools either; they could see that Great Qian's days were numbered. Most importantly, it was indeed a woman who was currently in power, and these Imperial Family Members were continually oppressed by the Demon Queen Liu Qingqiu.

With the support of the Great Qian Royal Family, Lu Chen immediately brought out the Imperial Family Members, stepped up propaganda, and told the people of Great Qian that even the Royal Family could not endure the Demon Queen and had chosen to stand with Great Sum, the side of heavenly mandate.

Finally, Liu Qingqiu could no longer tolerate it.

Qianning Palace.

Liu Qingqiu, looking at the intelligence in her hands, was instantly furious, with her aura climbing. The next moment, the intelligence in her hands was shredded to pieces by the spiritual energy emanating from her body.

Seeing the size of Liu Qingqiu's rage, Mu Yunxi said with a smile, "I told you long ago that this method would be of no use against Lu Chen."

"Besides, if you want to defeat Great Sum, defeat Lu Chen, you must rely on real strength. What use are these little tricks?"

Hearing Mu Yunxi's words, Liu Qingqiu said coldly, "You are right, in this world, one must rely on strength. We've been at an impasse with Great Sum for so long, the time for a true decisive battle has come."

Chapter 877 Hosting? Like how you hosted Yue Emperor?

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Since Wen's methods were no match for Lu Chen, then let's turn to martial prowess.

Liu Qingqiu could not believe that Lu Chen would also be able to defeat her in terms of martial prowess.

Originally, she had not deployed her troops right away mainly for the sake of Great Qian's popular support, as she needed the people's hearts to consolidate the nation's fate.

But now that the popular support had vanished, she felt no need to keep up the facade any longer; it was time to go to war!

A single battle would decide the victor; as long as Lu Chen was taken care of by her, not to mention Great Qian, even the whole of Great Sum, including the territories conquered by Great Sum, would become hers.

At the order of Liu Qingqiu, the Great Qian army quickly completed its assembly, and half a month later, they took the initiative to strike out, heading straight for Danxin City to prepare for a decisive battle with the Daxia Army there.

When Lu Chen heard that Liu Qingqiu had summoned the Great Qian army to take the initiative, he was somewhat surprised. He had thought that Liu Qingqiu would keep waiting, waiting until the Daxia Army reached the gates of the Daqian Capital City before deciding to fight; but now, unexpectedly, Liu Qingqiu had taken the initiative.

It seemed this woman truly had run out of patience and wanted to end this war as soon as possible.

Indeed, since some Imperial Family Members had voluntarily defected to Great Sum, Liu Qingqiu's position had become unstable, and now there had been quite a few voices in the court of Great Qian calling for Liu Qingqiu to return the government to the Royal Family.

Although Liu Qingqiu could suppress those voices opposed to her, such measures would be extremely detrimental to her in the long run.

Lu Chen was in no hurry; he just waited in Danxin City for Liu Qingqiu's arrival.

He was now somewhat looking forward to it; rumors had it that Empress Liu was a devastating beauty, with grace and charm, a true exceptional beauty.

Lu Chen suspected that this Liu Qingqiu was most likely also a woman with a ninety score.

However, he was not sure whether Liu Qingqiu was still pure, after all, she had been Empress to the Qian Emperor for so many years. If Liu Qingqiu was still untouched, it would speak poorly of the Qian Emperor's capabilities.

Soon, Liu Qingqiu led the Great Qian army to the outskirts of Danxin City. The city itself had been revitalized, with Great Sum's flags hanging on the city walls, civilians bustling on the streets, and

the whole city filled with vitality; numerous merchant caravans and wagons were entering and leaving through the gates.

Since Lu Chen had entered Danxin City, the merchant caravans from Great Qian had once again flooded the city, and merchants from Great Sum also came to do business with those of Great Qian. It was because of this that Danxin City had been able to transform in such a short period from a dead city into the bustling scene it now was.

When the commoners at the city gate heard that Liu Qingqiu was leading the Great Qian army to attack Danxin City, complaints erupted immediately.

"This Demon Queen actually has the nerve to come attack Danxin City!"

"Exactly, if it weren't for the Sum Emperor, we would probably have died from the plague a long time ago."

"Great Qian's soldiers have gone mad, still following that Demon Queen!"

"Maybe they've been bewitched by her!"

...

While complaining, the commoners at the gate orderly retreated back into Danxin City.

They still had great faith in the strength of the Daxia Army.

In their eyes, the Demon Queen was a defiant presence, while Lu Chen was the Son of Destiny, so the Demon Queen couldn't possibly defeat the Son of Destiny.

Meanwhile, Lu Chen also heard that Liu Qingqiu had led her army to the outskirts of Danxin City. He quickly donned his armor and went directly to the city wall.

Before long, a luxurious carriage pulled by eight horses appeared outside Danxin City. Seeing the carriage, Lu Chen revealed a slight smile.

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Following that, he concentrated his Spiritual Power in his chest and spoke to the person inside the carriage, "Is the person coming the Great Qian Empress Liu?"

"I have heard that Empress Liu is of unparalleled beauty, capable of sinking fish and causing geese to fall, with the charm to overthrow cities and nations. I wonder if I am fortunate enough to see such beauty today."

Upon hearing this, Liu Qingqiu scoffed coldly inside the carriage and said to Mu Yunxi beside her, "They say Lu Chen is lascivious, and seeing him today, I have truly broadened my horizons."

In the midst of war, Lu Chen, as the Emperor of the enemy nation, still desired to see how beautiful the enemy's Empress was—how is this any different from a derelict sovereign?

Liu Qingqiu continued, "Such a monarch, yet he managed to annihilate Great Wu and Great Jue. It is truly inconceivable."

Mu Yunxi replied with a light laugh, "Don't look down on him just yet. He indeed has a penchant for beauty, but that doesn't mean he lacks strength."

Ignoring Mu Yunxi's words, Liu Qingqiu gathered Spiritual Power in her Dantian and shouted to Lu Chen on the city walls of Danxin City, "Great Sum spread the plague throughout Great Qian, and now they send troops to attack our Great Qian—is this an insult to our nation?"

After Liu Qingqiu's voice carried, Lu Chen was momentarily stunned.

Her voice was incredibly cold and clear, crisp; from her voice alone Lu Chen could roughly judge what kind of woman she was.

Lu Chen said, "Great Sum has never spread any plague. Why a plague appeared in Great Qian, Empress Liu must be very clear about it."

"Empress Liu usurped the throne and angered the heavens. The plague was sent down by the heavens in response, and yet Empress Liu thinks of shifting the blame for the plague onto other dynasties. Isn't that wishing for too much?"

"I certainly don't think the people of Great Qian are all fools," he added.

Hearing Lu Chen's rhetoric, Liu Qingqiu sneered. Many of the common people of Great Qian indeed thought like Lu Chen had just stated, assuming she, the Demon Queen, was attempting to divert their attention and continue to bewitch them.

But Liu Qingqiu was very clear in her mind that this was merely Great Sum covertly leading the people of Great Qian to such thoughts.

There was no use in further discussion; only by eliminating Lu Chen could she possibly regain the recognition of the people of Great Qian.

With this thought, Liu Qingqiu said coolly, "I would like to see if your strength matches the sharpness of your tongue!"

As her words fell, Liu Qingqiu immediately ordered the army, "Form up!"

In the next moment, the soldiers of Great Qian swiftly sprang into action and soon formed the Supreme Soaring Dragon Array.

Seeing this familiar Formation, Lu Chen said with a smile, "It seems Empress Liu has an old acquaintance of mine by her side."

Lu Chen had known all along that Mu Yunxi was with Liu Qingqiu; he merely took the opportunity to mention Mu Yunxi through the Supreme Soaring Dragon Array.

Hearing this, Mu Yunxi ceased to remain silent. She chuckled, then said, "Sum Emperor, long time no see!"

Lu Chen said, "Miss Mu left in such a hurry last time, I didn't have the chance to properly entertain you. This time, don't run away so quickly."

Mu Yunxi retorted, "Entertain? Like how you entertained the Yue Emperor? I really can't afford such 'hospitality'."

Mu Yunxi had also heard that ever since Lu Chen had captured the Yue Emperor, he had been humiliating her daily in the Jinluan Hall. Mu Yunxi even began to suspect whether the Yue Emperor might already be with child by Lu Chen's doing.

Hearing the exchange between the two, Liu Qingqiu grew impatient. She addressed Mu Yunxi directly, "Stop wasting time, take action!"

Mu Yunxi then opened the door of the carriage and stepped out directly, and as she opened the door, Lu Chen caught sight of Liu Qingqiu inside the carriage.

Chapter 878 It seems that Lu Chen has taken a liking to you.

Liu Qingqiu was not dressed in the Phoenix Robe that symbolized the identity of the Empress, nor was she wearing the Phoenix Crown, instead, she was clad in a green cloud dress embroidered with lotus flowers.

The sheer green garment tightly wrapped her voluptuous form, appearing somewhat translucent, imbuing her with the allure of a mature woman.

Her hair was coiled up on her head, and her exquisitely beautiful face was indifferent and expressionless.

Lu Chen knew, even without using the system to identify her, that Liu Qingqiu's score must have surpassed ninety.

Still, Lu Chen went through the motions and used the system to identify Liu Qingqiu's profile.

[Name: Liu Qingqiu]

[Identity: Daqian Empress, being from another world, over one hundred thousand years old, in the Genesis Realm, suspected to be a split entity of a great power from the Immortal Realm. After she fell into this world and lost contact with her main body, she attempted to steal this world's fate to leave this place. Thus, she pretended to marry the Qian Emperor to become his Empress. However, she has never shared a bed with the Qian Emperor and remains a maiden. In her eyes, the Sum Emperor is an obstacle to her departure from this world, so she is determined to eliminate him.]

[Score: 100]

[Favorability: 0]

Upon seeing Liu Qingqiu's profile, Lu Chen chuckled. A perfect score, higher than he had imagined. Interacting emotionally with her, he feared he might lose even more control over himself.

However, thinking about it, Liu Qingqiu's backing might be rather formidable. Her age had already exceeded one hundred thousand years, and she was also the embodiment of a great power from the Immortal Realm. If he actually got involved with Liu Qingqiu, or even got her pregnant, her main body would surely send someone to assassinate him once it found out.

Not only send someone, but there was also a chance that her main body might come in person.

At this thought, Lu Chen felt somewhat apprehensive.

This was the first time he had encountered a woman with such a terrifying background in this world. Even Yun Xianxian didn't have such a frightening origin.

By this time, Mu Yunxi had already come out of the carriage and, seeing Lu Chen staring intently at Liu Qingqiu inside, teased her, "It looks like Lu Chen has taken a fancy to you. Be careful. If we lose the battle, no matter who you are, he might make you his female slave."

Liu Qingqiu scoffed, completely disregarding Mu Yunxi's words.

Firstly, she did not believe that she would be defeated, and even if she were, with her power, escaping the battlefield would be an easy task.

If she wished to leave, no one could stop her, let alone when she realized that Lu Chen was merely a Pseudo Celestial. With Lu Chen being a Pseudo Celestial, the idea of keeping her was ludicrous.

Soon after, Mu Yunxi lightly leapt with both feet and landed on the roof of the carriage, smiling at Lu Chen, "Last time, I did not get to witness more of Sum Emperor's powerful moves. I wonder if there will be a chance this time."

As she spoke, the bells around Mu Yunxi's ankles shook, sending waves of sound in all directions. Although Mu Yunxi had taught the Supreme Soaring Dragon Array to the Great Qian army, she did not believe the array could pose any real harm to Lu Chen and the Daxia Army.

The most troublesome thing now was the Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact in Lu Chen's hands. The best way to eliminate Lu Chen would be for one person to distract him, diverting his attention, while another took the opportunity to launch a sneak attack.

While planning the attack, Mu Yunxi glanced at the powerful individuals surrounding Lu Chen, it seemed there was only one Celestial with him.

If it was just one Celestial, then Liu Qingqiu should easily circumvent them when attacking and head straight for Lu Chen.

As long as Lu Chen was dead, everything would be over. For combatants of their level, the Daxia Army was inconsequential, posing no threat to them at all.

The armies on both sides were the same, serving merely to clean up the battlefield after the clash of the strong. Apart from that, they were just a backdrop, essentially there to watch the spectacle unfold.

However, compared to the Daxia Army, Great Qian's Supreme Soaring Dragon Array still had some use, capable of drawing Lu Chen's attention to a certain extent.

At this moment, Great Qian's army took the initiative to attack, and several golden dragon phantoms appeared, rushing straight towards Danxin City. Seeing this, Lu Chen showed no sign of nervousness. He calmly took out the Slayer Spear and aimed at those dragons in the sky, firing a shot.

After a golden beam of light shot out, the golden dragon phantoms instantly dissipated. The next moment, Great Qian's soldiers suffered from the backlash of the Supreme Soaring Dragon Array, collapsing to the ground, spitting blood, some breathing their last.

Seeing the Slayer Spear in Lu Chen's hand, Liu Qingqiu's brows slightly furrowed, feeling a strong threat from the peculiar Spiritual Artifact.

She had seen Earth Grade Spiritual Artifacts before, not only Earth Grade but even Heaven Grade Spiritual Weapons, and she used to possess an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact herself.

Yet none of those Earth Grade Spiritual Artifacts were as peculiar as the one Lu Chen held, which could effortlessly convert the user's Spiritual Power into killing power tenfold more deadly, with incredibly high efficiency.

It was more terrifying than the Sky-grade Spirit Swords of the High-Level Cultivation Realm.

Is this truly an Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact?

No wonder Mu Yunxi said Lu Chen was tough to deal with. It seemed she wasn't exaggerating—it really was a bit difficult to handle. A single hit from that Artifact's beam could likely leave one critically injured or even dead.

As soon as Lu Chen fired his weapon, Mu Yunxi immediately retaliated, transforming solid sound waves into fierce Sword Qi that flew straight at Lu Chen.

Lu Chen didn't bother to block the Sword Qi, as Mu Hongguang quickly intervened, brandishing his sword to scatter all the attacks.

Liu Qingqiu remained sitting in the carriage, waiting for the right moment to take action, seeing no benefit in intervening just yet.

She was hoping for Mu Yunxi and Lu Chen to inflict mutual damage before she made her move to reap the rewards.

Seeing Mu Hongguang block her attacks, Mu Yunxi raised her delicate hand high, channeling all of her Spiritual Power at her fingertips.

Lu Chen thought she was going to launch a direct attack when suddenly, a phantom of an ancient zither materialized above Mu Yunxi's hand.

Mu Yunxi then placed her fingers on the zither and gently strummed, sending dozens more sound wave attacks toward Lu Chen.

Mu Hongguang easily defended with a light slash of his sword, blocking all of Mu Yunxi's attacks, but Lu Chen and he quickly noticed a problem—Mu Yunxi's fingers were moving faster and the sound waves were becoming more numerous, overwhelming Mu Hongguang's defense to keep up with her assault.

Just as Lu Chen was considering whether to take a direct shot at Mu Yunxi, a strange melody from the ancient zither infiltrated his ears, causing his mind to stall as though he were pulled into memories.

Upon seeing Lu Chen distracted, Liu Qingqiu could no longer hold back from inside the carriage.

She had intended to wait until Mu Yunxi and Lu Chen were both severely injured before making her move, but Lu Chen's Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact made her very wary. She feared that missing this opportunity would make it difficult to eliminate Lu Chen.

Instantly, Liu Qingqiu's body soared out of the carriage, and in the next moment, she gathered Spiritual Power in her palm, shouting coldly.

"Fading Rainbow, Gazing at the Moon!"

Chapter 879 Liu Qingqiu's Little Scheme

In broad daylight, a massive red moon appeared above Danxin City, and soon, it emitted a red beam of light that shot straight towards the distracted Lu Chen.

Just as the red beam was about to touch Lu Chen's body, he instantly regained his senses, a slight smile curling up at the corner of his mouth. If he hadn't cultivated the Soul Control Technique, he might have actually fallen into Mu Yunxi's trap today.

Mu Yunxi really likes controlling people—once he captures her, he'll use the Soul Control Technique on her every day to keep her in check.

Lu Chen then picked up the Slayer Spear, aimed it at the red beam in the sky, and said to Mu Hongguang, "President Mu, immediately transmit your Spiritual Power to me!"

Hearing Lu Chen's command, Mu Hongguang hurried to Lu Chen's side and directly transmitted his own Spiritual Power to him.

With a formidable amount of Spiritual Power in his body, Lu Chen channeled this power into the Slayer Spear. Seeing the red beam approaching, he immediately pulled the trigger.

The next moment, a golden beam shot from the Slayer Spear. As the light burst forth, it transformed into a pillar of golden light, which collided with the red beam emitted by the moon in the sky, instantly causing an explosion.

The intense explosion raised a cloud of dust, and it was unclear how long it took before people's vision gradually cleared.

Once the dust settled, only some soldiers had died on both sides; the main forces were still intact.

Seeing how quickly Lu Chen had recovered, Liu Qingqiu said coldly to Mu Yunxi atop the carriage, "Is that all you've got?"

She had initially thought that Mu Yunxi had completely controlled Lu Chen, and had already used her most powerful Cultivation Technique—seeing Lu Chen recover so quickly, she even doubted whether Mu Yunxi had really controlled him.

Hearing Liu Qingqiu's question, Mu Yunxi didn't get angry, but instead responded with a smile, "Why don't you try to restrain him, and let me attack?"

Liu Qingqiu replied indifferently, "No need."

As she spoke, Liu Qingqiu once again clasped her hands together and, without waiting for Mu Yunxi to make a move, used Renewed Rainbow Moon Gaze again.

Although the Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact was tremendously powerful, the fact that it consumed a lot of energy was evident in the fact that a Celestial had to transmit Spiritual Power to Lu Chen, confirming Liu Qingqiu's guess.

Since the opponent's consumption was substantial, as long as she could deplete all the Spiritual Power inside Lu Chen and that Celestial, she could eliminate Lu Chen.

Even though she was just an avatar, and her strength was suppressed, if it came to the amount of Spiritual Power, she was definitely more than a Pseudo Celestial and a Celestial combined.

The next moment, an even larger red moon reappeared in the sky, eclipsing the sun, and bathing the entire Danxin City in its red glow, creating a world-ending, oppressive atmosphere.

Lu Chen thought to himself, has this woman gone mad? She's actually using Genesis Realm power. In this world, using Genesis Realm power could likely provoke an attack from the Heavenly Dao—that's why Mu Yunxi, a Genesis Realm herself, has never used her full strength.

If Mu Yunxi truly used her full strength, she might be able to harm Lu Chen, but once she did, the Heavenly Tribulation would follow.

Even though this world has incomplete rules, the power of the Heavenly Tribulation is not something the Genesis Realm can withstand completely. While they can survive, they will end up severely injured, their Realm regressed. If an enemy of slightly greater strength appeared at that time, her demise would not be far off.

In fact, Liu Qingqiu didn't really use the Genesis Realm power. She knew the rules of Heavenly Dao Laws in this world, but the Spiritual Power she displayed this time was indeed more than before.

Without hesitation, Lu Chen raised the Slayer Spear and aimed it at the red moon in the sky.

At that moment, the full moon emitted a red beam of light, and Lu Chen didn't wait this time, he directly pulled the trigger.

The moment the beam from the Slayer Spear shot out, it magnified, turning into a huge column of light just like before, and then the two beams collided, causing another violent explosion.

The sky above Danxin City was once again covered with dust, but at that moment, Lu Chen immediately sensed something was amiss; he felt his life being threatened, and every cell in his body started trembling as if a great disaster was imminent.

Lu Chen immediately looked up into the dust, and sure enough, he saw a red full moon appear again, although it was obscured by the dust and not very visible.

Lu Chen chuckled inwardly, this woman actually wanted to ambush him.

Lu Chen didn't indulge her; he pulled the trigger again, and another beam shot out; this time, the full moon hadn't fully formed before it was directly shattered.

However, soon another full moon formed in the sky, and just as Lu Chen was about to pull the trigger again, his mind paused, and he instantly understood Liu Qingqiu's intention.

This woman wanted to drain him to death using this method. In this lower world, what was most important to them, the cultivators? It was certainly spiritual energy.

If they excessively consumed the spiritual power in their bodies, and the spiritual energy of this world was so scarce, they definitely wouldn't be able to absorb the surrounding spiritual energy and convert it into their body's spiritual power in a short time.

Once their body's spiritual power was exhausted and they couldn't replenish their spiritual energy promptly, their outcome would be imaginable.

At this moment, Mu Hongguang spoke, "Your Majesty, I have very little spiritual power left."

Hearing this, the corners of Lu Chen's mouth slightly upturned, it seemed he was right, Liu Qingqiu indeed planned to exhaust all the spiritual power in their bodies.

Lu Chen glanced in the distance, thinking to himself, he didn't want to harm Liu Qingqiu initially, but Liu Qingqiu was up to no good; a fight would have been enough, yet she actually wanted to kill him.

Since that was the case, he could only be ruthless.

Compared to Liu Qingqiu using cultivation techniques, the attack speed of the Slayer Spear wielded by Lu Chen was faster; cultivation techniques took time to prepare, but Lu Chen only needed to infuse spiritual power into the Slayer Spear and pull the trigger.

If Lu Chen really wanted to attack, Liu Qingqiu and her group would only have the option to defend passively.

At this moment, Lu Chen raised the Slayer Spear, aiming at the distant Liu Qingqiu, he reduced the spiritual power of the Slayer Spear, then directly pulled the trigger.

A beam of light burst forth from the Slayer Spear, Liu Qingqiu had been planning to continue draining Lu Chen, but suddenly, her heartbeat sped up, and a sense of danger surged into her heart.

Standing not far from her, Mu Yunxi also felt the same, she instantly understood something, "Not good, Lu Chen has made a move on us!"

At that moment, a massive beam of light pierced through the dust, clearing all the surrounding dust, appearing in front of Liu Qingqiu and Mu Yunxi.

Seeing the beam in front of them, both women hesitated for a moment, then quickly gathered all their spiritual power to resist the beam.

With their strength in the Genesis Realm, it wasn't too difficult for them to block the beam, as Lu Chen had also deliberately reduced the spiritual power.

But even so, the two women were still blasted away.

Chapter 880 Liu Qingqiu: What do you want?

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Lu Chen had fired the Slayer Spear into the sky before, so its power wasn't so obvious, but this time it was different. He shot horizontally, and the beam of the Slayer Spear wiped out half of Great Qian's army.



The soldiers of Great Qian, upon seeing their comrades turned into ashes, were so terrified that they immediately knelt down.

With just one attack, half of Great Qian's army was destroyed. With such power, who would dare to resist?

At this moment, Liu Qingqiu and Mu Yunxi had flown into the air, both in a very bad state.

To block that previous shot, they had nearly depleted all the Spiritual Power within their bodies. Even so, they had also suffered internal injuries, and their clothes were riddled with holes, revealing large patches of white skin.

Mu Yunxi, somewhat angrily, said, "Liu, look at the fine mess you've created. That guy at least knew how to appreciate and spare women, and he didn't lay hands on us directly. But you just had to push him, nearly getting me killed in the process!"

Upon hearing Mu Yunxi's complaining, Liu Qingqiu snorted coldly, then said, "Do you have another way to kill him without draining his Spiritual Power?"

This...

Mu Yunxi frowned, unable to respond.

Indeed, if they couldn't drain Lu Chen's Spiritual Power, it would be very difficult to kill him with that Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact.

At that time, Mu Yunxi suddenly had an idea and then said, "We can't kill Lu Chen because we can't get close. Since Lu Chen is taken by your beauty, how about you just surrender? Then, you would have a chance to get close to Lu Chen."

"Once you get close to Lu Chen, you can directly attempt to kill him."

Hearing this, Liu Qingqiu coldly said, "Why don't you do it? You're also quite attractive. I believe that lustful scoundrel would be interested in your body as well."

They were not fools. Now that the Spiritual Power inside them were nearly exhausted, and with the Spiritual Energy of this world so scarce, they had no idea how long it would take to recover their strength.

Getting close to Lu Chen now, with the little Spiritual Power left in their bodies, they might not truly be able to kill him in one strike.

If they failed to take down Lu Chen in one move, and he had a chance to react, they would be the ones to die.

While the two women were arguing, suddenly two figures appeared not far behind them. Sensing the presence of two people, they immediately turned their heads.

When they turned around, they saw that Lu Chen and Mu Hongguang were standing on a rock, watching the two of them.

At that time, Lu Chen, smiling, said, "Ladies, would you like to come down and talk?"

While speaking, Lu Chen had already raised the muzzle of his gun. Seeing the dark barrel, the two women were stunned. They had just expended a large amount of Spiritual Power. If they tried to run now, their speed might not exceed the speed of the light beam emitted from that Spiritual Artifact.

If their escape speed didn't surpass the speed of the light beam from the Earth Grade Spiritual Artifact, then they might end up being seriously injured.

With Lu Chen pointing the muzzle at them, the two women ultimately had no choice but to compromise, and they descended to the ground.

Liu Qingqiu asked coldly, "What do you want to do?"

Without a doubt, this war had been lost by Great Qian, lost by them. Now it was up to Lu Chen to decide their fate.

If that lecherous scoundrel really wanted to do something to them, Liu Qingqiu didn't mind perishing together with Lu Chen.

Lu Chen said with a smile, "The entire army of Great Qian has surrendered. You've lost."

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Hearing this, Mu Yunxi said with a smile, "Then how does Your Majesty plan to deal with the two of us? Will you deal with us like you did with the Yue Emperor?"

Mu Yunxi seemed totally unafraid, her voice ethereal and very soothing to hear, making Lu Chen wish he could dispose of her right then and there.

Lu Chen answered with a smile, "If you wish to be treated that way by me, it's not impossible."

At this moment, Liu Qingqiu said, "I am a powerful being's avatar from the High-Level Cultivation Realm; should you dare to do such things to me, once my main body learns of my dire situation in the cold palace, you will surely face endless assassination attempts! I advise you to think thrice before you act!"

Lu Chen, unconcerned, said, "Even if you hadn't mentioned it, I would still know you are an avatar of some great entity. But so what if you are an avatar? Now that you've lost contact with your main body, even if you die, I fear your main body wouldn't sense it."

Hearing Lu Chen speak, Liu Qingqiu furrowed her brows; this man actually knew about her severed connection with her main body.

Could it be that...

Suddenly turning her head towards Mu Yunxi, Liu Qingqiu asked coldly, "Did you tell him about my situation?"

With a smile, Mu Yunxi said, "I do not have the habit of betraying allies. I have told you before, he is not a common man; he knows a lot."

Lu Chen continued, "You need not know how I found out. Now, I give you two choices: one is to surrender to me, and the other is to be captured alive and become my female slave, to pleasure me every day."

This...

Mu Yunxi and Liu Qingqiu were both momentarily stunned. They had thought the second choice offered by Lu Chen meant death, but it turned out he was resolute in possessing them, an Emperor so lascivious was indeed unprecedented.

At this time, Mu Yunxi asked, "I am quite curious, what is the difference between the two?"

Lu Chen answered with a smile, "Of course, there's a difference. If you surrender voluntarily, I will not restrict your freedom—at the very least, you will be able to go wherever you wish in the future."

"But if you are captured by me, then you will have to spend your lifetime imprisoned in my Imperial Palace, becoming my playthings."

Hearing this from Lu Chen, Liu Qingqiu coldly sneered, about to spit venom, when suddenly she heard Mu Yunxi's voice in her head.

"Empress Liu, don't act rashly; this is our best opportunity. We can use some excuses to delay him and not let him touch our bodies until we have regained some of our strength, at which point we can assassinate him."

After hearing Mu Yunxi's words, Liu Qingqiu thought it over and felt it was not a bad idea.

After all, both she and Mu Yunxi were from the Genesis Realm. As long as they recovered some strength, escaping wouldn't be a problem. The only reason they couldn't escape now was that they had been caught off guard by Lu Chen and had expended a great deal of Spiritual Power.

Liu Qingqiu then spoke up, "Fine, I can lead Great Qian to surrender to Great Sum! But I have some demands!"

Smiling, Lu Chen said, "Empress Liu, you need to recognize your position. You are the ones surrendering."

Liu Qingqiu's brows furrowed, about to say something, when she was interrupted by Mu Yunxi, who certainly didn't want Liu Qingqiu's interference to ruin even their chance to surrender.

"We surrender unconditionally! But Your Majesty must keep his word and not restrict our freedom."

Lu Chen said with a smile, "Of course, the sovereign's word is unbreakable."

"However, before you surrender, you need to ingest something."