

# Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife

When the last female Ancestor of the Strange left the Burial Furnace, the Great Array that was suppressing the mysterious lifeforms in the Tianyan Immortal Domain collapsed as well, and countless mysterious lifeforms surged up from beneath the Tianyan Immortal Domain.

In an instant, the Tianyan Immortal Domain became a Human World Purgatory. Those mysterious lifeforms had been starving for too long; the first thing they did upon escaping was devour the vitality of the lifeforms in the Tianyan Immortal Domain.

At this moment, Lu Chen suddenly snapped back to attention. He immediately gathered all the power of the Tianyan Immortal Domain and blasted all the mysterious lifeforms out of the Tianyan Immortal Domain.

Then, Lu Chen shouted, his voice echoing through the Sea of Chaos, "Are you still not following your ancestor out? Do you want to continue being eroded by Chaos Qi??!!!"

Upon hearing Lu Chen's words, the Deceit Kings immediately ordered all the mysterious lifeforms to rush out of the Burial Furnace with them.

With the Deceit Kings' orders, those mysterious lifeforms dared not disobey, and soon, all mysterious lifeforms inside the Burial Furnace left it.

Yet, once the mysterious lifeforms were gone, the crisis was not over, because the moment the Burial Furnace opened, a massive amount of mysterious power surged into it. Coupled with the fact that the Tianyan Immortal Domain itself was already not going to last much longer, in an instant, the land of the Tianyan Immortal Domain began to crack, seemingly on the verge of shattering and breaking apart.

Not only the Tianyan Immortal Domain but even Lu Chen's Tianchen World appeared to be affected by the mysterious power, showing signs of collapse as well.

Moreover, Lu Chen then thought of a problem: the outside world might really not accommodate the children born from him and the Ancestor of the Strange. This meant, until he found a solution, his children could only stay inside the Burial Furnace.

And now the Burial Furnace was in the hands of the Netherworld Evil Emperor; if he could not seize the Burial Furnace from the Netherworld Evil Emperor, his children's lives would remain under the control of the Netherworld Evil Emperor.

The Netherworld Evil Emperor could probably kill his children with just a thought.

The urgent task at hand was to quickly seize control of the Burial Furnace from the Netherworld Evil Emperor.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen did not hesitate at all and directly flew towards the black hole above the Tianyan Immortal Domain.

He was different from Yun Yudie and these Ancestors of the Strange. Though he had now recovered his memories, he still had strong feelings for his children.

In his view, those children born from him and the Ancestor of the Strange were ultimately innocent.

Moreover, the birth of those children was related to his plans; since they were born, he could not ignore them.

After Lu Chen dove out of the Burial Furnace, he was already prepared for the possibility of being surrounded and attacked by the Ancestors of the Strange. After recovering his Spirit Realm memories, he was all too aware of how humiliating his actions were for the Ancestors of the Strange.

However, just as Lu Chen left the Burial Furnace, besides seeing a scene of desolation and fragments of broken space, he did not see anyone else.

This...

Could it be that those Ancestors of the Strange had really just abandoned him here?

Lu Chen couldn't quite believe it; he thought that at least one or two Ancestors of the Strange would wait by the Burial Furnace, ready for him to come out, but as it turned out, Yun Yudie and the others had all gone to confront the Netherworld Evil Emperor.

Lu Chen muttered to himself, "It seems they've taken out all the anger they received from me on the Netherworld Evil Emperor."

Although it was he who did these things, and they were carrying his children, it was ultimately the Netherworld Evil Emperor who locked them together.

If it weren't for the Netherworld Evil Emperor collecting them into the Burial Furnace, they wouldn't have signed a covenant of blood with him, a human blood food, and ultimately been burdened by the covenant.

However, since they have all left, this was an opportunity for him.

Lu Chen's gaze turned to the Burial Furnace in front of him, emitting a terrifying pressure, and then murmured to himself, "Immortal Artifact! This is definitely an Immortal Artifact!"

The Immortal Artifact Lu Chen spoke of was different from those so-called Immortal Artifacts of the Tianyan Immortal Domain, which was merely a world within the Burial Furnace, and Immortals there were just a title.

Immortals from the Tianyan Immortal Domain, upon arriving in this great world, could only be considered normal people.

Every world's set of Laws and power system differ, so the level of combat power naturally differs.

Just like how a hundred dollars in one's own country might buy many things, but in a more developed country, a hundred dollars might not even be enough for a simple meal.

Yet, the pressure emanating from the Burial Furnace in front of Lu Chen, even after he recovered his strength, was immense, and most importantly, he seemed to sense a hint of Immortal Aura flowing on the Burial Furnace, indicating that the Burial Furnace could very well be a true Immortal Artifact.

Without any hesitation, Lu Chen directly poured power into the Burial Furnace, intending to cut off the connection between the Burial Furnace and the Netherworld Evil Emperor, then refine the Burial Furnace and claim it as his own.

However, as Lu Chen just poured power into the Burial Furnace, he discovered that the Burial Furnace was actually an ownerless object.

This...

Lu Chen was stunned, a look of disbelief appearing on his face. The Burial Furnace, suspected to be an Immortal Artifact, hadn't been refined by the Netherworld Evil Emperor?

How was that possible?

Why hadn't the Netherworld Evil Emperor allowed the Burial Furnace to establish a master?

For a moment, Lu Chen hesitated, wondering whether to refine the Burial Furnace.

As a strange ancestor, the fact that the Netherworld Evil Emperor hadn't refined the Burial Furnace indicated there were certainly some drawbacks to it.

Lu Chen pondered for a moment before making a decision; he could feel the world's rejection of the mixed blood lifeforms, so until he found a solution, his children could only remain in the Burial Furnace. To sustain the Tianyan Immortal Domain's existence and create a survival environment for his children, he had to refine the Burial Furnace.

Immediately, Lu Chen condensed a drop of soul blood and dripped it on the Furnace Cauldron of the Burial Furnace. The Burial Furnace seemed to be activated, emanating a green light, and swiftly Lu Chen felt the Burial Furnace greedily absorbing his body's power. In just the blink of an eye, his strength and cultivation state had halved.

Lu Chen's complexion turned suddenly pale, finally understanding why the Netherworld Evil Emperor hadn't been in a hurry to refine the Burial Furnace, realizing what a high cost refining it would exact.

Lu Chen hurriedly released Divine Thought, probing the void he was in, checking if any mysterious strong presences were hidden nearby.

After probing and confirming there were no hidden mysterious strong presences nearby, only then did Lu Chen breathe a sigh of relief.

But this place still could not be lingered in; once Yun Yudie and the others had defeated the Netherworld Evil Emperor, they would definitely come back to cause him trouble, and he had to leave this place quickly.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen exerted all the power on him, continuing to refine the Burial Furnace.

To his surprise, despite the heavy cost of refining the Burial Furnace, the time required for refining was incredibly short.

Generally, high-level magical treasures in the Spirit Realm require a long time to refine, especially some special magical treasures, not possible to refine even in tens of thousands of years.

Yet, the existence of the Burial Furnace, suspected to be an Immortal Artifact, took Lu Chen less than twelve hours to completely refine.

## **Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife**

When Lu Chen fully controlled the Burial Furnace, he immediately used Divine Thought to explore the world inside the Burial Furnace.

However, he suddenly discovered at that moment that although his Divine Thought could enter the Burial Furnace, it was unable to probe the situation within the Chaotic Sea.

Even after regaining his strength, his Divine Thought still couldn't sense what was inside the Chaos Qi.

He could only perceive the Tianyan Immortal Domain and Tianchen World.

Perhaps the lid of the Burial Furnace had been open for too long; the Tianyan Immortal Domain had already collapsed into several continents, and the Chaos Qi had invaded the Tianyan Immortal Domain.

Similarly, Lu Chen's Tianchen World was in a bad state too, as fissures appeared in the child worlds surrounding Tianchen World, seemingly on the verge of breaking apart at any moment.

Lu Chen realized that if this continued, both the Tianyan Immortal Domain and Tianchen World would inevitably collapse. Thus, he had to inject his power into these two worlds to stabilize them.

Yet, doing so would cause his strength to plummet, and his memories might once again be sealed.

Ultimately, Lu Chen chose to protect his children. To him, these children were not just children; they were also a causal link with those Ancestors of the Strange. Even if it meant sacrificing his Cultivation State, he wanted to protect them.

Lu Chen quickly closed the lid of the Burial Furnace, then stepped out, his body transforming into a stream of light, heading directly toward the Spirit Realm.

Lu Chen moved swiftly, reaching the edge of the Deceit Realm within moments.

Yet, as he was about to reach the Spirit Realm, he discovered that the current Spirit Realm had undergone considerable changes.

Once, there was a barrier between the Spirit Realm and the Deceit Realm, a Boundary Wall that typically prevented the Mysterious Power from the Deceit Realm from crossing into the Spirit Realm. Only when the Ancestor of the Strange acted would the Boundary Wall briefly create a passage, allowing Mysterious Life to enter the Spirit Realm and harvest vitality.

Now the Boundary Wall had completely vanished, with no obstacles between the Deceit Realm and Spirit Realm. In other words, the Mysterious Life from the Deceit Realm could enter the Spirit Realm to harvest vitality at will.

Lu Chen's face darkened; this must be the work of the Netherworld Evil Emperor. As Yun Yudie and others had said, the Netherworld Evil Emperor aimed to destroy the entire Spirit Realm, with no intention of continuing to harvest vitality.

The current Spirit Realm had probably become a Human World Purgatory.

Thinking of this possibility, Lu Chen accelerated his pace.

His body swiftly traversed the void, passing one shattered Small World after another, all completely turned to ruins with no vitality or living creatures within.

Lu Chen subconsciously clenched his fist, wondering if the Spirit Realm had been entirely destroyed by the Mysterious Life.

If that were the case, would there still be a place for him?

He needed to inject his power into the Burial Furnace to sustain the world within, ensuring a home for his children and the beings of the Tianyan Immortal Domain.

Once his power dispersed, he would be in extreme danger; without a safe place, he might face a life-and-death crisis.

Lu Chen continued to traverse the Spirit Realm, spending hundreds of years searching for a place to settle while merging the Tianyan Immortal Domain and

Tianchen World, infusing Tianchen World with more power to resist the erosion of Chaos Qi and sustain its existence, which drastically diminished Lu Chen's strength.

Hundreds of years passed quickly. Just as Lu Chen thought the Spirit Realm had been completely destroyed, he suddenly noticed in a corner of the Spirit Realm a presence that made his heart palpitate.

Lu Chen wondered if a strong entity still existed in the current Spirit Realm. If so, it meant the Spirit Realm hadn't been completely annihilated.

Lu Chen immediately headed toward the source of the unsettling energy, and in under a hundred years, he arrived at the place emitting the sensation. Upon arrival, Lu Chen discovered the source was not a powerful entity, but a massive vortex.

The center of the vortex emitted blue Spiritual Energy, while the vortex edges radiated Mysterious Power, continuously twisting the surrounding space-time. The area around the vortex was devoid of anything, as if all had been sucked into the vortex.

Lu Chen thought to himself that perhaps the people of the Spirit Realm had entered the world beyond the vortex. Could it be that there was an even larger world outside the Spirit Realm?

Lu Chen decided to venture into the vortex, hoping the world beyond could be a place for him.

Subsequently, Lu Chen rushed toward the vortex.

As soon as his body entered the vortex, he felt his power being recklessly torn, as if his body and Divine Soul were about to be shredded.

Lu Chen broke into a cold sweat, instantly realizing the situation. There must be another world beyond the vortex, and this world had different laws, making his original powers Forbidden Power there. To enter this world, he had to release all his powers, or the world beyond the vortex would tear him apart.

Understanding the situation, Lu Chen intended to leave this world but found himself completely trapped by the vortex.

Now only two paths were left for him: either be torn apart by the vortex or willingly release his power.

Upon confirming he couldn't escape the vortex, Lu Chen immediately channeled most of his power into Tianchen World within the Burial Furnace, then divided a strand of Divine Thought to attach to the Burial Furnace, and used his remaining power to seal the Burial Furnace.

Once his power dissipated, Lu Chen's vision went black, and he entirely lost consciousness.

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Spirit Ruins Continent.

Great Zhou Dynasty.

The glazed tiles of Smoke Cloud Hall shimmered coldly under the moonlight, with strange runes engraved on the columns, emitting dark blue light that appeared eerie at night.

At this moment, the incense burner in the hall released a strand of smoke that rose straight to the palace ceiling, then dispersed and descended, filling the hall with fragrance.

On a soft couch in the hall lay a young man, his hair loose and face pale.

At this moment, a maid beside the couch whispered, "I wonder when this gentleman will wake up."

Another maid said, "I don't understand why the Princess brought him back. He doesn't have even a trace of spiritual evil, clearly just a normal person."

The maid who spoke first said, "This is the Princess's decision; we shouldn't question so much. Let's do our job."

With that, the two maids turned and left.

At this moment, the young man's eyebrows slightly twitched, and soon, he opened his eyes.

The moment Lu Chen regained consciousness, he felt a severe headache, as if his head was about to explode.

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The swelling pain in his brain persisted for almost two hours, but fortunately, as the memories slowly returned, the feeling of pain gradually subsided.

Once Lu Chen recovered his memories, he reminisced about the events that occurred before he entered the Burial Furnace and the schemes he planned upon entering.

In those years, the Deceit Realm invaded the Spirit Realm, intending to harvest its vitality, prompting him to join forces with the Great Powers of the Spirit Realm to resist the Ancestor of the Strange.

This crisis was the greatest ever since the birth of the Spirit Realm, as all the Ancestors of the Strange were mobilized, thrusting the Spirit Realm into despair.

However, just as the Ancestors of the Strange and the Spirit Realm's Great Powers were locked in a deadly battle, the Netherworld Evil Emperor launched a surprise attack, using the Burial Furnace to absorb all the female Ancestors of the Strange and the Great Powers of the Spirit Realm into the furnace.

Initially, after being sucked into the Burial Furnace, the Spirit Realm's Great Powers continued to resist the Ghostly Mist Emperor and the other Ancestors, but it soon became apparent that Chaos Qi was eroding their bodies.

Chaos Qi is most damaging to humans as it not only erodes the physical body but also the divine soul, wiping humans from existence entirely.

Chaos Qi similarly has a corrosive effect on the mysterious beings; although the mysterious lives are immortal, the Chaos Qi can erase their memories, turning them into walking corpses.

Upon realizing the danger posed by Chaos Qi, both the Ghostly Mist Emperor's camp and human Great Powers decided to cease fighting and work together to find a way to break out of the Burial Furnace.

It's uncertain how many years passed; humans grew scarcer, mysterious lives increasingly turned into walking corpses, yet they never found a way to break out of the Burial Furnace.

Under such circumstances, one day, Lu Chen proactively approached the Ghostly Mist Emperor and the Ancestors of the Strange, proposing a temporary alliance.

Initially, the Ancestors of the Strange disagreed; in their view, Lu Chen was merely a mortal, food to them, and despite his abilities, even the Ancestors couldn't break the furnace, so how could he?

Seeing the Ancestors of the Strange's disapproval, Lu Chen was not anxious; later, due to the prolonged stay of the Spirit Realm's Great Powers in the furnace causing many to lose their sanity, they suddenly considered Lu Chen's unique identity. Besides, those Great Powers noticed that Lu Chen was the least affected by the Chaos Qi compared to everyone else, leading them to believe Lu Chen possessed a method to resist its erosion.

The Great Powers united to compel Lu Chen to surrender his resistance technique against Chaos Qi, but eventually, all those Great Powers were defeated by Lu Chen.

Lu Chen ultimately utilized the power from those Great Powers to create the Tianyan Immortal Domain and suppressed the still-living Great Powers beneath it, continually extracting their power through formations to transform it into so-called Spiritual Energy and Immortal Aura.

Soon, the Ancestors of the Strange noticed that the Tianyan Immortal Domain created by Lu Chen could resist the eroding effect of Chaos Qi. Although the domain too was constantly under erosion, if they could shelter within it, the mysterious life forms would temporarily avoid contact with Chaos Qi.

Ultimately, the Ancestors of the Strange decided to collaborate temporarily with Lu Chen.

However, the Ancestors' powers were too strong; their entrance into the Tianyan Immortal Domain would inevitably cause its premature collapse. Subsequently, the Ghostly Mist Emperor suggested a method to seal their mysterious powers, allowing them to live within the domain.

The Ghostly Mist Emperor dared to let Lu Chen seal their powers because mysterious lives are immortal, thus they harbored no fear of Lu Chen's plots, unlike him; Lu Chen, to ensure his safety, proposed signing a pact with the Ancestors of the Strange.

When Lu Chen suggested signing the pact, the Ancestors were quick to agree, after which Lu Chen signed pacts with each Ancestor and used the power of their vows to create the Red Flower Sedan as the token of the pact.

Once the pact was signed, Lu Chen proactively helped seal the mysterious powers and memories within the Ancestors.

Of course, without the cooperation of an Ancestor, Lu Chen couldn't seal their power.

After sealing the Ghostly Mist Emperor and others, Lu Chen was almost drained of his power, so he merged his divine soul into the Tianyan Immortal Domain and sealed his memories, reincarnating within the domain.

Before reincarnating, Lu Chen split off a wisp of his divine soul, which primarily functioned to guide him to grow stronger and lead him to forge bonds of cause and effect with the Ancestors of the Strange.

Ancestors of the Strange are immortal, and throughout countless eras, the Spirit Realm failed in its struggles against the Deceit Realm, ultimately becoming their pasture.

During his time in the Spirit Realm, Lu Chen contemplated ways to oppose the Ancestors of the Strange. His thought was that since they couldn't be killed completely, he should forge bonds of cause and effect with them, using the Power

of Cause and Effect to constrain them, preventing them from acting against the Spirit Realm.

If the Ancestors of the Strange couldn't attack the Spirit Realm, the deceitful kings of the Deceit Realm wouldn't pose a threat.

During the signing of the pact with the Ghostly Mist Emperor and others, Lu Chen realized that the vow power on the Red Flower Sedan could suppress the mysterious powers within them, inspiring him further.

This was the best opportunity for him to forge bonds of cause and effect with the Ancestors of the Strange. In the grand world, aside from its rule power, the Power of Cause and Effect is most terrifying; crucially, it can break rule power to a certain extent.

From the outcome, Lu Chen succeeded; though he lost all his power now, he could clearly feel the cause and effect power lingering on him.

Except for the Netherworld Evil Emperor, the male Ancestor of the Strange, other female Ancestors seeking to attack him would inevitably face interference from the Power of Cause and Effect.

However...

Although he knew it was the wisp of his divine soul guiding him to forge bonds of cause and effect with the female Ancestors, Lu Chen still harbored some perplexities.

The first is concerning the Red Flower Sedan, which seems to have mutated; the original sedan only exerted its suppression on the Ancestors when they attacked him.

Moreover, the Red Flower Sedan is a neutral token, incapable of being refined by any party, yet ultimately, Lu Chen himself refined it and could use it to collect Yun Yudie and others.

The most significant anomaly is that the women entering the Red Flower Sedan would become enamored with him—a capability the sedan shouldn't possess.

Cultivators at the Emperor Realm don't believe in coincidences; any coincidence could very well be someone's scheme.

Beyond the Red Flower Sedan, there were two more anomalies; one is his divine soul not guiding his strength as planned.

The portion of his soul transformed into a system did lead him to forge cause and effect bonds with most Ancestors, yet the system's rewards presented major issues.

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When reincarnating, Lu Chen had arranged everything in advance. In theory, the system would gradually dispense the rewards he had prepared beforehand.

Initially, his plan was for a strand of his Divine Soul to first reward him with various powers, allowing him to grow under the empire he originally created. However, the system only awarded him the Heavenly Dao Order later, and most importantly, many things rewarded by the system weren't of much help to his growth.

Before reincarnating, he had prepared an abundance of rewards, yet those rewards were not given to him by the system.

He even wondered if this system was still the result of his own Divine Soul manifesting.

Fortunately, these were just minor deviations, and his overall direction had no issues. Except for a few Ancestors of the Strange such as the Ghostly Mist Emperor, most became his women.

Besides the anomaly with the system, what Lu Chen cared about the most was that mysterious flower field.

Even after regaining all his memories in the Spirit Realm, Lu Chen had no recollection of that flower field, nor did it connect to his layout.

The combination of these three anomalies indicated that someone else was interfering with his layout, but the person behind the scenes did not disrupt his layout. Everything proceeded according to his pre-reincarnation plan.

Even the Red Flower Sedan made it easier for him to establish the Power of Cause and Effect with the Ancestors of the Strange. Without the power of the Red Flower Sedan, forming bonds with some Ancestors of the Strange might not have been so easy.

Thinking of this, Lu Chen suddenly felt as if his heart was being twisted by a knife.

Lu Chen's heart sank; after establishing causal bonds with the Ancestors of the Strange, he himself would also be constrained by the Power of Cause and Effect.

More importantly, he had developed feelings for the Ancestors of the Strange. If he were to confront them in the future, he might find it difficult to be ruthless again.

Lu Chen calmed his emotions, then closed his eyes to see if he could sense the existence of the Burial Furnace.

However, no matter how he tried, he couldn't sense the Burial Furnace. At present, his power had dissipated, making him no different from an ordinary person.

Lu Chen opened his eyes and sighed deeply, not expecting things like this immediately upon returning to the Spirit Realm.

He didn't quite understand the world here, or why it would so reject the power within his body.

The urgent task now was to quickly increase his strength and then find the Burial Furnace. His children were still inside. If the Burial Furnace fell into the hands of a Great Power in this world, it would be troublesome.

Where exactly was he now?

With this thought, Lu Chen glanced around the entire main hall.

By observing the decor of the hall, Lu Chen deduced that the person who brought him back must be a Royal Family member. The hall was filled with fragrance, the mosquito nets on the soft couch were embroidered with gold thread, and even the

quilt featured a cloud pattern embroidered with gold thread. The quilt was very soft, light, and warm.

The floor of the hall was paved with green jade tiles, and in the center, there stood what looked like a table made of Golden Silk Nanmu, on which rested a blue porcelain vase containing an unknown flower emitting a blue glow.

Lu Chen's gaze then shifted to the west side of the hall, where there was a dressing table with a huge Crystal Mirror on it.

He couldn't help but think that this might very well be the boudoir of some Royal Family lady?

Just as Lu Chen's eyes roamed the hall, at that moment, two maids in long blue dresses entered.

The two women saw Lu Chen awake and showed a hint of surprise on their faces. They quickly approached the side of the soft couch, and one of them spoke up, "Young sir, you're awake? How are you feeling now?"

Lu Chen asked, "This place... what is this place?"

At this moment, Lu Chen's throat was somewhat dry, making speaking difficult.

One of the maids hurriedly brought a glass of water from the side and placed it to Lu Chen's lips, saying, "Young sir, have a drink of water first."

This man, although just an ordinary person, was after all someone brought back by their Princess.

Without raising his hand, Lu Chen drank the water from the glass under the maid's help. After being moistened by the water, his throat felt much better, and he said, "Thank you, young ladies."

At this time, one of the maids said, "Young sir, my name is Xiao Qi, and she is Chen. We are maids of the Princess, and you are now in the Princess's bedchamber."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen thought to himself, indeed, he was in the Imperial Palace.

He then curiously asked, "Young ladies, I've lost my memory and can't remember anything. Could you tell me about the place I am in?"

Xiao Qi and Chen exchanged glances. They weren't too surprised by Lu Chen's amnesia, considering he fell from the sky and was lucky not to be dead.

Xiao Qi said at this point, "We are in the Great Zhou Dynasty, in Dazhou..."

Before Xiao Qi could finish, Lu Chen interrupted, asking, "A dynasty? Is this the Mortal World?"

The two women echoed in confusion, "Mortal World?"

Lu Chen quickly clarified, "I mean, is there no Martial Arts Power in this world?"

The two women looked at Lu Chen oddly, then Chen said, "How could there not be?"

Hearing Chen's response, Lu Chen finally felt relieved. What he feared most was being in a world where there was no power and cultivation wasn't possible.

Lu Chen continued, "Chen, could you tell me more about Martial Artists? I feel like I was a Martial Artist before losing my memory."

At these words, the two women burst into laughter.

Xiao Qi covered her mouth and said, "Young sir, you're so funny. You have no Spirit Evil Qi in you; how could you be a Martial Artist?"

Lu Chen thought to himself, Spirit Evil Qi? Could it be similar to Spiritual Energy?

He said, "Perhaps it's because I suffered severe injury and lost my power; that might be why."

Chen said, "Even when suffering from severe injuries, it's impossible to have no Spirit Evil Qi at all. Martial Artists consistently absorb and refine Spirit Evil Qi, integrating it deeply into their bones. Even when losing all cultivation, one still has Spirit Evil Qi."

"The fact that the young sir has no Spirit Evil Qi proves that the young sir has never cultivated and is just an ordinary person."

This...

Seeing the confused expression on Lu Chen's face, Chen continued, "However, since the young sir wants to know about Martial Artists, I will explain. Maybe young sir Lu Chen's family has Spirit Martial Artists."

At this, Lu Chen immediately said, "Then I must bother the two ladies."

Chen thought for a moment and then said, "Spirit Martial Artists cultivate by absorbing Spirit Evil Qi. The realms of Spirit Martial Artists are divided into Mortal Realm, Human Realm, Profound Realm, Earth Realm, and Heavenly Realm..."

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Through Chen and Xiao Qi's explanations, Lu Chen roughly understood the situation of this world.

This is a world where strange and evil beings run rampant, all carrying Spirit Evil Qi. Spirit Martial Artists can cultivate by absorbing the Spirit Evil Qi from these beings. However, if the Spirit Martial Artists lack willpower, they could be eroded by the Spirit Evil Qi and one day might become strange and evil beings themselves.

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Under the care of Xiao Qi and Chen, Lu Chen's body basically recovered in less than half a month. Of course, he only recovered his physical functions; his Cultivation State and strength did not recover.

After chatting with Xiao Qi and Chen over the past half month, Lu Chen had gained some understanding of the Great Zhou Dynasty.

The surname of the current Great Zhou Royal Family is Ji, and the Emperor is a person obsessed with cultivation. Now the court is controlled by the Empress Dowager.

Since the Emperor became obsessed with cultivation, all of Dazhou has become increasingly chaotic, with more and more supernatural disturbances, and now the Princes have begun to plot against each other for the throne. The court is completely engulfed in the power struggle over the crown, causing the supernatural disturbances in Dazhou to become increasingly rampant, even appearing in the Imperial City.

Lu Chen stayed in the Princess's bedchamber for half a month, but he never met the Princess who saved him, nor did he know her title, only knowing she was the Princess Junwan of Dazhou.

Smoke Cloud Hall.

Lu Chen sat on the soft couch, curiously asking Xiao Qi, "Xiao Qi, why do you think the Princess wanted to save me?"

Lu Chen was very curious. Although he was a Great Power in the Spirit Realm, after falling into this world, all the power in his body dissipated, and now he was just an ordinary person. How could a Princess, with such noble status, save him, an ordinary person? What's more, she even brought him into her bedchamber.

An unmarried Princess bringing a strange man into her bedchamber would surely cause a scandal and affect her reputation. Could it be that the Princess doesn't care about her reputation at all?

Or perhaps the Princess is sullyng her own name to escape some marriage. Although Lu Chen had seen a lot, he still ran through all the possible scenarios he could think of in his mind.

After hearing Lu Chen's question, Xiao Qi, who was changing incense, replied, "How should I know what the Princess is thinking."

At this moment, Xiao Qi, who was tidying up the table, said, "Maybe Master Lu is just quite handsome."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen couldn't help but wonder if the Princess might be a wanton person, infatuated with him, thus bringing him back?

Lu Chen continued to ask, "When is the Princess coming back?"

Currently, he had no systems or relatives in this world, and to become stronger, he might temporarily have to rely on the Princess.

The question was, what did the Princess think of him? The urgent task was still to meet his "savior" as quickly as possible.

Xiao Qi replied, "The Princess is currently investigating a major supernatural case and probably won't return anytime soon."

Upon hearing Xiao Qi's answer, Lu Chen sighed inwardly. If the Princess didn't return, he would probably remain unable to access the cultivation methods of this world.

Coming back to his senses, Lu Chen continued to ask, "I wonder what kind of case Miss Xiaoqi is referring to?"

Xiao Qi replied, "Recently, there have been numerous supernatural murder cases in Xiyang County. The Deceit Suppression Bureau has been investigating for a long time without uncovering the culprit's identity. And now, with the court in turmoil, the Imperial Court is not particularly attentive, so the number of deaths continues to rise."

"Her Highness couldn't stand it anymore, so she volunteered to go to Xiyang County."

Lu Chen said, "I see."

Lu Chen thought to himself, if it could be called a major case, it seems indeed that the death toll was quite high. In a feudal dynasty during turbulent times, the death of not just hundreds, but even thousands, was not considered a big deal.

Just as Lu Chen wanted to continue asking about the Princess, the voice of a maid from the hall entrance reverberated inside, "Greetings, Your Highness!"

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen was slightly stunned. The Princess who saved his life had finally returned.

The next moment, a woman in a white brocade long dress entered the hall.

Seeing this woman, Lu Chen's pupils slightly contracted, momentarily lost in thought, frozen where he stood.

The woman's appearance was stunning, her eyebrows cold, eyes slightly upturned with blue irises, a delicate nose, slender white neck, a gentle jawline, and her pitch-black long hair loosely tied up.

Though this Princess was incredibly cold and beautiful, Lu Chen's type, he was not struck dumb because of her beauty, but because she bore a striking resemblance to Immortal Venerable Yun Meng, who was one of the Ancestors of the Strange, known as the Cloud Dream Emperor.

Coming back to his senses, Lu Chen suspiciously scrutinized the woman in the hall.

Seeing their master return, Xiao Qi and Chen promptly saluted, "Your humble maid greets Your Highness!"

Ji Yunmeng slightly parted her lips, a cold and ethereal voice emanating from her mouth, "No need for formalities."

At this moment, Ji Yunmeng looked towards Lu Chen, causing him to suddenly come back to himself, and he hastily said, "This commoner greets Your Highness, many thanks to Your Highness for saving my life!"

Lu Chen was unsure if the woman before him was indeed the Cloud Dream Emperor. With his power lost, he had no means to ascertain the Princess's true identity.

Before determining this Princess's exact identity, he planned to disguise himself for a while, and once he learned the cultivation method of this world, raising his strength to a certain level, he would then investigate the connections between this Princess and the Cloud Dream Emperor.

Ji Yunmeng calmly said, "There's no need for courtesy, Master. It's thanks to you that we were able to find clues to the supernatural case in Xiyang County."

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen felt utterly puzzled. Thanks to him? He didn't seem to have done anything, right? How was he related to it?

Just as Lu Chen was lost in thought, suddenly, a cold female voice emerged in his mind.

"Detection of a perfect 100 score woman, please host unite with her quickly and procreate!"

Before Lu Chen could react, a familiar blue interface appeared before his eyes.

[Name: Ji Yunmeng]

[Identity: Princess Junwan of the Great Zhou Dynasty]

[Status: She aims to be the first Empress of Dazhou. She saw you fall from the sky without dying and is thus very curious about your origins.]

[Cultivation State: Early-stage Spirit Realm]

[Score: 100]

[Favorability: 50]

Staring at this system interface, Lu Chen was completely dumbfounded, fixated on the space ahead.

He was extremely clear that the so-called system he obtained in the Burial Furnace was merely a transformation of a wisp of his Divine Soul, and once he restored his Cultivation State and strength, that wisp of Divine Soul would completely integrate into his main soul, and the system should have disappeared.

And now, having left the Burial Furnace and arrived in an unfamiliar world, he could still see the system?

Wait a minute...

Lu Chen suddenly thought of something. He realized that the system's prompt had always been a female voice, whether inside the Chaos Beast's stomach, in the Tianyan Immortal Domain, or now.

Moreover, this system prompt increasingly lacked a mechanical feel, almost as if it were a real person's voice.

If the system was a transformation of his Divine Soul, it ought to be a male voice. He didn't recall allowing his wisp of Divine Soul to transform into a woman to guide him to become stronger.

But these were minor issues. The main problem now was, how could the system still exist?

He even suspected whether he was inside some Illusion Realm.

**Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife**

Seeing Lu Chen staring at her without speaking, Ji Yunmeng asked, "Why does the gentleman look at me like this?"

Upon hearing Ji Yunmeng's voice, Lu Chen quickly snapped back to reality and said awkwardly, "Apologies, Your Highness, I suddenly thought of something just now."

Ji Yunmeng asked, "Oh? What is it that makes you so absent-minded even when meeting me?"

Lu Chen said, "I was just thinking that bringing me to your chambers might harm your reputation, so I should leave."

Ji Yunmeng replied indifferently, "The court is in chaos now; no one cares about what I'm doing."

Saying this, Ji Yunmeng glanced at Lu Chen. His handsome face, silver hair crown, and white attire exuded an otherworldly aura, resembling a young master from a wealthy family.

Ji Yunmeng asked, "May I know your name and where you're from?"

Lu Chen replied, "To Your Highness, I'm Lu Chen. Other than my name, I remember nothing. Perhaps I hit my head when falling from the sky and lost my memory."

Ji Yunmeng didn't doubt Lu Chen's words, as amnesia is a minor issue for someone falling from such a height.

Ji Yunmeng continued, "What plans do you have next, sir?"

Lu Chen fell silent, deciding to follow his system's guidance since he couldn't figure out the system's true intentions, yet it was his only reliance.

However, Ji Yunmeng is the Grand Princess of Dazhou, and for a commoner like him to become her man is not easy.

Even though Ji Yunmeng is an uninitiated princess, a princess is still a princess, and he, as a commoner, could only become her man unless Ji Yunmeng willingly chose him.

Seeing Lu Chen not answering immediately, Ji Yunmeng said, "I will have someone search for your family. Until then, you can stay at the Princess Mansion with me."

Lu Chen, puzzled, asked, "Princess Mansion?"

Ji Yunmeng said, "I have been titled, and His Majesty allowed me to establish a mansion outside the palace."

This...

Lu Chen thought, usually, a princess moves out to establish a mansion when she is about to marry. If she isn't getting married yet, she typically stays in the palace.

Unless the princess is especially favored by the Emperor, which allows her to leave the palace without marrying.

But Ji Yunmeng didn't seem like a favored princess; otherwise, she wouldn't be unmarried and untitled at the age of twenty-three.

The fact that she hasn't married could be because the Emperor doesn't want her to leave the palace so soon, but being given a title only now is inexplicable.

Lu Chen asked, "Dare I ask, are you establishing a mansion because His Majesty has arranged a marriage for you?"

Lu Chen was most concerned about this because if Ji Yunmeng married someone else, it would be even harder to make her his own woman.

Ji Yunmeng replied, "It's not so. His Majesty promised me autonomy over my marriage."

Hearing this, Lu Chen felt relieved.

Lu Chen then bowed and said, "I am willing to follow Your Highness to the Princess Mansion!"

Ji Yunmeng glanced at Xiao Qi and Chen, then said, "Alright, prepare quickly. The Holy Decree will arrive at the Smoke Cloud Hall soon."

Just as Ji Yunmeng finished speaking, a eunuch's voice came from outside, "Holy Decree has arrived!"

Upon hearing the Imperial Eunuch's voice, Ji Yunmeng immediately led the maids of Smoke Cloud Hall and Lu Chen to the grand hall entrance.

When Ji Yunmeng appeared, the Imperial Eunuch promptly opened the decree and began reading.

"By the will of the heavens, the Emperor decrees, Ji Yunmeng of the Ji clan, nurtured in the deep palace, gentle and respectful in nature, wise and virtuous, I, following the celestial order, hereby confer upon you the title of Princess Yun'an, grant you a golden book and golden treasure, and permit you to choose an auspicious day to establish a mansion, hoping you will..."

After the Imperial Eunuch finished reading the decree, Ji Yunmeng immediately accepted it before the eunuch departed.

As soon as the eunuch left, Ji Yunmeng declared, "The Princess Mansion is ready; we will move there today."

Hearing this, Lu Chen was once again stunned. The decree had just been issued, yet Ji Yunmeng's Princess Mansion was already built?

Moreover, wasn't moving usually done on an auspicious day? Was Ji Yunmeng being too hasty?

Ji Yunmeng offered no further explanation to Lu Chen. With her command, the maids and eunuchs of Smoke Cloud Hall began to move.

Meanwhile.

In the harem, Changle Palace.

A beautiful woman dressed in a dark red robe with phoenix embroidery lounged on a soft couch, her robe loosely hung, the neckline slightly open revealing a snippet of jade-white skin, her hair ornately styled with gold accessories, exuding nobility. Currently, a slender leg crossed over the other, the hem slightly parted, revealing her long jade-like legs, her delicate hand rested on the edge of the couch, her fingers tapping rhythmically as if contemplating something.

At this moment, a eunuch knelt in the middle of the great hall and spoke, "Madam, the Grand Princess has likely received the decree by now."

Hearing this, Pei Shuhua chuckled, "I thought my dear son had devoted himself to cultivation and no longer concerned himself with worldly affairs, yet he still cares for someone."

Pei Shuhua was not the real mother of Emperor Zhou. However, the biological mother held a low status and died quickly, thus her son was placed under Pei Shuhua's care. Marrying the former emperor when she was quite young, and the emperor already gravely ill, Pei Shuhua remains a virgin empress dowager to this day.

Yet as a Spirit Martial Artist at the mid-stage Xuan Realm, Pei Shuhua's life expectancy is several millennia, so although she is over two hundred years old, she appears only in her thirties.

Originally, the throne was not Ji Mingxuan's to inherit. However, with the Pei Family's significant influence in Dazhou, they supported Ji Mingxuan's ascension.

Upon becoming Emperor, Ji Mingxuan immersed himself in cultivation, but Pei Shuhua knew this was mere pretense. Thirty years ago, he unexpectedly emerged, instigating various intrigues, marrying many consorts.

Ji Mingxuan's children were born around that time, but shortly after, he returned to his Long Life Hall, remaining quiet for another twenty years.

Not only are there no titles for the princesses, even the princes had none, until today's sudden bestowal to Ji Yunmeng.

Pei Shuhua looked at the kneeling eunuch and inquired, "Why do you think His Majesty suddenly did this?"

The eunuch replied, "Perhaps His Majesty feels indebted to Ming Fei and believes it's time for the Grand Princess to marry, hence granting her a title."

Back then, Ji Yunmeng's mother, Ming Fei, took a sword meant for Ji Mingxuan, sacrificing her life. If not for Ming Fei's intervention, Ji Mingxuan would have long perished.

Thus, many in the court believe Emperor Zhou's granting the title to the Grand Princess is entirely due to Ming Fei's life-saving grace.

## **Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife**

After hearing the eunuch's words, Pei Shuhua let out a light laugh, then said, "But why do I feel like he's currying favor with Ming Fei's maternal clan?"

Hearing this, the eunuch in the great hall trembled all over and immediately didn't dare say another word.

Pei Shuhua then continued, "The court has been getting more and more chaotic lately. Your Majesty is still in your prime, and yet my imperial grandsons have already started thinking about fighting for the throne. Truly, it's a bloodline inheritance—what kind of father produces what kind of child."

At Pei Shuhua's words, the eunuch kneeling in the hall broke out in a cold sweat. In just a short moment, his back was soaked, turning his blue robe a deep navy.

Pei Shuhua raised her hand at this moment, waved it, and said, "You may go. Keep a close eye on Princess Yun'an for me and see what she's been up to lately."

The eunuch hurriedly said, "Yes, Empress Dowager."

"This humble one takes his leave."

As his words fell, the eunuch quickly rose and left the Empress Dowager's Changle Palace.

...

The matter of Emperor Zhou granting Ji Yunmeng a title drew the attention of many factions in the court, yet people were not particularly concerned. Although Ji Yunmeng was the first among Emperor Zhou's children to receive a title, she was, after all, a woman, and those Princes did not regard her as any sort of threat.

Evening.

Yun'an Princess Mansion.

After Lu Chen followed Ji Yunmeng back to the Princess Mansion, Ji Yunmeng had a Maid arrange an excellent courtyard for him. This left Lu Chen somewhat puzzled. In the end, he was just an ordinary person—why was Ji Yunmeng treating him so well?

He had originally thought that after coming to the Princess Mansion with Ji Yunmeng, he would simply be a servant, perhaps a guard doing errands for Ji Yunmeng. Yet Ji Yunmeng seemed to have no such intention; instead, it looked more like she meant to keep him as a pampered boy-toy.

Lu Chen sat in the courtyard, looking at the quiet little yard before him, a hint of suspicion on his face. Had he really become Ji Yunmeng's boy-toy?

If that was the case, then that would be wonderful!

He was just worrying about not having a chance to make Ji Yunmeng his woman. He wanted to see whether this system of his could actually be used.

However, what Lu Chen hadn't expected was that over the next half month, Ji Yunmeng never came to see him. She seemed to still be investigating the Spirit Evil Qi murder case in Xiyang County, busy every day, with no time to pay him any attention at all.

This made Lu Chen a bit restless. If he was always stuck in the Princess Mansion and couldn't grow stronger, how was he supposed to search for the Burial Furnace?

Although his own Sealing was on the Burial Furnace, there was no guarantee that the Great Powers of this world couldn't break that Sealing. Moreover, even someone like Ji Yunmeng, who suspectedly was the Cloud Dream Emperor, had appeared in this world; it was entirely possible that an Ancestor of the Strange truly existed here.

If another Ancestor of the Strange discovered the Burial Furnace, it would absolutely be a catastrophe for the living beings within it.

Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

In a room shrouded in Death Qi, an old man whose entire body emitted black aura lay on the bed, coughing incessantly. The important figures of the Prince's Mansion were all gathered in the room at this moment.

Prince Zhen Nan coughed for a while, swept his gaze over the people in the room, then said, "He is my only offspring. No matter the cost, he must be found and brought back. My days are numbered!"

As he said this, Prince Zhen Nan turned his gaze to a woman in the room. The woman was dressed in a snow-white robe, tall and slender, her hair tied in a high ponytail, her face as cold as ice.

"Bai, if I suddenly fall into a coma and never wake, the entire Prince's Mansion will be under your command. Also, even if I die, this news must not be spread for the time being. You must wait until Chen'er is found and brought back!"

The woman immediately bowed and said, "Subordinate understands."

Prince Zhen Nan then turned his head to look at the canopy above and sighed, "Is the millennia-old foundation of Zhen Nan Prince Manor to be ruined in my hands? Just who is scheming against Zhen Nan Prince Manor!"

"Zhen Nan Prince Manor has long since ceased to be a threat to the Royal Family. Why are they still unwilling to let us go!"

At this, Prince Zhen Nan let out another deep sigh and slowly closed his eyes.

...

Yun'an Princess Mansion.

Inner courtyard of the Princess.

Ji Yunmeng, wearing a goose-yellow long dress, sat in the pavilion, listening to her Maid's report.

Her brows lifted slightly. "No wonder I found him somewhat familiar—it turns out he's the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan."

"Immediately send word to Zhen Nan Prince Manor that he is here with me!"

The Maid before Ji Yunmeng promptly said, "Yes, Your Highness."

The Maid then turned and left the pavilion. Ji Yunmeng looked toward the direction of the courtyard where Lu Chen was staying and murmured, "The Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, huh. He might be of some use to me."

Although Zhen Nan Prince Manor had long since declined, it was still the only Alien King of Dazhou. In its prime, Zhen Nan Prince Manor had been immensely powerful and was bound to have some hidden foundations.

Ji Yunmeng hadn't expected her luck to be so good—having just returned from Xiyang County, she happened to pick up an Heir of Prince Zhen Nan along the road.

According to the information she had received, the current Prince Zhen Nan's Physical Body had been corroded by Spirit Evil Qi and he seemed to be on the verge of death.

The Martial Artists of this world were like this: once the body began to age, the Spirit Evil Qi within them would turn into a slow-acting poison, further corroding the Physical Body and causing Martial Artists to die even faster.

If Prince Zhen Nan died, then Lu Chen, this Princely Heir, would become the new Prince Zhen Nan. Although the fief of Prince Zhen Nan had long been revoked, Zhen Nan Prince Manor still had some influence in the south. When the time came, she could use the influence of Zhen Nan Prince Manor to draw in those forces in the extreme south.

At this moment, Ji Yunmeng turned to the Maid beside her and asked, "Xiao Qi, what has Lu Chen been doing lately?"

Xiao Qi replied, "Reporting to Your Highness, Master Lu reads books every day."

Ji Yunmeng asked in puzzlement, "Reading? What kind of books?"

Xiao Qi said, "All sorts of curious anecdotes, or books about strange evil beings and spirits."

As she spoke, Xiao Qi suddenly remembered something and quickly added, "Master Lu seems to want to practice Martial Arts. He even had this servant search for some books on drawing Spirit Evil Qi into the body."

Ji Yunmeng said, "Did you not tell him that he has already passed the age for drawing Spirit Evil Qi into the body?"

In this world, not just anyone could become a Spirit Martial Artist. Martial Artists had to undergo a test for drawing Spirit Evil Qi into the body before the age of five. If, at five, their bodies could withstand Spirit Evil Qi, they could then slowly absorb more Spirit Evil Qi and become Spirit Martial Artists.

There was no Spirit Evil Qi in Lu Chen's body, which meant that at his five-year test, his body could not withstand Spirit Evil Qi, and so he had remained an ordinary person to this day.

Xiao Qi said at this moment, "This servant has told him, but Master Lu seems unwilling to resign himself to being an ordinary man."

Ji Yunmeng said, "It seems he is a man with ambition."

"Ambition is good. What I need are exactly ambitious people."

...

In the blink of an eye, another half month passed.

That day, Lu Chen was at the stone table in the courtyard, flipping through the books about strange evil beings and spirits that Xiao Qi had found for him. Just as he was engrossed, a burst of noise came from the courtyard gate.

Immediately after, the Maid at the gate of the small courtyard said, "Greetings, Princess!"

**Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife**

Hearing the maid's voice, Lu Chen instantly snapped back to his senses. After so long, he would finally see Ji Yunmeng again.

He wanted to see what Ji Yunmeng's true intentions were for keeping him in the Princess Mansion.

Lu Chen then rose from the stone bench. Just as he stood up, Ji Yunmeng entered the small courtyard with three people.

Upon seeing the woman in white among the three, Lu Chen was momentarily stunned and absent-minded.

The next moment, a system prompt sounded.

"A woman meeting the conditions has been found. The host is urged to bond with her to produce offspring."

Subsequently, a blue light screen appeared before Lu Chen.

[Name: Bai Qingqing]

[Identity: Adopted daughter of Prince Zhen Nan]

[Status: She heard that the heir of Prince Zhen Nan was in the Princess Mansion, so she came here looking for him.]

[Cultivation State: Mid-stage Human Realm]

[Score: 100]

[Favorability: 30]

Lu Chen thought to himself, score 100?

Could he be mistaken? He remembered when inside the Chaos Beast's stomach, Bai Qingqing's score wasn't one hundred.

Lu Chen quickly realized that, whether the world he was in was real was uncertain. Even if it was, the system might not be genuine. Moreover, he distinctly remembered Bai Qingqing had already restored the Deceitful Emperor's power and now she appeared here.

Is the Bai Qingqing before him the same Bai Qingqing he knew? It wasn't clear. So, it was normal for the system score to differ. There was no need to dwell on it. It was better to follow the system's guidance to see if bonding with them would earn a system reward.

Bai Qingqing and the other two, upon seeing Lu Chen, immediately bowed and said, "Greetings, Young Master!"

Hearing this, Lu Chen was taken aback again.

Young Master?

Referring to himself?

He was the Young Master?

Not long ago, he descended from the sky into this world, so how had he suddenly become a Young Master?

What was going on?

Never mind, he had too many questions for now and wouldn't think about them for a while.

At this moment, Xiao Qi reminded him from the side, "Since the Young Master fell from the sky, he lost his memory and probably no longer recognizes you."

This...

Hearing Xiao Qi's reminder, Bai Qingqing scrutinized Lu Chen with an impassive expression before turning to Ji Yunmeng and saying, "Thank you, Princess, for saving our Young Master. If ever the Zhen Nan Prince Manor can assist, please do not hesitate to ask; if it's within our capacity, we will surely aid the Princess."

Ji Yunmeng said, "There's no need for thanks, Miss Bai. Master Lu is the only heir of Prince Zhen Nan, and the Zhen Nan Prince Manor has always loyally served the Dazhou. Half of Dazhou's lands were conquered by the first Prince Zhen Nan. Saving Master Lu was a duty expected of a Royal Family member like myself."

Bai Qingqing continued, "Princess, since we have found the Young Master, may we take him back to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor? Our Prince is eager to see him."

Ji Yunmeng said, "Alright."

Saying this, Ji Yunmeng looked up towards Lu Chen and said, "Master Lu, you should go back with your people from the manor."

Lu Chen remained puzzled. He was about to say something when Ji Yunmeng seemed to perceive the confusion in his heart and continued, "Once you return to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, someone will naturally tell you about your background and help you recover your memory."

Lu Chen said, "I understand. Thank you, Princess, for your care during this time. I will take my leave now."

Ji Yunmeng nodded without further words, and Bai Qingqing then led Lu Chen away from the Princess Mansion.

Once Lu Chen was seated in the Zhen Nan Prince Manor's carriage, he observed Bai Qingqing, who was also seated in the carriage compartment. Because of his past memories, Lu Chen was quite familiar with Bai Qingqing. He felt bold enough to shamelessly scan Bai Qingqing with his eyes.

Seeing Lu Chen staring at her nonstop, Bai Qingqing asked, "Young Master, are you truly suffering from amnesia?"

Lu Chen replied, "Indeed, I am."

Bai Qingqing thought for a moment and concluded he likely wasn't lying. Lu Chen had never dared to look at her before, yet now he boldly scrutinized her body. She felt as if Lu Chen's gaze harbored a strong desire for her.

This left Bai Qingqing feeling somewhat displeased.

Lu Chen then asked, "Since I am the heir of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, shouldn't there have been someone to protect me? How did I end up outside the city, only to be rescued by the Princess?"

Hearing this question, Bai Qingqing answered, "Ever since the Prince was backfired by spiritual evil, more and more strange evils have begun to target the Zhen Nan Prince Manor. You have faced over a dozen assassination attempts, and the guards who protected you initially have all perished."

This...

Lu Chen hadn't expected his current predicament to be so perilous.

Catching his breath, Lu Chen continued, "How is my father doing now?"

Bai Qingqing said, "The Prince..."

Trailing off, Bai Qingqing seemed reluctant to continue, indicating Prince Zhen Nan's condition was grim.

With the time spent in the Princess Mansion, Lu Chen had come to understand the cultivation system of this world and knew how terrifying the backlash of spiritual evil was to a Spirit Martial Artist.

Seeing Bai Qingqing's reluctance, Lu Chen realized that his convenient father probably didn't have much time left.

In other words, it wouldn't be long before he became the new Prince of Zhen Nan. Achieving the system's tasks might become easier once he wielded power.

Thinking this, Lu Chen was suddenly left with an odd feeling, like a sense of "filial piety."

...

Returning to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor with Bai Qingqing and the manor's guards, Lu Chen saw the manor's gate and felt a sense of familiarity.

This feeling made Lu Chen uneasy. He didn't believe such familiarity was baseless. As a well-traveled Great Power of the Spirit Realm, Lu Chen guessed the truth.

It was likely that he had reincarnated into this world long ago. His body couldn't handle the massive memory, so he lived as a native of this world. However, after facing a life crisis, his memories awakened, and the overwhelming past memory pushed out all memories of this world.

If his guess was right, it meant he hadn't just recently descended into this world; he had been here for twenty years.

What had transpired in the Spirit and Deceit Realms during his time here? Why had the Cloud Dream Emperor and Bai Qingqing, the Deceitful Emperor, also come?

Moreover, his system remained, meaning the world might not only contain Ji Yunmeng and Bai Qingqing. Perhaps other female Ancestors of the Strange were also here.

**Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife**

Compared to back when he was in the Burial Furnace, even though Lu Chen now suspected that there might be other people behind the system, he still didn't feel the slightest bit of worry in his heart.

As a Great Power of the Spirit Realm, Lu Chen was not afraid at all of others scheming against him.

He was only curious about what had happened in the Spirit Realm and the Deceit Realm when he reincarnated into this world.

Could it be that they had gone back into the Burial Furnace, and Ji Yunmeng and Bai Qingqing had been taken back into the Burial Furnace by the Netherworld Evil Emperor again?

That was unlikely. He had already refined the Burial Furnace, and besides, before he lost consciousness, he had used all his remaining strength to perform the Sealing on the Burial Furnace. Even if the Netherworld Evil Emperor found the Burial Furnace, it probably wouldn't be so easy to open.

No...

Lu Chen quickly reacted. Although it looked like he had only been reincarnated for twenty years, that was just because he had lost consciousness later and could no longer sense the passage of time.

Perhaps before his reincarnation, his Divine Soul had been wandering in this world for a long time and had not reincarnated for a long while. The time since he arrived in this world might not be just twenty years; it might even be two eras for all he knew.

Could it be that the Ghostly Mist Emperor and the others were defeated by the Netherworld Evil Emperor, and for some reason lost their memories, which was why they ended up in this world?

Wait, he seemed to have overlooked something. Logically speaking, after he reincarnated, this body of his shouldn't have been able to bear the Power of Cause and Effect brought by such vast memories, and his body should have died very quickly, yet he was still alive now.

Not only was he still alive, his previous memories were all intact and had not been Sealed.

This world seemed capable of screening out that Power of Cause and Effect?

Could this really be another world?

Seeing Lu Chen standing at the gate of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor without stepping inside, his whole person in a daze, Bai Qingqing asked, "Has the Heir remembered anything?"

Hearing Bai Qingqing's cool voice, Lu Chen finally came back to himself and replied, "No, it just feels a little familiar."

Bai Qingqing said, "The Heir need not worry. The Zhen Nan Prince Manor will find a way to restore your memory. For now, you should come with me to see the Great Prince; he has been waiting for you too long."

Lu Chen said, "Alright."

Then, under Bai Qingqing's guidance, Lu Chen quickly arrived at the inner courtyard of the Prince's Mansion, in the bedchamber of Prince Zhen Nan.

As soon as he entered Prince Zhen Nan's room, Lu Chen saw the entire room filled with black gas, and this black gas made him feel extremely uncomfortable.

Lu Chen thought to himself, could this be a Mysterious Power?

Lu Chen carefully sensed it. Although this gas made people feel unwell, it did not madly devour one's vitality the way a Mysterious Power would. However, he could vaguely feel that after this black gas entered his body, it was corroding him.

This should be spiritual evil?

Just as Lu Chen was lost in thought, Prince Zhen Nan's coughing sounded. The Mansion Steward by the bed hurriedly supported Prince Zhen Nan and said to him, "Great Prince, the Heir has returned!"

Hearing this, Prince Zhen Nan grew agitated and broke into a fit of violent coughing again.

The Steward now said to Lu Chen, "Heir, come quickly."

Lu Chen withdrew his thoughts and quickly came to stand before Prince Zhen Nan.

Prince Zhen Nan at this moment was a man on the verge of death. Thick black gas was also emanating from his body. Strictly speaking, it was not pure black; streaks of blue were mixed within, more like a blue so dark that it had turned black.

Prince Zhen Nan raised his head to look at Lu Chen, his drooping eyelids struggling to open, then he lifted his hand, wrinkled like dried bark.

Lu Chen hurried to the bedside and squatted down, clasping Prince Zhen Nan's hand. Prince Zhen Nan said, "Chen'er, your father's lifespan is nearly at its end. From now on, you are the master of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor."

"After I am gone, try to stay in the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, stay in the Capital city, go nowhere else, and do not get involved in the struggle for the heir apparent."

"As for your marriage, your father will not live to see it. Everything will be up to you. As long as the other party is not the daughter of some important official of the Imperial Court, for your father's sake as Prince Zhen Nan, they will probably be willing to marry their daughter to you."

Hearing Prince Zhen Nan's words, Lu Chen felt a mixture of emotions. Although he had no memories of being the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, just from these few sentences, he could hear how much Prince Zhen Nan usually cared about this child of his.

Prince Zhen Nan was clearly making his final arrangements.

At this moment, Prince Zhen Nan asked, "Have you taken a fancy to any young lady? You can settle the marriage while I am still alive."

Even though Prince Zhen Nan knew he did not have much time left, he still wanted to pave some paths for his son, and a marital alliance was the best way to do so.

Lu Chen naturally could not say that he liked the Princess Ji Yunmeng. Given Prince Zhen Nan's current condition, them wanting to marry a Princess was impossible, and Ji Yunmeng was a Princess with ambitions. Even if Emperor Zhou personally granted the marriage, Ji Yunmeng would not necessarily agree to marry him.

Lu Chen directly said to Prince Zhen Nan, "Father, I want to marry Sister Bai."

Hearing this, a trace of confusion appeared in Prince Zhen Nan's cloudy eyes. In fact, on the day he brought Bai Qingqing back to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, he had already planned to cultivate Bai Qingqing into Lu Chen's woman.

Of course, girls picked up this way could rarely become a primary wife. Prince Zhen Nan regarded Bai Qingqing more as a blade—a sharp weapon forged especially for Lu Chen.

However, because Lu Chen had been unable to practice martial arts since childhood and could not draw spiritual evil into his body, as Bai Qingqing grew ever stronger, Lu Chen grew more and more afraid of her.

Lu Chen felt only fear toward Bai Qingqing and no feelings between man and woman whatsoever, so Prince Zhen Nan eventually had no choice but to stop forcing the match between Lu Chen and Bai Qingqing.

What he had not expected was that, now at the brink of his own death, Lu Chen would take the initiative to say he wanted to marry Bai Qingqing. This greatly surprised Prince Zhen Nan.

When Prince Zhen Nan came back to his senses, his gaze turned toward Bai Qingqing standing behind Lu Chen. He very much wanted to know whether Bai Qingqing had said something to Lu Chen that led him to the idea of marrying her.

Just then, Bai Qingqing spoke up of her own accord: "Great Prince, the Heir has lost his memory."

Hearing Bai Qingqing's words, Prince Zhen Nan finally reacted. No wonder Lu Chen would propose marrying Bai Qingqing.

It seemed that losing his memory had made him forget his fear of Bai Qingqing.

A faint, almost imperceptible smile appeared on Prince Zhen Nan's aged face. This was good as well. He had originally planned that after his death, the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor would be handed over to Bai Qingqing to manage, while Lu Chen continued to live as his frivolous son.

If Lu Chen was willing to take the initiative to marry Bai Qingqing, that would also give her a proper status, making it all the more justified for her to control the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

At this moment, Bai Qingqing keenly sensed the expression on Prince Zhen Nan's face. Her jade-like hand tightened slightly. Was Prince Zhen Nan really planning to marry her to Lu Chen?

Although Bai Qingqing had long known that Prince Zhen Nan was cultivating her with the intention of making her Lu Chen's woman, a blade at Lu Chen's side, she had thought herself mentally prepared.

Yet when actually faced with this matter, she found she still felt some resistance. Lu Chen, after all, was a wastrel. To let her manage the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor and repay Prince Zhen Nan's kindness in raising her—if that meant she would never marry, she would not feel it a loss.

But to have her marry a coward who clung to life and feared death—that sat a bit hard with her.

**Having children earns benefit, start competing for dominance in the world by marrying a wife**

At this moment, Prince Zhen Nan glanced at Bai Qingqing, realizing she seemed unwilling to marry Lu Chen.

However, he didn't care. Even if Bai Qingqing was unwilling, she would have to marry.

For years, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor had given Bai Qingqing so many cultivation resources, nurturing her to the mid-stage Human Realm. For what purpose? Wasn't it to make her an important woman beside Lu Chen?

In this era, women didn't have many choices.

Prince Zhen Nan asked, "Bai, are you willing to marry Chen'er?"

Even though he knew Bai Qingqing was unwilling to marry, Prince Zhen Nan still asked. He wasn't asking Bai Qingqing but wanted a clear answer from her.

Bai Qingqing didn't struggle much internally. She indeed didn't look kindly upon Lu Chen, this timid and cowardly wastrel, but considering Prince Zhen Nan's nurturing grace, and with his impending death, it was time to repay the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Moreover, she herself didn't care much about matters of emotion. She had long prepared not to marry in this life, so even if she married Lu Chen, it wouldn't affect her much; it was merely about sleeping with Lu Chen.

She believed that once Lu Chen's memory was restored, he would surely regret today's decision. Perhaps he wouldn't even need her to say anything, and the first thing Lu Chen would do after recovering his memory is to propose annulment.

Lu Chen was most afraid of the eerie and evil spirits, and a Spirit Martial Artist, to become stronger, constantly needed to deal with them. That was why Lu Chen was so afraid of her.

In the past, Lu Chen wouldn't even touch her body; seeing her alone was enough to keep her away from him. If Lu Chen's memory were restored, forget sleeping with her, he might not even dare to speak to her.

Thinking of this, Bai Qingqing directly said, "My Lord, I grew up in the Zhen Nan Prince Manor; my life was saved by you. Without you and the Prince Manor, I would have been long dead."

"I was born a person of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor and will die as an entity of it. I will care for the heir as best as I can, and if he thinks well of me, I am willing to continue the bloodline for the Prince Manor."

Upon hearing Bai Qingqing's response, Prince Zhen Nan said satisfactorily, "If that's the case, I'll leave Chen'er to you from now on."

Lu Chen quickly thought of something and said to Prince Zhen Nan, "Father, let me marry Sister Bai tomorrow."

Upon hearing these words, Prince Zhen Nan paused, then his aged gaze revealed a hint of comfort, assuming Lu Chen was eager to marry Bai Qingqing to let him witness this before dying.

Bai Qingqing was slightly surprised; she hadn't expected Lu Chen to be in such a hurry. But she quickly understood, sharing Prince Zhen Nan's thoughts; she also believed Lu Chen was hastening the marriage to let Prince Zhen Nan witness it, leaving no regrets.

In fact, Lu Chen did want Prince Zhen Nan to die without regrets, but his main reason for hastening the marriage with Bai Qingqing was to quickly gain a reward. He knew clearly, once Prince Zhen Nan passed away, he might need to mourn him for several years, during which he couldn't marry, thus preventing him from obtaining the system rewards.

So he needed to marry quickly while Prince Zhen Nan was still alive, acquiring rewards from the system and verifying whether it was useful.

After coming to his senses, Prince Zhen Nan looked at Bai Qingqing, "Bai, what do you think?"

Bai Qingqing immediately replied, "Everything follows the heir's will."

Prince Zhen Nan then instructed the steward, "Alright, go and prepare."

The steward replied, "Yes, My Lord."

Immediately, everyone at the Zhen Nan Prince Manor began preparing, and in less than half a day, the entire manor became lively, adorned with red and festive decorations.

Even though the Zhen Nan Prince Manor was now in decline, it was still Dazhou's only Alien King household, whose preparations quickly drew attention from various forces.

Princess Mansion.

Ji Yunmeng sat cross-legged on a soft couch, refining Spirit Evil Qi; before her lay a corpse of an evil spirit with a mask, the face mask being human, the body animal, emitting strong spiritual evil.

This Spirit Evil Qi was absorbed by Ji Yunmeng to refine her physical body; it was the cultivation method of a Spirit Martial Artist.

As the Spirit Evil Qi on the evil spirit's corpse lessened, Ji Yunmeng gradually opened her eyes. A maid entered the hall, sensibly standing aside without disturbing her upon seeing Ji Yunmeng cultivating.

Ji Yunmeng simply asked, "What's the matter?"

Only then did the maid report, "After the heir returned, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor adorned itself with festive decorations and red characters, suggesting the heir is about to marry."

Upon hearing the maid's report, Ji Yunmeng was slightly surprised.

Marry?

The heir just lost his memory and returned to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, and now he is about to marry?

Ji Yunmeng quickly understood the situation, realizing Prince Zhen Nan was indeed nearing his end and eager to see Lu Chen marry before dying.

Otherwise, royal and noble families always chose an auspicious day, even for concubinage, never in such haste.

Ji Yunmeng said, "Inquire when the heir is marrying and which family's girl he is marrying."

Since the Zhen Nan Prince Manor had already started decorating, it suggested Lu Chen was about to marry someone soon.

Ji Yunmeng wanted to ally with the Prince Manor, so naturally she had to prepare a congratulatory gift for the heir's wedding.

After her words, the reporting maid was about to leave when Xiao Qi entered the hall.

"Princess, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor sent a wedding invitation."

Upon hearing this, Ji Yunmeng was a bit surprised; she had intended to send someone to inquire whom Lu Chen was marrying, but unexpectedly, the invitation arrived quickly.

The invitation naturally contained the bride's name and wedding date. Ji Yunmeng waved her hand, and the invitation flew into her grasp from Xiao Qi.

Ji Yunmeng glanced through the invitation content and was not overly surprised.

When Prince Zhen Nan brought Bai Qingqing into the manor and nurtured her with various resources, people had speculated Prince Zhen Nan's intentions, so Bai Qingqing marrying Lu Chen was expected.

Though Lu Chen had just returned, getting married the next day was without consulting an auspicious day. This urgency illustrated Prince Zhen Nan's dire straits.

It seemed to ally with the manor; the gift had to focus on extending the prince's life.

Ji Yunmeng contemplated briefly and said to Xiao Qi, "I recall the Wang Family recently acquired a Heavenly Soul New Year Fruit?"

Upon hearing Ji Yunmeng's query, Xiao Qi instantly understood her intention, replying, "Yes, Your Highness. Shall I fetch it from the Wang Family now?"

Ji Yunmeng replied calmly, "Go ahead."

The Wang Family, already a secret vassal to Ji Yunmeng, though the Heavenly Soul New Year Fruit was precious, suppressing spiritual evil and extending a Spirit Martial Artist's life, they naturally would offer it if Ji Yunmeng desired.