

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

The Empress Dowager's palace.

Blue smoke curled around the chamber. The beautiful Empress Dowager leaned on the soft couch, supporting her forehead with her hand, lost in thought.

After a while, Pei Shuhua finally opened her mouth to inquire about the news reported by the guard in the hall.

"Are you sure it's Princess Yun'an's sword?"

The guard immediately replied, "We cannot be certain for now, but the sword case carried by Princess Yun'an's maid is indeed used to store the Evil-slaying Sword. Moreover, spies from the Princess Mansion have also confirmed that the Evil-slaying Sword is currently not by Princess Yun'an's side, so the rumors are likely true."

Pei Shuhua was somewhat puzzled. Why would Ji Yunmeng choose this moment to send her own sword to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor?

Ji Yunmeng is not a fool. Doesn't she know the attitude of the Zhou royal family towards the Zhen Nan Prince Manor?

When facing the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, the entire Zhou royal family stood united, whether it be the puppet emperor in the palace or herself as the Empress Dowager, both wished for the alien king of Zhen Nan Prince Manor to disappear completely from Dazhou.

Ji Yunmeng, being the first princess among Emperor Zhou's children to be titled, should be assisting the emperor instead of sending her sword to the heir of Prince Zhen Nan.

The Evil-slaying Sword is no ordinary sword; to send her sword is undoubtedly to declare her stance in support of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

A royal princess, and yet she sides with the Zhen Nan Prince Manor?

At this moment, Pei Shuhua spoke up, "Summon Princess Yun'an to the palace."

Pei Shuhua was eager to know what exactly Ji Yunmeng was thinking, how she could do such a thing. She even suspected that this might be orchestrated by Emperor Zhou.

Could Emperor Zhou have some new conspiracy? Still not content?

The unusual actions of Ji Yunmeng certainly warranted attention.

The guard immediately replied, "Yes, Empress Dowager."

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Two hours later, Ji Yunmeng appeared in Pei Shuhua's palace. Upon entering, Ji Yunmeng took a glance at Pei Shuhua, who was sitting on the soft couch, before bowing and saying, "Your granddaughter pays respects to the Imperial Grandmother."

Pei Shuhua replied indifferently, "Rise."

After completing her greeting, Ji Yunmeng directly asked, "I wonder for what reason the Imperial Grandmother summoned her granddaughter?"

Pei Shuhua asked directly, "I heard you gave your Evil-slaying Sword to the heir of Prince Zhen Nan? Is this true?"

Knowing she couldn't conceal this matter, as Lu Chen would eventually use the Evil-slaying Sword, Ji Yunmeng had no intention of hiding it. She needed people to know her allegiance with the Zhen Nan Prince Manor to advance her future plans.

Once the Zhen Nan Prince Manor overcomes this crisis, it would be seen as aligned with her in the eyes of others, making it easier for her to control the prominent noble families in the south.

Ji Yunmeng answered truthfully, "It is true."

As soon as Ji Yunmeng finished speaking, Pei Shuhua slammed the soft couch and scolded, "Foolish!"

"Do you even know what you're doing!"

"As a member of the royal family, you're siding with an alien king. Don't you know that your father's wish has always been to eliminate the Zhen Nan Prince Manor?"

Upon hearing these words, Ji Yunmeng responded with neither humility nor arrogance, "Granddaughter wishes to ask the Imperial Grandmother, is it my father who wants to eliminate the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, or is it the Imperial Grandmother?"

Hearing Ji Yunmeng's question, a flash of anger swept across Pei Shuhua's face. She increasingly felt that Ji Yunmeng's strange actions were indeed under Emperor Zhou's instruction.

Indeed, while the Zhou royal family did not wish for an alien king's existence, the order to send Lu Chen to the Deceit Suppression Bureau wasn't Emperor Zhou's decision; it was a decree Pei Shuhua had someone obtain from Emperor Zhou, suggesting it was mainly Pei Shuhua's idea to send Lu Chen there.

Pei Shuhua pondered whether Emperor Zhou still harbored thoughts of turning the Zhen Nan Prince Manor into his ally to regain power?

Just a puppet emperor, instead of focusing on cultivation, he dared to think about reclaiming power.

Pei Shuhua then said coldly, "Was this your father's idea?"

Ji Yunmeng replied, "No, giving the Evil-slaying Sword to the heir of Prince Zhen Nan was my idea. Your granddaughter admires the heir of Prince Zhen Nan..."

Before Ji Yunmeng could finish speaking, Pei Shuhua interrupted sternly, "Enough! I assumed you, a pride of heaven, would have high standards, yet you've only

increased your realm without gaining wisdom. How can you be fond of such a useless person!"

"I've heard that the heir of Prince Zhen Nan is exceptionally handsome in the Capital city, but in this vast world, there are all kinds of men. If it's just his looks you like, I can find you someone even more handsome."

Ji Yunmeng said, "Your granddaughter..."

Before Ji Yunmeng could finish, she was interrupted again, "From today, you're confined to the Princess Mansion. Without my command, you are not to go anywhere, and your people are not to visit the Zhen Nan Prince Manor!"

"Go back and reflect for me!"

Saying this, Pei Shuhua directly instructed the eunuchs and maids in the hall, "Escort Princess Yun'an out of the palace!"

Seeing Pei Shuhua unwilling to engage in further conversation, Ji Yunmeng bowed and said, "Your granddaughter takes her leave!"

Upon finishing her words, Ji Yunmeng turned and left the Empress Dowager's palace.

Watching Ji Yunmeng's departing figure, Pei Shuhua chuckled softly, then looked towards the direction of the Long Life Hall, saying, "It seems you are still restless."

In Pei Shuhua's view, Ji Yunmeng's recent actions were almost certainly directed by Emperor Zhou. Though Emperor Zhou appeared isolated, he still had supporters among the ministers, but for significant power shift, he required more strong allies.

Currently, many Earth Realm experts in the Zhou royal family stood with the Empress Dowager. To reclaim power, Emperor Zhou could only rely on external forces, among which only the Zhen Nan Prince Manor possessed sufficient strength to rival the Zhou royal family.

A gleam of cold intent passed through Pei Shuhua's eyes, and she knew Lu Chen had to be eliminated swiftly to destroy the Zhen Nan Prince Manor completely, ensuring it wouldn't align with Emperor Zhou.

To eradicate the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, they need not directly deploy troops; simply eliminating the only son of Prince Zhen Nan would suffice. Once Prince Zhen Nan perishes, the manor would naturally fall apart.

With this in mind, Pei Shuhua instructed a eunuch in the hall, "Go to the Pei Family, and have Duke Pei come to the palace."

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The news of Ji Yunmeng being confined spread quickly throughout the Capital city, as people had anticipated. As a member of the royal family, yet not aligning with the royal interests and even sending a sword to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor; not having her princess title revoked was already fortunate.

At the same time.

In the Long Life Hall.

A middle-aged man donned in a black gold dragon robe sat cross-legged on a cushion, with a eunuch reporting the day's events before him.

After hearing the eunuch's report, Emperor Zhou's expression remained unchanged, not showing any anger over Ji Yunmeng's presumptuous actions.

At this moment, a shadowy figure appeared beside a pillar in the Long Life Hall, and Emperor Zhou addressed the eunuch, "You may leave."

"Yes." The eunuch acknowledged and immediately departed the hall.

Once the doors of the Long Life Hall closed again, Emperor Zhou spoke, "Back then, her mother consort died protecting Me. Now she stands up for Me again, openly opposing that one."

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After Emperor Zhou heard about Ji Yunmeng's actions, he thought Ji Yunmeng did it for him. As for Ji Yunmeng liking Lu Chen, he simply didn't believe it. How could someone as exceptional as Ji Yunmeng be interested in a wastrel?

Emperor Zhou once indeed considered enlisting Zhen Nan Prince Manor to overturn the Empress Dowager and eliminate the Pei Family's influence, but suddenly, Prince Zhen Nan fell ill.

Moreover, now Zhen Nan Prince Manor has only Lu Chen as an heir. As long as Lu Chen is eliminated and Prince Zhen Nan dies, Zhen Nan Prince Manor will crumble. Therefore, Emperor Zhou abandoned his original plan.

At this moment, the candle flames gently flickered in Long Life Hall, casting shadows on the drapes that trembled slightly. The dark figure stood by a pillar, half hidden in darkness, revealing only the corner of a dark robe. The voice that came from the shadow was cold, clear, and emotionless, "Does Your Majesty think Princess Yun'an did this for Your Majesty?"

Emperor Zhou's fingers lightly tapped the armrest of the Dragon Throne, which was polished smooth and shiny, gleaming dimly under the candlelight, "Do you think otherwise?"

In Emperor Zhou's view, Ji Yunmeng surely understood her situation, thus wanting to enlist Zhen Nan Prince Manor to resist the Empress Dowager Faction in court. After all, he, as her father, recently granted her a title. Ji Yunmeng reciprocating the favor was normal. It's unlikely his daughter would send the Sword to Zhen Nan Prince Manor solely for Zhen Nan Prince Manor's sake, right?

The woman's voice floated again from the shadows, "Hasn't Your Majesty considered that she might have other intentions?"

Emperor Zhou said, "She does have some ambition, but it's inconsequential."

Emperor Zhou wasn't a fool. Ji Yunmeng was talented, and she had her own influence. Of course, Emperor Zhou knew she was ambitious, but he didn't believe her ambition was big enough to aim for that position. In his view, Ji Yunmeng only desired more power.

Emperor Zhou never thought having ambition and seeking power was wrong. Thus, he believed Ji Yunmeng's actions were for her own benefit. If she could help him regain control and return to the court, she would take precedence, with power beneath only him. As for making her Crown Princess, Emperor Zhou had never considered it.

After hearing Emperor Zhou's words, the dark figure moved half a step forward, revealing a side profile hidden in shadows, the contours highlighted by the candle's fine edge of light, "In that case, what does you plan to do next?"

Upon hearing the question, Emperor Zhou fell into contemplation. Outside the hall, the wind crossed the eaves, causing the windows to gently rattle. In his view, there was no longer a need to enlist Zhen Nan Prince Manor. If the Empress Dowager perceived it as his orchestrated effort, she would detect his ambition and believe he was restless, wanting to reclaim power.

This wouldn't be good for his plans.

On the other hand, doing nothing might make the Empress Dowager remain vigilant over him. She never stopped probing him.

This time, Ji Yunmeng sending the Sword to Lu Chen would definitely make the Empress Dowager think he wanted to build a good relationship with Zhen Nan Prince Manor. But now that Zhen Nan Prince Manor had declined and wasn't a concern, eliminating Lu Chen as the sole heir would dissolve Zhen Nan Prince Manor, greatly decreasing the Empress Dowager's vigilance, believing the Emperor foolishly put hope on a fallen prince manor. From this perspective, Zhen

Nan Prince Manor can attract the Empress Dowager's attention and reduce her alertness.

Returning to his senses, Emperor Zhou raised his hand and waved, "Send someone to lift Yunmeng's confinement order."

Upon hearing this, the dark figure seemed to understand Emperor Zhou's intention. Emperor Zhou was deliberately guiding the Empress Dowager's attention toward Zhen Nan Prince Manor, making her mistakenly think he genuinely wanted to rely on Zhen Nan Prince Manor to rise again. In this way, he could make moves elsewhere.

At this moment, Emperor Zhou suddenly turned his head, staring at the dark figure, his gaze resting on a face obscured in the shadows, "Does Tianxuan Palace really wish to lend me a helping hand?"

Upon hearing this, the dark figure slightly nodded, a movement hardly noticeable, "Naturally, but just remember your promise once you regain power."

Emperor Zhou calmly said, "Once I return to that position, I will not forget my promise. However, I'm curious why you chose me over that woman?"

The woman mentioned by Emperor Zhou undoubtedly referred to the Empress Dowager. Currently, the Empress Dowager held power. If Tianxuan Palace wanted

to cooperate with Dazhou, directly choosing the Empress Dowager would be simpler.

The dark figure remained silent for a moment. At this time, the candle flame in the hall suddenly popped and crackled, "You don't need to know this. You just need to fulfill the promise."

Emperor Zhou didn't ask further questions. He didn't think Tianxuan Palace was foolish. Tianxuan Palace aimed to be Dazhou's National Religion, likely seeking the Qi Fortune of Dazhou's dynasty. Although he was a Puppet Emperor, the dynasty's Qi Fortune was still linked to him. Tianxuan Palace wanting Qi Fortune meant they could only cooperate with him, the Puppet Emperor.

Thinking about this, Emperor Zhou's face flashed with disdain, the smile merely at the corners of his mouth, while his eyes remained cold. They all seemed to treat him like a pushover.

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After Ji Yunmeng returned to the Princess Mansion, she was subjected to the confinement order and didn't leave the Princess Mansion for the following days, nor did she send anyone to Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Originally, she planned to send someone to greet the Deceit Suppression Bureau, but due to the Empress Dowager's order, the entire Princess Mansion was tightly

monitored by guards sent by the Empress Dowager. Those guards stood outside the mansion gates, their posture straight, hands on their sword hilts, eyes unwaveringly watching those entering and exiting, preventing any chance to send someone to the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

However, Ji Yunmeng believed those in the Deceit Suppression Bureau would know what to do once they saw her send the Sword to Lu Chen.

To become stronger, she stayed in the Deceit Suppression Bureau for a long time, and recently, she also assisted them in investigating the case of the village massacre by demons. The people in the Deceit Suppression Bureau respected her greatly and would understand she sided with Cao Shiyun after she sent the Sword to Lu Chen, avoiding causing trouble for Lu Chen.

Of course, if any big figures pressured the Deceit Suppression Bureau to trouble Lu Chen, then her title as Princess might no longer be useful.

Yun'an Princess Mansion was quiet. Lanterns under the corridor were gently swayed by the wind, their light flickering on the ground. Ji Yunmeng sat in the pavilion in the small courtyard, a cup of cold tea beside her, looking at a few peony bushes outside the pavilion, wilted petals stuck listlessly to the soil, pondering her next steps.

She was confined, and the lift of this confinement order was uncertain. She had a hunch that until Lu Chen was removed, the Empress Dowager wouldn't lift her confinement order to prevent her from disrupting their plans against Zhen Nan Prince Manor. Only when Lu Chen was dead might her confinement order be removed.

Just when Ji Yunmeng was contemplating how to support Zhen Nan Prince Manor, an eunuch entered the Princess Mansion with a Holy Decree. The eunuch walked quickly, his robe corners fluttering, sweeping up fallen leaves under the corridor.

Xiao Qi hurriedly ran ahead of the eunuch to Ji Yunmeng, sweating on his forehead, calling out from outside the pavilion, "Princess, Your Majesty has a decree!"

Upon hearing this, Ji Yunmeng frowned slightly, doubting whether her father's Holy Decree at this time was any good news. She even suspected he might revoke her title since she, a Royal Family Princess, openly stood against the Royal Family.

Ji Yunmeng promptly stood up from the stone stool. The Imperial Eunuch already reached the pavilion entrance, smiling, his face scrunched together, eyes narrowed into slits, saying to Ji Yunmeng, "Princess, Your Majesty says you did not err in cherishing the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, so the confinement order is lifted."

Saying this, the Imperial Eunuch directly handed the Holy Decree to Ji Yunmeng without even reading it.

Ji Yunmeng was momentarily stunned by the words of the Imperial Eunuch.

What did her father mean?

Was this encouragement to help Zhen Nan Prince Manor?

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Ji Yunmeng came back to her senses and quickly took the Holy Decree from the Imperial Eunuch's hands.

The eunuch was about forty years old, his face pale and smooth, with the particular cautiousness and submissiveness unique to eunuchs of the palace between his brows and eyes, as he stood to the side with his head lowered.

The eunuch then continued, "Princess, if there is nothing else, this servant will take his leave."

Ji Yunmeng suddenly thought of something and immediately asked, "Was this Holy Decree given to you by Your Majesty, or did the Empress Dowager have you deliver it?"

At present, there were hardly any trusted eunuchs beside Emperor Zhou. The eunuchs by his side had been replaced batch after batch; every so often, the eunuchs around him would inexplicably die or disappear. This left him in a state of utter isolation in the Imperial Palace, so Ji Yunmeng had no way of telling whether the eunuchs coming from the palace were Emperor Zhou's people or the Empress Dowager's.

Hearing Ji Yunmeng's question, the eunuch seemed to understand what she wanted to know. After all, they all survived by reading faces in the palace; this Imperial Eunuch was no fool. He said directly, "In reply to the Princess, this Holy Decree was received by this servant from Your Majesty's own hand."

When he spoke, he bent slightly at the waist, his tone respectful, yet his gaze swept quickly around the surroundings, as if guarding against something.

Once she confirmed that this Holy Decree came from Emperor Zhou, Ji Yunmeng essentially confirmed that her father truly supported her standing on the side of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Which meant that her father and the Empress Dowager did not share the same stance—at least for now they did not. It seemed that last time's Holy Decree had been forced out of her father by the Empress Dowager.

So now her father intended to use the Zhen Nan Prince Manor to counterbalance the Empress Dowager's faction?

It was just that...

Her father could not possibly be unaware that the Zhen Nan Prince Manor itself was like a clay idol wading through a river, barely able to protect itself. The manor had only one heir; if Lu Chen died, then the Zhen Nan Prince Manor would fall apart. After that, the Empress Dowager's faction would surely try every possible means to eliminate Lu Chen.

Once Lu Chen died and the Zhen Nan Prince Manor vanished, wouldn't her father's situation become even worse?

While Ji Yunmeng was momentarily lost in these thoughts, the voice of the Imperial Eunuch delivering the decree sounded again, "Princess, may I ask if you have any other orders?"

His hands were still lowered, an appropriate smile on his face, though that smile carried a trace of wariness.

Ji Yunmeng came back to herself and said, "Nothing else, you may go back."

The Imperial Eunuch then said, "This servant takes his leave."

As his words fell, the Imperial Eunuch turned directly and left the Princess Mansion.

Ji Yunmeng lowered her head slightly and glanced at the Holy Decree in her hand. The Empress Dowager's order to confine her had been only verbal, whereas her father had deliberately issued a formal Holy Decree to lift her confinement. This was clearly done to cross the Empress Dowager.

After all, this was a Holy Decree issued by Emperor Zhou; the Empress Dowager could not very well ignore it and continue to keep Ji Yunmeng confined. Of course, the most important point was that this Holy Decree also declared Emperor Zhou's stance—that he, too, stood on the side of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

To be honest, Ji Yunmeng truly had not expected Emperor Zhou to support her at this moment. He had been trapped in the Imperial Palace, in a very poor situation, yet even so, he had issued a Holy Decree to lift her confinement. This was already openly crossing swords with the Empress Dowager.

Next, the Empress Dowager would definitely retaliate; likely, quite a few more people in the Imperial Palace would die.

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Although Emperor Zhou was already a Puppet Emperor, there were still many people in the palace watching his every move.

Not even two hours after Emperor Zhou issued the Holy Decree to lift Ji Yunmeng's confinement, the news had already reached the ears of those ministers in court—including, of course, the Empress Dowager Pei Shuhua.

The Empress Dowager's bedchamber.

Soothing aloeswood incense was burning in the hall; wisps of blue smoke curled slowly up from the gilded boshan censer, swirling in the dim light.

Pei Shuhua sat on a soft couch, her expression dark. She wore a wide-sleeved palace gown of deep red; at the collar and cuffs intricate winding patterns were embroidered with gold thread. At this moment, there was not the slightest smile on her stunning jade-like face; cold sharpness gleamed between her brows and eyes.

She had not expected Emperor Zhou to step forward at this time, even going so far as to issue a Holy Decree to Ji Yunmeng, lifting Ji Yunmeng's confinement.

Emperor Zhou lifting Ji Yunmeng's confinement meant that he supported Ji Yunmeng. In other words, Ji Yunmeng's initial actions had indeed been carried out under Emperor Zhou's instructions.

Thinking of it this way, Emperor Zhou truly did intend to borrow the strength of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor to counter the Empress Dowager's faction.

Pei Shuhua let out a cold laugh, then glanced in the direction of the Long Life Hall and muttered to herself, "It seems he thinks he's capable again."

Her voice was not loud, yet in the silence of the great hall it sounded especially clear. The candle flame at her side was stirred gently by the night breeze, making the shadow cast on the screen behind her waver slightly.

At this point, Pei Shuhua looked at the eunuch kneeling in the hall and said, "Your Majesty could not possibly commit such an act of defying the Aijia. Go and investigate whether some petty villain has been saying things that should not be said before His Majesty. Find them and deal with them."

The eunuch prostrated on the floor, his forehead pressed to the cold gilt bricks, his body trembling slightly, daring only to answer with a single "Yes."

Emperor Zhou had been silent for a long time. Whether it was his personal strength or his influence in the court, he was far inferior to Pei Shuhua, so Pei Shuhua didn't think he would suddenly act so impulsively.

She still remembered that the last time Emperor Zhou wanted to take the reins of government himself, he only made a move after he had made what he believed to be foolproof preparations.

This time, Emperor Zhou jumped out directly. Either it meant he had lost his head and believed that by relying on the Zhen Nan Prince Manor he could topple the Empress Dowager's faction, or someone had said something in front of him that made him think the time was ripe, so he stepped forward and set himself in direct opposition to her.

In Pei Shuhua's view, the reason Emperor Zhou dared to jump out was more likely because he had gained the support of certain people, which made him feel he could do it again, so it had to be thoroughly investigated.

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Prince's Mansion of Zhen Nan.

Moonlight spilled into the courtyard, the chilly glow casting a faint whiteness over the bluestone floor. The lanterns under the eaves swayed gently in the night wind, throwing down patches of flickering light and shadow.

Lu Chen was striding toward his own room when, at that moment, a female Hidden Guard appeared behind him. She wore a tight-fitted outfit in dark colors,

her face thin, eyes sharp. She silently dropped to one knee in the shadows and said in a low voice, "Princely Heir, there is a piece of news you may find interesting."

Hearing this, Lu Chen stopped. He turned his head to look at the female Hidden Guard and said, "Oh? What news?"

The moonlight fell on his young face, a hint of contemplation between his brows and eyes.

The female Hidden Guard said directly, "Emperor Zhou has issued a Holy Decree, lifting the confinement order on Princess Yun'an."

Hearing this, Lu Chen was slightly taken aback.

Emperor Zhou lifted Ji Yunmeng's confinement order?

It had only been a short while since she'd been confined, and it was already lifted?

The Empress Dowager had confined Ji Yunmeng clearly because she didn't want Ji Yunmeng to help the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, yet after only a few days Emperor Zhou lifted it. Didn't this mean that Emperor Zhou was actually standing on Ji Yunmeng's side?

It seemed the Royal Family was not of one mind either.

Just as Lu Chen was pondering why Emperor Zhou would do this, another female Hidden Guard appeared in the courtyard. She was likewise dressed in a fitted martial outfit, her expression stern. She dropped to one knee and said, "Princely Heir, the Prince asks that you go to his room."

Lu Chen said, "All right."

Lu Chen then headed to Prince Zhen Nan's room. At this moment, more than a dozen people had already gathered inside.

Several thick candles were burning on the square table in the center of the room. The orange-yellow flames lit up the faces of those seated around the table; they were several strategists and Tributors of the mansion, each with a solemn expression.

When they saw Lu Chen arrive, everyone made way, allowing Lu Chen to come before Prince Zhen Nan.

Prince Zhen Nan was leaning against the headboard, a thin quilt over his body. His face was so pale it was almost bloodless, his lips somewhat dry, eye sockets sunken, yet those eyes still retained a measure of their former sharpness.

Lu Chen asked directly, "Father, you called for me—has something important happened?"

Prince Zhen Nan coughed heavily a few times. In the quiet room, the coughing sounded particularly harsh. He coughed until his body bent slightly. A servant at his side hurriedly handed him a handkerchief; he took it and covered his mouth for a moment before speaking, "You should already know the news that Emperor Zhou has lifted Princess Yun'an's confinement order, yes?"

His voice was hoarse, tinged with the weakness of illness, yet he still did his best to keep it steady.

Lu Chen said, "I just heard it from the Hidden Guards."

Prince Zhen Nan asked, "What do you think?"

Lu Chen said, "Emperor Zhou may want to borrow the strength of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor to counterbalance the Empress Dowager's faction. He wants to return to the court."

Prince Zhen Nan said, "According to the intelligence the Hidden Guards have gathered, Emperor Zhou had someone carry a message to Princess Yun'an, saying that Princess Yun'an doing something because she is fond of you is not wrong. This

proves he does not oppose Princess Yun'an being with you." After saying this, he couldn't help but cough again.

Lu Chen's mind stalled for a moment.

There was such a good thing?

Though Ji Yunmeng was not actually fond of him; she merely wanted the strength of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

At this moment, an Earth Realm Strong Person in the room spoke, "This Holy Decree from Emperor Zhou will likely put the Zhen Nan Prince Manor at an even greater disadvantage."

The man was around fifty, with a short beard and dressed in a gray long robe. His face was thin; right now his brows were knitted as he said in a deep voice, "The Empress Dowager's faction definitely doesn't want to see the Zhen Nan Prince Manor join hands with Emperor Zhou, so next they will certainly act against the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, especially against the Princely Heir."