

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

Upon hearing the words of the Earth Realm tributor in the room, everyone's gaze turned to Lu Chen, and a trace of worry appeared on their faces.

The elderly tributors with gray hair and beards had their brows tightly knit.

Lu Chen is the hope of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor. If anything happens to him, the manor would be completely doomed.

Now they felt that even sending three Earth Realm strong persons to protect Lu Chen might not be enough, and it should be more the better.

At this moment, Prince Zhen Nan's aged, spiritless eyes focused on Lu Chen, the dim candlelight casting an accent on his wrinkled face, making it appear even more withered, "Chen'er, since Princess Yun'an is fond of you, why don't you associate with her more?"

Seeing that even Prince Zhen Nan thought Ji Yunmeng liked him, Lu Chen sighed helplessly, "Father, do you also think Princess Yun'an truly likes me? Her sending the sword to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor clearly has another motive."

Prince Zhen Nan coughed, his thin shoulders trembling slightly with the effort, "Regardless of her intentions, for the time being, she and Emperor Zhou are on the side of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor."

Lu Chen nodded, "Okay, I understand, I'll do as you say, Father."

Actually, even without Prince Zhen Nan's words, Lu Chen planned to interact more with Ji Yunmeng; after all, he was still interested in her.

At this time, Lu Xun, standing on the left, spoke. Dressed in a blue robe, there was a scholarly calmness between his brows, "Do we really have to side with Emperor Zhou? He is clearly using the Zhen Nan Prince Manor."

Beside him, Fu Li, who was stroking his whiskers, interjected. He had a broad build and spoke with a low voice, "Currently, the only strategy to lighten the pressure is to side with Emperor Zhou."

Throughout the Great Zhou, not all were from the Empress Dowager Faction. Quite a few powers, or one could say court officials, secretly supported Emperor Zhou's reclaiming of power. However, because of the Pei Family's dominance, those powers and officials could only bury their thoughts deep within their hearts.

Now that Emperor Zhou indirectly signaled that he stands with the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, naturally, those from the Imperial Faction wouldn't trouble the manor. On the contrary, they'd do anything to protect Lu Chen, ensuring no harm comes to him.

So this is also a good thing for the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Prince Zhen Nan laid back on the bed, his cloudy eyes shifting slightly, "Fu Li is right. We need the power of the Imperial Faction to protect Chen'er. Since Emperor Zhou needs the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, he won't watch it head towards destruction."

"Even if Emperor Zhou does nothing, the Imperial Faction will secretly protect Chen'er."

The Emperor often doesn't need to do things personally, as long as he signals slightly, others will naturally take care of the rest.

After confirming to temporarily side with Emperor Zhou, Prince Zhen Nan sent the Earth Realm tributors and strategists away, leaving Lu Chen alone in the room.

Once they left, the room turned quiet, leaving only the flickering light of the oil lamp on the table, casting the shadows of the father and son on the mottled wall.

Prince Zhen Nan slightly lifted his eyelids and said to Lu Chen, "Chen'er, you needn't worry. With Lu Xun and others protecting you, you'll be safe. However, remember, if possible, never leave the capital."

"Even so, be cautious in all you do. Although you have a trace of Dragon Qi in you, which prevents ordinary spiritual evils and spirit martial artists from taking your life, they can still find indirect means to do so."

Lu Chen stood with his hands down, "Yes, Father, I will be careful and try not to leave the capital."

"But if I go to the Deceit Suppression Bureau, they would likely assign me a task outside the capital immediately."

Since the royal family wants to eliminate him, they wouldn't allow him to remain in the capital. Within a month, the Deceit Suppression Bureau would surely assign him a task to investigate outside the capital.

Prince Zhen Nan paused in silence, the dim light dancing on his face, "What you said is indeed possible. Given that, I will impart more Dragon Qi to you. Though its effects weaken significantly outside the capital, it will sharpen your senses, making it easier to detect spiritual evils and dangers."

As he said this, Prince Zhen Nan raised a finger resembling a gnarled tree, with dry skin speckled with brown age spots, and pointed at Lu Chen. The next moment, golden gas streams spiraled from his finger, tracing dim gold trails in the dim room, drifting gently toward Lu Chen.

In no time, the Dragon Qi merged into Lu Chen's forehead. As his body received the energy, he noticeably felt the suppression of spiritual evil within him become more evident.

This Dragon Qi had the power to suppress spiritual evil; thus, the more Dragon Qi, the less pain a spirit martial artist endured during cultivation.

With less pain in cultivation, wouldn't it be easier to progress? Across the entire Great Zhou Dynasty, perhaps there was no one for whom cultivation was easier than Emperor Zhou, who surely possessed the densest Dragon Qi.

After transmitting half the Dragon Qi to Lu Chen, Prince Zhen Nan suddenly began coughing violently. His frail body curled into the large chair, with a mouthful of old blood spurting out, staining the front of his garment, seeping into a dark red patch. Lu Chen quickly moved to his father's side, supporting his trembling shoulders, "Father, are you okay?"

Dragon Qi could suppress spiritual evil. Although Prince Zhen Nan suffered backlash from spiritual evil, he survived this long due to the Dragon Qi in his body. For an ordinary person facing the same level of backlash, death would be certain.

This time, Prince Zhen Nan transferred a significant portion of his Dragon Qi to Lu Chen at once. With such a drastic reduction, the spiritual evil within naturally became harder to suppress.

Prince Zhen Nan leaned on Lu Chen's arm, breathing heavily to adjust. He raised his bloodless face, struggling to speak, "I'm fine, my child."

Lu Chen looked at his father's aged face and hesitated before speaking, "Father, the Dragon Qi can suppress spiritual evil, right? You transferred so much to me at once; how will your body...?"

Lu Chen stopped short, realizing that when he felt the Dragon Qi's ability to contain spiritual evil, he foresaw that Prince Zhen Nan's health might worsen.

Prince Zhen Nan waved his frail hand, his voice weak yet stubborn, "It's nothing. I have few days left either way. You are my only child, the only hope for the Zhen Nan Prince Manor. Even if I were to go today, you must be unharmed."

Hearing his father's words, Lu Chen felt a mix of emotions. How tender, the heart of a parent.

Prince Zhen Nan, after catching his breath, glanced through the hazy light, recalling something, and asked, "What do you think of Princess Yun'an? If you were to engage in dual cultivation with her, could it elevate your realm?"

Lu Chen replied, "She is indeed one of the women who fulfills the conditions for dual cultivation."

Upon hearing this, Prince Zhen Nan immediately said, struggling to straighten himself, a trace of determination on his aged face, "In that case, I could ask Emperor Zhou for a marriage alliance for you."

Since Emperor Zhou intends to use Zhen Nan Prince Manor as a pawn, naturally, he couldn't think there would be no price to pay.

Prince Zhen Nan wasn't concerned that after marrying the princess, Ji Yunmeng would control the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor. After all, the Earth Realm tributors there only acknowledged bloodlines.

From Prince Zhen Nan's perspective, Ji Yunmeng had exceptional talent, and it was only a matter of time before she became an Earth Realm strong person. If they were to couple up, their offsprings might inherit exceptional talent, eliminating any concerns about succession.

Upon hearing his father's words, Lu Chen was taken aback, looking at the elderly man in front of him, slouched against the chair, his face sallow and breathing labored.

In his current state, how could he request such a thing from Emperor Zhou?

His health made it impossible for him to enter the palace. As for submitting a memorial, it would likely fall into the hands of the Empress Dowager, who would never allow the Zhen Nan Prince Manor to unite with Emperor Zhou. She would do everything in her power to prevent Ji Yunmeng from marrying into the manor.

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Lu Chen came back to his senses and said, "Father, your current health condition might not be suitable for entering the palace."

Hearing these words, Prince Zhen Nan's wrinkled face showed a gentle smile, the dim candlelight reflecting in his sunken eyes, "For your future, for the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, I must enter the palace even if it means burning my vitality."

This...

Lu Chen's mind was momentarily stunned.

If vitality is burned to spur the spiritual evil, it will madly devour vitality, and the vitality within Prince Zhen Nan is already scarce. If he truly burns his vitality, upon returning from the Imperial Palace, he will either be consumed by the spiritual evil and turn into something eerie or have his vitality completely exhausted, dying directly.

Lu Chen came back to his senses, and hurriedly said, "Father, you mustn't. If anything happens to you at this time, the Royal Family will have no more concerns and will certainly send assassins to recklessly kill me."

As long as Prince Zhen Nan lives for another day, the Royal Family will only dare to make small moves, because they too fear Prince Zhen Nan going all out before his death.

But if Prince Zhen Nan were to die, then they would have nothing to worry about, and as long as the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan was killed, the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor would be dissolved.

Prince Zhen Nan knew what Lu Chen was worried about. He leaned against the bed, his aged face exuding a calmness that comes from seeing through worldly affairs, and he spoke, "Chen'er, don't worry. I will only go to the Imperial Palace when I feel I can't hold on anymore."

Prince Zhen Nan also understood that if he dies, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor would likely face extermination, so he would only do what he needs at the last moment.

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen finally breathed a sigh of relief. His current cultivation state was still not high. Although there were many Earth Realm strong persons in the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, without Prince Zhen Nan's deterrent effect, those forces wanting the Zhen Nan Prince Manor's demise would inevitably swarm in one wave after another.

Lu Chen still wanted Prince Zhen Nan to live a few more days, at least until he became stronger.

At this time, Prince Zhen Nan said, "It's late, you should go back and rest."

Lu Chen glanced at the nearing-death Prince Zhen Nan.

That bloodless face appeared increasingly wax yellow under the candlelight, his cracked lips slightly quivering, and then he called to the servants standing by the door, "Attendants."

Upon hearing Lu Chen's voice, the maid outside immediately pushed the door and entered, while two young women in green dresses bowed their heads and stood by the door.

Prince Zhen Nan continued, "Go back, the rest can be handled by them."

At this moment, Prince Zhen Nan was surrounded by a large amount of dark red blood, which he had just vomited during the spiritual evil's backlash. The bloodstains spread on the mattress, a shocking sight.

Next, the entire room would certainly need to be cleaned by the maids, and Lu Chen said, "Then Father, rest well, I won't disturb you."

As his words fell, Lu Chen turned and left Prince Zhen Nan's room.

After Lu Chen left, Zhao Yu emerged from the shadow of a pillar, walked to Prince Zhen Nan's bed, and whispered, "My lord, do you really intend to marry Princess Yun'an to the princely heir? Princess Yun'an is the first princess to receive a title, even those princes have yet to receive one, proving how much Emperor Zhou favors Princess Yun'an."

"Given the current state of Zhen Nan Prince Manor, Emperor Zhou will likely not agree to this marriage."

Emperor Zhou's princes had long been of age to be titled, yet he delayed giving them titles, but gave Ji Yunmeng, a princess, one, showing Emperor Zhou's profound favor for Ji Yunmeng.

Although Zhao Yu believed Ji Yunmeng admired Lu Chen, their identities were ultimately opposed, as Ji Yunmeng was a Royal Family princess while the Royal Family had consistently wanted the Zhen Nan Prince Manor to disappear.

Prince Zhen Nan leaned against the headboard, speaking indifferently, "If Emperor Zhou is unwilling to marry the princess, then the Zhen Nan Prince Manor has no reason to do anything for him."

Since ancient times, marriage alliances have been the best political statement, and Emperor Zhou simply lifted Ji Yunmeng's grounding order, intending to leverage the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor, which certainly would not work.

Hearing Prince Zhen Nan's words, Zhao Yu sighed, his face showing a hint of worry, and then continued asking, "Do you really intend to burn your vitality at the last moment of life and enter the palace to meet Emperor Zhou?"

Prince Zhen Nan slightly lifted his eyelids, his muddled eyes looking out into the pitch-black night through the window, "Emperor Zhou is now trapped in the palace, only if I go there first can I meet him."

Zhao Yu thought for a moment, paced two steps in front of the bed, and said, "Actually, it may not be necessary for you to enter the palace. Since Princess Yun'an is fond of the princely heir, why don't we subtly hint to Princess Yun'an to mention this marriage to Emperor Zhou herself?"

"Princess Yun'an is, after all, Emperor Zhou's daughter, no matter how domineering the Empress Dowager might be, she shouldn't prevent her from seeing Emperor Zhou."

Prince Zhen Nan shook his head, his emaciated hand pressing against the bed edge, "Emperor Zhou seized power through a coup once, and this time he issued a holy decree to lift Princess Yun'an's grounding order. In the Empress Dowager's eyes, Emperor Zhou is clearly restless again, and she will likely stop important people from seeing Emperor Zhou."

He paused, a gleam flashing in his murky eyes, "However, Princess Yun'an can try."

After all, Ji Yunmeng is also a princess, also Emperor Zhou's daughter. If such a thing as the Empress Dowager preventing father and daughter from meeting spreads, it won't be good for her reputation.

There are already many in the court dissatisfied with the Empress Dowager, even with the strong presence of the Pei Family, they dare not act recklessly.

...

The cold moonlight streamed through the window into the room, casting over two pale figures, rendering the intertwined bodies on the bed hazy.

After Lu Chen returned, he immediately began dual cultivation with Bai Qingqing.

He was eager to become stronger, as the current situation of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor left him feeling insecure.

The higher the realm of a spirit martial artist, the more difficult it is to nurture offspring, so he must quickly get Bai Qingqing pregnant before his next realm breakthrough, otherwise, once he breaks through to the Spirit Realm, it will be even harder for Bai Qingqing to conceive his child.

He currently desperately needed the system's rewards, and now he only had a copy of the "Spirit Evil Body Refining Skill," which was too slow for cultivation advancement.

Bai Qingqing seemed to understand Lu Chen's thoughts, so she had been cooperating with him during this period, yet she still suspected Lu Chen's identity, always feeling like there was another soul inside Lu Chen's body.

After another session, Lu Chen let out a deep breath, lowering his gaze to the stunning, flushed jade face—under the moonlight, her brows and eyes were like a painting, with fine beads of sweat still lingering on her forehead and a few strands of hair wet with sweat clinging to her temple.

He wondered when he would succeed, as he was about to report to the Deceit Suppression Bureau, and when he did, this power of his would not be enough.

Although three Earth Realm strong persons secretly protected him, it was, after all, not his own power, leaving Lu Chen feeling uneasy, as only when he himself was strong enough would he feel safe.

As Lu Chen was distracted, suddenly, the system's prompt sounded in his mind.

"Ding, Congratulations to the host for helping Bai Qingqing conceive an heir, you are awarded the special constitution Netherworld Evil Control Body."

Upon hearing the system prompt, Lu Chen paused, thinking how his wish came true.

For a while, Lu Chen felt extremely excited, and immediately opened the system interface to see what the system had rewarded this time.

[Netherworld Evil Control Body: Special constitution, while absorbing spiritual evil, one can ignore all side effects, and can also induce spiritual evil in others.]"

While staring at the text on the system interface, the system prompt sounded again.

"Do you wish to activate the special constitution Netherworld Evil Control Body?"

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Upon hearing the system prompt, Lu Chen did not hesitate and silently chanted in his heart, "Activate."

The moment Lu Chen's words fell, a refreshing sensation surged in his heart. At once, Lu Chen felt an unprecedented relaxation in his body.

Lu Chen then attempted to absorb the spiritual evil in the air. The next moment, the spiritual evil in the room continuously flowed into his body, and as the spiritual evil entered, Lu Chen realized he indeed no longer felt any pain.

Even without dual cultivation to distract his attention, when the spiritual evil entered his body and consumed the vitality of his cells, there was not a trace of discomfort or pain on his body.

Moreover, he found that seemingly after the spiritual evil consumed his vitality, it generated a strange material. After this material integrated into his body, it made him stronger and expanded the meridians in his body, allowing the spiritual evil to flow more smoothly through him.

Feeling the material generated by the spiritual evil, Lu Chen felt a little odd. He had a sense of familiarity, yet he couldn't recall where he had encountered this type of thing.

After thinking for a moment, Lu Chen decided to give this peculiar material a name.

Lu Chen thought in his heart, let's call it "Mysterious Material."

As a large amount of spiritual evil surged into Lu Chen's body, his realm was continuously advancing, and in the room, the spiritual evil of several Deceit Pearls was also rapidly depleting.

Mid-stage Human Realm... Late Stage of Human Realm... Peak of Human Realm...

Just one step away, and Lu Chen could break through to the Spirit Realm.

However, at this moment, Lu Chen clearly felt that he had reached a bottleneck in his realm, and even if he continued to absorb spiritual evil, he could no longer break through. It seemed like he needed an opportunity for breakthrough.

Feeling the continuously strengthening aura emanating from Lu Chen, Bai Qingqing was stunned. She clearly felt that Lu Chen's formidable presence had surpassed her own, and beneath Lu Chen, she felt immense pressure, indicating that Lu Chen's realm was now higher than hers.

This is simply unbelievable.

Lu Chen had only taken a little over a month to go from an ordinary person to surpassing her realm. He must have been possessed by an eerie spirit!

Otherwise, how could he absorb spiritual evil so easily when only eerie spirits can absorb it without discomfort?

After Lu Chen's breakthrough, he adjusted the spiritual evil within his body and then turned his gaze back to Bai Qingqing, who was staring intently at him, her beautiful eyes continuously scrutinizing him. Smiling, Lu Chen said, "I have some good news to tell you."

Bai Qingqing suspiciously asked, "What good news?"

Lu Chen said, "You're pregnant."

Hearing this, Bai Qingqing's mind went blank for a moment, but she quickly realized that pregnancy involves a process and has signs. She didn't even know she was pregnant, so how could Lu Chen possibly know?

Bai Qingqing thought Lu Chen was teasing her and said expressionlessly, "It's not easy for a Spirit Martial Artist to conceive offspring."

Seeing Bai Qingqing's reaction, Lu Chen knew she didn't believe him and said, "In a few days, you'll understand."

After all, she had just become pregnant, and the signs of pregnancy, such as sleepiness, craving sour foods, and morning sickness, had not yet appeared.

At this moment, Lu Chen turned over and lay side by side with Bai Qingqing on the soft couch.

Since his realm had already reached a bottleneck and Bai Qingqing was pregnant, there was no need to continue exhausting her.

Seeing Lu Chen let her off so easily, Bai Qingqing was a bit puzzled. Previously, Lu Chen wouldn't rest until he had exhausted her for one or two hours, but today he let her go so quickly?

Could it be that he broke through, and dual cultivation was no longer effective? Lu Chen's dual cultivation technique was too incredible, allowing his realm to advance so rapidly, and this technique seemed to have no drawbacks. In this world, no technique comes without drawbacks, as they all absorb spiritual evil for cultivation, and every technique has its downsides.

Either this technique must be of an extremely high grade, or the technique has a very low upper limit.

Bai Qingqing suspected that after reaching a certain realm, this dual cultivation technique would become useless, which is why Lu Chen let her off and didn't continue dual cultivating with her.

At this moment, Bai Qingqing tentatively asked, "What realm are you at now?"

Lu Chen didn't hide it, directly saying, "Peak of Human Realm."

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Bai Qingqing slightly widened her beautiful eyes, sat up, turned her head to look at Lu Chen with disbelief, "Really?"

Lu Chen turned his head to look at her stunning, shocked face and smilingly said, "You're my wife, why would I lie to you?"

Bai Qingqing remained silent. She herself was only at the Mid-stage Human Realm, even with the full support of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor's resources, yet Lu Chen had taken only a little over a month to reach the Peak of Human Realm from an ordinary person.

At Lu Chen's cultivation speed, it would take no more than half a year before he becomes a Spirit Realm Spirit Warrior, wouldn't it?

Perhaps not even half a year. He's already at the Peak of Human Realm now, and maybe one day soon, he'll reach the Spirit Realm, perhaps in a few days, or next month.

How terrifying exactly is the eerie spirit possessing Lu Chen's body!

Thinking of this, Bai Qingqing's eyes were filled with wariness.

Seeing Bai Qingqing's wary look at him, Lu Chen asked, "What? Are you beginning to suspect I'm possessed by an eerie spirit again?"

Bai Qingqing coldly asked, "Who exactly are you? You absolutely cannot be Lu Chen."

Even the Grand Ancestor of Zhou and the First Generation Prince Zhen Nan weren't as incredible as Lu Chen, and his realm advancement speed was unprecedented, possibly never to be surpassed.

This truly is not something a human could achieve.

Hearing Bai Qingqing's words, Lu Chen's lips slightly curled, and he said, "I told you last time, even if I'm not Lu Chen, what can you do to me?"

Seeing Lu Chen's arrogance, Bai Qingqing's jade fist slightly clenched. When Lu Chen's realm was lower than hers, she couldn't do anything to him, and even if Lu Chen were possessed by an eerie spirit, because Lu Chen was Prince Zhen Nan's only heir, they couldn't directly take action against Lu Chen.

And now that Lu Chen's strength had surpassed hers, she was even more powerless against him. Could it be that this eerie spirit will continue to occupy Lu Chen's body, living under his identity forever?

If it goes on like this...

It actually doesn't seem so bad?

This current Lu Chen is much more powerful than the previous useless one, and his methods are endless. If he takes control of the Prince's Mansion, the fate of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor will likely be rewritten.

If it were the previous Lu Chen, once the Prince Zhen Nan dies, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor would probably be quickly ruined by Lu Chen.

Thinking of this, Bai Qingqing's mind trembled. Could it be that Prince Zhen Nan has figured this out, which is why he claimed Lu Chen wasn't possessed by an eerie spirit?

With Prince Zhen Nan's strength and experience, how could he not notice that Lu Chen was possessed by an eerie spirit, yet he insisted that Lu Chen wasn't possessed.

Perhaps Prince Zhen Nan saw the value in this eerie spirit and decided to take a gamble.

Who knows, after being possessed by the eerie spirit, Lu Chen might even live a few more days.

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After a round of mental supplementation, Bai Qingqing no longer obsessed over whether Lu Chen was possessed by strange evil spirits. For Lu Chen, being possessed by such spirits might actually allow him to live longer, which was not a bad thing.

Bai Qingqing thought to herself that before she conceived a child with Lu Chen, she wouldn't worry about him for now. When she had children with Lu Chen in the future, ensuring the Zhen Nan Prince Manor had heirs, she would then find a way to remove the strange evil spirits from Lu Chen.

However, speaking of this, if she managed to remove the strange evil from Lu Chen, would his cultivation still remain?

Spirit Martial Artists primarily focus on Body Refining and do not cultivate the soul, so even if the soul is impacted, the Realm wouldn't decline dramatically.

Currently, the strange entity attached to Lu Chen is helping him ascend through the Realms; once the entity is expelled, Lu Chen's Realm might still remain?

Bai Qingqing was momentarily startled by this thought, could this also be one of the reasons Prince Zhen Nan didn't expose Lu Chen?

To let this strange evil help Lu Chen become stronger, and wait until Lu Chen has grown to a certain level, then have the Earth Realm tributors of the Prince's Mansion join forces to expel the evil spirit from Lu Chen.

Although by that time, Prince Zhen Nan would likely have passed away, Prince Zhen Nan could undoubtedly leave a decree before his death, informing the Earth Realm tributors of the Prince's Mansion about Lu Chen's situation.

Bai Qingqing felt a pang of sentiment, Prince Zhen Nan was indeed still the same Prince Zhen Nan, even scheming against the strange evils.

Thinking of this, Bai Qingqing cast a mocking glance at Lu Chen, contemplating how the entity possessing Lu Chen possibly had no idea it was being schemed upon by Prince Zhen Nan. It probably believed it could truly replace Lu Chen and continue to enjoy wealth and glory among humans.

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Early next morning.

Bai Qingqing went to Prince Zhen Nan's room.

After transferring half of the Dragon Qi to Lu Chen, Prince Zhen Nan's body had deteriorated further, and now he was bedridden.

Seeing Bai Qingqing arrive, Prince Zhen Nan lay on his back with difficulty and asked, "What is it?"

Bai Qingqing reported directly, "My Lord, last night the Princely Heir broke through successively, and now his Realm has reached the Peak of the Human Realm."

Upon hearing this, Prince Zhen Nan fell into silence for a while. He suspected that the Dragon Qi had played a role, as it could suppress spiritual evil, making cultivation less painful.

However, even with Dragon Qi, it had only minor auxiliary effects, merely making cultivation a bit easier and not significantly accelerating the cultivation speed. Advancing directly to the Peak of the Human Realm overnight seemed too exaggerated.

Seeing Prince Zhen Nan not speaking, Bai Qingqing reminded him, "My Lord, the Princely Heir's rapid advancement in Realm is somewhat unusual."

Prince Zhen Nan was well aware that Lu Chen's rapid advancement was abnormal, but seeing Bai Qingqing bringing it up specifically, he understood what Bai Qingqing intended to convey and said, "Let it be, perhaps it's the magic left by his mother taking effect."

Hearing Prince Zhen Nan say this, Bai Qingqing chose not to speak further, thinking that the Lord must be prepared.

...

At the Training Ground.

Zhao Yu and the other two stood dumbfounded as they looked at Lu Chen in front of them.

At this moment, Lu Chen had removed the Obscure Light Pearl that concealed his aura, unleashing it entirely.

Feeling the aura of the Peak of the Human Realm emanating from Lu Chen, Zhao Yu and the other two reacted as if they'd seen a ghost.

Rising several minor Realms in one night directly to the Peak of the Human Realm?

This Princely Heir was beyond being called a prodigy.

Even strange evil spirits didn't ascend through Realms this rapidly.

How exactly did he achieve this?

Lu Chen spoke up at this moment, "Now that my Realm has reached the Peak of the Human Realm, it feels like there's no path forward, and absorbing spiritual evil doesn't seem to help in advancing the Realm."

"Do any of you know what I should do next to break through to the Spirit Realm?"

Upon hearing this, Zhao Yu and the other two snapped out of their shock, exchanged a glance, and momentarily buried their astonishment.

This time, Fu Li spoke with a smile, "Princely Heir, there's no need to rush; the priority is to stabilize your Realm. After the Realm is steady, breaking through to the Spirit Realm won't be too late."

Zhao Yu also added, "Indeed, Princely Heir, increasing your Realm too quickly might be detrimental to your body."

Seeing Fu Li and Zhao Yu not directly addressing his question, Lu Chen's gaze settled on Lu Xun.

Lu Xun originally intended to advise Lu Chen against rushing to a breakthrough, but under the unwavering gaze from Lu Chen, Lu Xun had no choice but to say, "Princely Heir, moving from the Human Realm to the Spirit Realm requires battling with strange evil spirits, as it makes finding the breakthrough opportunity easier."

While battling strange evil spirits, both bodies release spiritual evil that constantly collide. In this process, on one hand, the body can improve its affinity with spiritual evil through continuous manipulation. On the other hand, different spiritual evils colliding can generate some special substances, which, upon entering the body, greatly assist Spirit Martial Artists in advancing their Realm.

Of course, battle isn't the only way to break through; some have reached the Spirit Realm without fighting strange evil spirits. However, such breakthroughs take significantly longer.

After hearing Lu Xun's words, Lu Chen said, "So that's it, no wonder absorbing spiritual evil no matter how had no effect."

Lu Xun continued, "Princely Heir, advancing your Realm too quickly isn't necessarily a good thing. Rapid advancement can easily lead to a backlash from the spiritual evil. Many prodigies in Dazhou suffered spiritual evil backlash due to rapid advancement, eventually becoming ordinary people or worse, turning into strange evils."

Although spiritual evil is necessary for a Spirit Martial Artist's cultivation, it is inherently toxic to the human body. Absorbing a large amount of this 'poison' in a short period without sufficient resistance can lead to poisoning, known as spiritual evil backlash.

Severe backlash may cost one's life, while less severe cases might result in complete loss of cultivation, leaving one an ordinary person. Even being an ordinary person can be fortunate; the real fear is mental collapse, leading to becoming a strange evil.

Many strange evils in this world result from Spirit Martial Artists succumbing to spiritual evil backlash, which is why the Deceit Suppression Bureau oversees all Spirit Martial Artists in Dazhou.

After hearing Lu Xun's advice, Lu Chen was about to speak when a servant hurriedly approached him, "Greetings, Princely Heir!"

Lu Chen asked, "What is it?"

The servant quickly replied, "The Deceit Suppression Bureau sent word that there aren't many tasks at the moment, and the Princely Heir can report there in half a month instead."

Lu Chen paused upon hearing this, half a month later?

Initially, he was supposed to report to the Deceit Suppression Bureau in a few days. Judging by this, it seemed they didn't want him there.

Zhao Yu said at that moment, "Princely Heir, this is good news. It seems the Deceit Suppression Bureau is worried something might happen to you once you arrive."

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The Deceit Suppression Bureau is responsible for supervising all Spirit Martial Artists across the land and also for slaying monsters and devils, suppressing the strange and malevolent entities, which is quite a lot of work.

Now the Zhou royal family has tossed the hot potato of the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan to the Deceit Suppression Bureau, hoping to use the bureau to eliminate Lu Chen, but the bureau naturally does not wish to take on this task.

The Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau is no fool; he is certainly aware that if something were to happen to the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor would surely retaliate against the Deceit Suppression Bureau first, before going after the Zhou royal family.

Although the Deceit Suppression Bureau is filled with strong individuals, its overall strength has not reached the point where it can contend against the entire Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

If the Zhen Nan Prince Manor were to retaliate against the Deceit Suppression Bureau, the bureau would certainly be doomed. By the time the royal family's strong individuals react, the entire Deceit Suppression Bureau might have already been razed to the ground by the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Upon hearing Zhao Yu's words, Lu Chen spoke up, "It's not necessarily a good thing. I still plan to fight with the strange and malevolent entities to find an opportunity for a breakthrough."

This...

The three people, including Zhao Yu, were momentarily taken aback.

Once Lu Xun regained his senses, he immediately reminded, "Heir, there's no need for you to come into contact with the strange and malevolent entities outside. Our Zhen Nan Prince Manor is keeping some of them, the heir can practice with those."

Lu Chen said, "I've been to the dungeon to see those strange and malevolent entities, and they have already lost their ferocity. Fighting with them might not be very effective."

The Zhen Nan Prince Manor primarily keeps strange and malevolent entities to use them as training material, so they do not treat those entities well, only ensuring that they stay alive, which makes them look listless, as if they're about to die.

These strange and malevolent entities have hardly any combat capability; a few days ago, Lu Chen fought with those resentful souls, and their strength was indeed subpar.

Lu Xun and the others understood that the strange and malevolent entities of the Zhen Nan Prince Manor couldn't satisfy Lu Chen's combat needs, yet staying at the Zhen Nan Prince Manor was safer. They prioritized Lu Chen's life safety over helping him with his realm advancement.

To them, as long as Lu Chen is alive, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor remains intact. Lu Chen's strength is not particularly important, as the collective Earth Realm strong people with them could even contend with the Zhou royal family, and Lu Chen just needs to hold the fort at the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

At that moment, Zhao Yu suddenly thought of something and said, "Heir, what you said can be easily resolved. We can have the Hidden Guards go outside the city to capture some ferocious strange and malevolent entities for you to practice with."

The Zhen Nan Prince Manor is not without manpower; going outside the city to capture some ferocious strange and malevolent entities would not be a difficult task.

Lu Chen thought for a while and then said, "That would be fine too."

The main reason Lu Chen wanted to go out was not entirely to fight strange and malevolent entities; he also wanted to see if he could encounter other Ancestors of the Strange.

Even though he had given the list to the Hidden Guards to investigate the existence of those Ancestors of the Strange in this world, no one could be sure if those Ancestors would change their names in this world. If they didn't use their original names, the Hidden Guards would find it very difficult to track them down.

For example, Ji Yunmeng is called Immortal Venerable Yun Meng in the Burial Furnace and Cloud Dream Emperor in the Deceit Realm, and Bai Qingqing and Pei Shuhua also have other names in the Deceit Realm. Hence, even if other Ancestors of the Strange exist in this world, their names might not be the original ones.

...

The Deceit Suppression Bureau.

The Deceit Suppression Bureau occupies an extensive area. In the entire capital city, there are three places whose areas far exceed other residences or institutions: the Imperial Palace, the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, and the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

The Deceit Suppression Bureau has numerous members, not only because it slays monsters and devils but also because it supervises all Spirit Martial Artists across the land. Most importantly, the bureau incarcerates many strange and malevolent entities each year, which leads to its continuous expansion.

On one of the nine-story towers of the Deceit Suppression Bureau, a middle-aged man dressed in black brocade robes, with a Demon-slaying Blade at his waist, stood on the pavilion, gazing at the bustling capital city.

At this time, several Commanders of the Deceit Suppressing Guards approached him from behind.

"We pay respects to the Commander!"

The man didn't turn around, only letting out a faint "Mm."

The Commanders then lifted their heads as the Commander of the Deceit Suppressing Guards, Fan Yaodong, spoke, "Have you conveyed the message to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor?"

A Commander replied, "Sir, I personally went to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor just now and relayed your words to the manor's attendants."

Fan Yaodong said, "Good to hear."

At this time, another Commander said, "Sir, if you are concerned about something happening to Lu Chen at the Deceit Suppression Bureau, why not assign him to a clerical position? As long as he doesn't leave the bureau, no one should be able to harm him."

The Deceit Suppression Bureau is guarded by Earth Realm strong people who can detect any disturbances. So long as Lu Chen stays within the bureau, it wouldn't be easy for assassins to act against him under the noses of Earth Realm experts.

At this moment, another Deceit Suppressing Guard spoke, "Sir, since the Zhen Nan Prince Manor dared to accept the Holy Decree, they must have made thorough

preparations. They are bound to assign an Earth Realm expert to protect Lu Chen, so there's no need for excessive worry."

Ever since Fan Yaodong heard of Emperor Zhou's decree for Lu Chen to come to the Deceit Suppression Bureau, he had been anxious, feeling as if a calamity was looming over the bureau.

Upon hearing the Commanders' words, Fan Yaodong turned to glance at them and then said, "You are oversimplifying things."

"This involves court intrigue. Now, Your Majesty supports the Zhen Nan Prince Manor. Whether the Deceit Suppression Bureau sides with one or the other, it may lead to absolute catastrophe."

If something happens to Lu Chen, the Deceit Suppression Bureau would offend the Imperial Faction. Should Emperor Zhou regain power in the future, the bureau would face retribution, and they might be wiped out by the Zhen Nan Prince Manor before the Emperor could move against them.

If Lu Chen stays safe at the Deceit Suppression Bureau, then the bureau would offend the Empress Dowager and her faction, leading to a similarly difficult situation. As the current ruler, the Empress Dowager could easily target the bureau.

Fan Yaodong now felt overwhelmed; ever since he took the position of Commander, he had maintained neutrality, never favoring any faction in the court, but now the fire of court intrigue had reached the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

At that moment, a Deceit Suppressing Guard entered the pavilion and said, "Sir, Princess Yun'an has arrived."

Hearing this, Fan Yaodong glanced at the Commanders, then said, "You may leave."

The Commanders of the Deceit Suppression Bureau respectfully said, "We take our leave."

After they left, Ji Yunmeng soon appeared in the pavilion. Fan Yaodong specially brewed a pot of tea, personally pouring a cup for Ji Yunmeng, then respectfully said, "I wonder what brings Your Highness the Princess to the Deceit Suppression Bureau today?"

In the past, Ji Yunmeng's visits to the Deceit Suppression Bureau would certainly be to undertake tasks from the bureau, then head out to slay the strange and malevolent entities to enhance her strength.

But Ji Yunmeng's visit today might not necessarily be related to undertaking a task from the bureau.

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

Ji Yunmeng sat at the tea table, picked up the tea that Fan Yaodong personally poured, and took a gentle sip. Today, she wore a moon-white long dress, with only a white jade hairpin in her hair, making her appear a bit colder.

The tea entered her mouth, and only then did she raise her eyes to look at the person opposite, speaking in a neutral tone: "When I used to visit the Deceit Suppression Bureau, Commander Fan never brought out such good tea."

Fan Yaodong stood opposite the tea table, and upon hearing this, smiled awkwardly, reaching up to stroke his short beard under his chin.

"This tea was also bought from a merchant from the Western Wilderness a few days ago by this official."

Ji Yunmeng put down the teacup in her hand, and the cup made a light sound as it touched the table.

She raised her eyes to look at Fan Yaodong and straightforwardly said: "I heard that the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan will soon be serving at the Deceit Suppression Bureau. I wonder how Commander Fan plans to arrange things?"

Upon hearing this question, Fan Yaodong's face twitched slightly, and his fingers unconsciously curled up in the sleeves.

Sure enough, she came for Lu Chen.

The matter of Ji Yunmeng giving her sword to Lu Chen had already spread like wildfire in the Capital City, and Ji Yunmeng had been placed under house arrest by the Empress Dowager because of it, while Emperor Zhou had issued a decree to lift Ji Yunmeng's house arrest.

Fan Yaodong had been most afraid to see Ji Yunmeng these few days, but she still came, and as soon as she did, she mentioned Lu Chen.

Fan Yaodong lowered his eyes, sorted out his thoughts, and then asked back: "How does the Princess think this official should arrange it?"

Ji Yunmeng sat there expressionless, the moon-white hem of her skirt draping over the edge of her chair, her fingers gently caressing the edge of the teacup, and said: "I am not the Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau; how to arrange it is up to Lord Fan, not me. Besides, I have no relation with the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, I am just curious, so I asked casually."

Fan Yaodong lifted his head, his smile containing a hint of helplessness: "The Princess jests. Now, who in the Capital City doesn't know of the deep relationship between Her Highness the Princess and the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, even gifting him the sword that you've used for many years? Since the Princess came for Master Lu today, she must have some suggestions on how to arrange Master Lu's position."

Ji Yunmeng's gaze was indifferent, her fingers stopped caressing the teacup, and she said: "I wouldn't call it a suggestion. I just wanted to remind Lord Fan that although the Zhen Nan Prince Manor has declined, the number of Earth Realm Strong Persons is likely no less than those at the Deceit Suppression Bureau."

Fan Yaodong nodded slightly, "Her Highness the Princess be assured, this is something that this official is aware of."

At this point, Fan Yaodong suddenly thought of something, and he continued: "Her Highness the Princess, you should also know about the current predicament of this official, and in the past few days, it is not only you who have come to the Deceit Suppression Bureau."

Upon hearing this, Ji Yunmeng frowned slightly. She naturally understood what this meant — evidently, the Empress Dowager had also sent someone to the Deceit Suppression Bureau to pressure Fan Yaodong.

Fan Yaodong sighed and raised his hand to rub his brow, continuing: "You also know, currently, that woman is very powerful. If this official doesn't follow her orders, I'm afraid my position as Commander will be at its end."

Ji Yunmeng slightly furrowed her brows, remaining silent. She naturally understood; Pei Shuhua intended to remove Lu Chen, and would certainly replace those who did not obey her with obedient ones.

The spout of the teapot on the table emitted wisps of steam, rendering the hall momentarily silent except for the faint sound of breathing.

Seeing Ji Yunmeng silent, Fan Yaodong smiled bitterly, folding his hands inside his sleeves, he said: "It seems Her Highness the Princess also has no good solution. In that case, this official will have to resign and give way to better talent."

Fan Yaodong knew very well that, under these current circumstances, the best outcome might be to leave the Deceit Suppression Bureau and pass the buck onto someone else.

This burden is too heavy; he definitely cannot carry it.

Ji Yunmeng came to her senses, lifted her eyes to look at him, and asked: "I wonder to whom you intend to give this position?"

Fan Yaodong asked: "Her Highness the Princess must have heard about He Dongqi's breakthrough to the Earth Realm, right?"

Ji Yunmeng nodded: "It is said that He Dongqi has just broken through, and has had a bout with you. It seems he really wants your position."

Her gaze fell on Fan Yaodong's face, "Could it be, you are planning to give him this position?"

Fan Yaodong smiled and raised his hand to pick up the teacup in front of him, taking a sip, before slowly saying: "It was just a usual sparring, nothing more."

"However, he really wants this position."

Saying this, Fan Yaodong shifted the topic back to Lu Chen.

He raised his eyes to look at Ji Yunmeng, with a somewhat pensive expression: "Her Highness the Princess, this official has already sent word to the Zhen Nan Prince Manor, asking Master Lu to come to the Deceit Suppression Bureau to report in half a month."

He paused, then continued: "After half a month, whatever He Dongqi does, that will be He Dongqi's business."

Ji Yunmeng laughed coldly in her heart.

She lowered her eyes to look at the teacup in front of her, the tea inside gently rippling, reflecting her eyebrows and eyes.

This sly old fox, truly non-stick.

She lifted her head, looked at Fan Yaodong, and said: "Once the position of Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau is lost, it will not be easy to reclaim it. You should be aware that currently in the Capital City, whether it be those two individuals or the Princes, they all covet this position."

Fan Yaodong naturally knew. The Deceit Suppression Bureau was mainly responsible for suppressing supernatural disturbances and overseeing Spirit Martial Artists across the land. Because of these two functions, the Deceit Suppression Bureau wielded tremendous power—saying you harbored supernatural disturbances allowed them to immediately storm your residence to eliminate demons and monsters, claiming you were about to turn into a supernatural disturbance permitted them to slay you without reporting it.

Of course, the primary reason all factions wanted to control the Deceit Suppression Bureau was because of its abundance of powerful fighters.

Controlling the Deceit Suppression Bureau was equivalent to possessing a formidable force.

Whether it was the Emperor, the Empress Dowager, or those Princes, they all wanted to control the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

However, due to the rampant supernatural disturbances in Dazhou in recent years, all factions maintained a tacit understanding, refraining from wantonly inserting their hands into the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

People also understood that if they recklessly planted pawns in the Deceit Suppression Bureau and made it the center of struggle, Dazhou's supernatural disturbances would only become more rampant.

Upon hearing Ji Yunmeng's reminder, Fan Yaodong waved his hand dismissively and said, "I naturally understand, but I am well aware of the heavy responsibility of this position, and over the years, I have dedicated most of my time to cultivation, failing to fulfill my duties as Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau."

Seeing Fan Yaodong's response, Ji Yunmeng realized he was determined to pass the buck to someone else.

She said nothing further, stood up, and her moon-white skirt swayed lightly with the movement.

She lowered her eyes to give Fan Yaodong a glance and said, "In that case, I will not disturb you any further, Lord Fan."

Fan Yaodong quickly stood up, cupped his hands, and said, "I respectfully send off Her Highness the Princess."

Ji Yunmeng turned and walked out, pausing briefly at the threshold before finally stepping out.

Fan Yaodong wanted to remain neutral, unwilling to take the blame, set on making a run for it, and continuing to talk to him about Lu Chen would be useless.

She would return when a new Commander was appointed for the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

A few days later.

The night was like water, the moon hidden behind clouds, casting only a hazy light.

In front of the Liu Mansion, two stone lions crouched silently on either side of the steps, and the lanterns above the gate swayed gently in the night breeze.

A large shadow emerged from the street corner, walking step by step towards the gate of the Liu Mansion.

The shadow was about three meters tall, and the ground trembled slightly as it moved.

The night watch servant was dozing beside the gatehouse, suddenly feeling the ground's tremor, he opened his eyes groggily.

In the next instant, he clearly saw the silhouette before him, a wolf-headed creature with a human body, its entire body covered in gray-black fur, and its eyes glowed an eerie green in the dark.

The servant's face turned deathly pale with fright, his legs turned to jelly, and his lips quivered for a long moment before he finally managed to shout, "There's a disturbance!"

Before the words were fully out, the claws of the wolf demon already slashed out.

The claws swiped through the night air, bringing with them a gust of bloody wind, and the servants at the Liu Mansion's entrance didn't even have time to flee before their bodies were severed into pieces, blood splattering the gate and stone lions.

The next moment, the wolf demon swung its claws again. With a thunderous "boom," the gate of the Liu Mansion shattered instantly, the gate panels splintering, sending wooden shrapnel flying.

The wolf demon stormed directly into the Liu Mansion, and immediately, terrifying cries, screams, and the clatter of fallen objects echoed out, resonating throughout the entire street in the night air.

It wasn't long before a group of Deceit Suppressing Guards in black uniforms, each armed with a Demon-slaying Blade, surged in from various directions, encircling the entire Liu Mansion tightly.

The torchlight flickered in the night, illuminating the tense faces of the Deceit Suppressing Guards.

Fan Yaodong stood on the rooftop opposite the Liu Mansion, the night wind whipping his robes. His eyes fell on the three-meter tall, wolf-headed creature within the courtyard of the mansion, a grave expression flashing across his face.

Moonlight peeked through the cloud gaps, shining on his furrowed brows and the hand gripping the sword hilt.

At this moment, several Commanders from the Deceit Suppression Bureau, wielding Demon-slaying Blades, advanced in from different directions to flank and attack the wolf demon.

The glint of blades flickered in the night, but with just a brief clash, several Earth Realm Commanders were swatted away by the wolf demon's massive claw, their bodies slamming heavily into the courtyard wall, causing the bricks to shatter and dust to rise.

Fan Yaodong's gaze sharpened, his right hand gripping the sword hilt, he slowly drew out the Demon-slaying Blade. The blade's edge caught the moonlight, glowing with a cold, piercing gleam.

He shouted, "Everyone, fall back!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Fan Yaodong leaped down from the rooftop, his figure swooping down like a raptor towards the courtyard, the Demon-slaying Blade in his hand slicing through the air in an arc, striking at the wolf demon.

## **Chapter 2237 - 1927: From Now On, I'll Leave the Deceit Suppression Bureau to You and Your Colleagues**

Capital city, Fan Mansion.

Today, the Fan Mansion is exceptionally lively.

A man in a dark long robe, along with a group of senior officials from the Deceit Suppression Bureau, arrived at the Fan Mansion.

Once inside the Fan Mansion, they went straight to the room of the mansion's master. At that moment, Fan Yaodong was lying on the bed, pale and looking as if he were on the verge of death.

He Dongqi furrowed his brow upon seeing Fan Yaodong in such a condition.

Just then, Fan Yaodong began to cough violently. His son quickly supported him, saying, "Father, are you all right? I'll go call a doctor right away."

Fan Yaodong hastily raised his hand to stop him, saying: "No need, I can still hold on."

Saying this, Fan Yaodong lifted his head and glanced at He Dongqi and the senior officials of the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

At this point, He Dongqi and the senior officials of the Deceit Suppression Bureau bowed to Fan Yaodong, "Greetings, Commander!"

Fan Yaodong, clutching his chest, raised his hand slightly, signaling them to forgo the formalities.

Then, He Dongqi walked to the bedside and asked, "Lord Fan, how did you sustain such serious injuries?"

Fan Yaodong replied, "The wolf demon that attacked the Liu Mansion last night had at least the Mid Earth Realm cultivation. If I hadn't sensed something amiss and quickly burned my vital energy, you probably wouldn't have seen me again."

Upon hearing this, the senior officials from the Deceit Suppression Bureau all displayed grave expressions. They had already heard from the Deceit Suppressing Guards who returned last night. It was said that the wolf demon knocked all the commanders who besieged it to the ground with a single strike.

After Fan Yaodong intervened, he fought fiercely with the wolf demon. Had he not finally burned his vital energy, it's likely that all the Deceit Suppressing Guards who went to Liu Mansion would have been obliterated.

Upon hearing Fan Yaodong's words, even though He Dongqi's expression was extremely serious, he felt a great sense of relief internally because he was initially supposed to lead the team to Liu Mansion last night. However, Fan Yaodong expressed his desire to move his muscles a little, so he personally led the team to Liu Mansion.

No one expected that the Deceit Suppression Bureau would suffer such severe casualties this time.

The most critical part is the heavy casualties of the Deceit Suppression Bureau, but Fan Yaodong ultimately did not capture the wolf demon, allowing it to escape.

That wolf demon, capable of injuring those in the Earth Realm, escaped, leaving uncertainty about what other shocking crimes it might commit in the Capital city.

Allowing such a sinister and malevolent entity to cause such severe trouble in the Capital city is a dereliction of duty by the Deceit Suppression Bureau and Fan Yaodong as the Commander. Soon, someone at court will probably impeach Fan Yaodong, and he might not be able to retain his position as Commander.

Thinking about this, He Dongqi felt some schadenfreude. However, at that moment, Fan Yaodong turned to He Dongqi and proactively said, "Vice Commander He, now that I am seriously injured, the Deceit Suppression Bureau cannot be without leadership even for a day. Moreover, that wolf demon is still

causing chaos in the Capital city, so I'll temporarily hand over the Deceit Suppression Bureau to you."

He Dongqi immediately said, "Rest assured, Lord Fan, I will lead the Deceit Suppression Bureau to swiftly execute that wolf demon and avenge you and our colleagues."

"Lord Fan, please focus on your recovery. I hope you can recover soon and return to the Deceit Suppression Bureau to oversee the situation."

As soon as He Dongqi finished speaking, Fan Yaodong let out a deep sigh and said, "Vice Commander He, such a major incident has occurred this time, and I cannot shirk from the responsibility. Furthermore, I am seriously injured, and the spiritual evil within me shows signs of rebounding, so I have already submitted my resignation to Your Majesty, intending to resign from the Commander's position of the Deceit Suppression Bureau. I entrust the Bureau to you and our colleagues in the future."

This...

Upon hearing Fan Yaodong's words, He Dongqi and the senior officials of the Deceit Suppression Bureau were stupefied, not expecting Fan Yaodong would voluntarily relinquish his position as Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

It is well known that the position of Vice Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau holds significant power and is a target for all factions in the Capital city to win over.

A hint of doubt flashed across He Dongqi's face. He suspected Fan Yaodong was probing him, intentionally saying these words to see if he coveted the Commander's position.

After regaining his composure, He Dongqi hurriedly said, "Lord Fan, you mustn't! The Deceit Suppression Bureau has achieved its current scale and strength entirely under your wise leadership. Without you, Lord Fan, the Bureau will likely revert to its previous state, unable to shoulder significant responsibilities."

After He Dongqi's words, the other senior officials of the Deceit Suppression Bureau also urged him.

"Lord Fan, this incident is not your fault. No one could have anticipated that a wicked being in the Earth Realm would intrude into the Capital city."

"Yes, Lord Fan, you need not blame yourself. As long as the Deceit Suppression Bureau can swiftly execute that wolf demon, I believe no one at court will say anything."

"Lord Fan, the Deceit Suppression Bureau cannot do without you!"

"Lord Fan, please reconsider!"

...

Hearing their advice, He Dongqi's face darkened, knowing that most people in the Deceit Suppression Bureau were loyal to Fan Yaodong. After all, the current senior officials were mostly promoted by Fan Yaodong.

Just as He Dongqi thought Fan Yaodong wouldn't resign, Fan Yaodong interrupted their persuasions by saying, "Everyone, you don't need to persuade me further; my mind is made up. Someone must take responsibility for this incident, and since the task of besieging the wolf demon was led by me in person, I naturally will bear the responsibility."

"I have already submitted my resignation to Your Majesty, and I believe the Holy Decree will soon come. Moreover, I have recommended Vice Commander He to His Majesty as the new Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau. I hope you will all assist Vice Commander He well in the future."

Seeing Fan Yaodong's resolve, He Dongqi and the senior officials of the Deceit Suppression Bureau were once again astounded, especially He Dongqi, who could hardly believe what he heard.

He had been in open and secret contention with Fan Yaodong over the years, always wanting to pull Fan Yaodong down. Yet, he did not expect Fan Yaodong would voluntarily relinquish the position of Commander.

Does Fan Yaodong truly have such integrity?

The Commander's position in the Deceit Suppression Bureau carries tremendous power. Would Fan Yaodong really give it up so effortlessly?

He Dongqi cast a skeptical glance at Fan Yaodong, seeing him in a heavily debilitated state, wondering if the wolf demon truly inflicted such dire injuries on him last night, leading Fan Yaodong to perceive the Deceit Suppression Bureau as too perilous, prompting his withdrawal?

The position of Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau indeed carries significant power, but the responsibilities are equally heavy. Like the intrusion of an evil entity in the Earth Realm into the Capital city, Fan Yaodong would undeniably face sanctions. Of course, the sanctions could not be as severe as stripping him of his official attire.

As He Dongqi was lost in thought, Fan Yaodong suddenly said, "Apart from Vice Commander He, everyone else should leave. I have a few words to say to Vice Commander He."

Upon hearing this, the senior officials of the Deceit Suppression Bureau exchanged glances, eventually bowing to Fan Yaodong and then exiting the room.

After everyone left, Fan Yaodong looked at He Dongqi and said, "Vice Commander He, I know you've long desired this position."

He Dongqi hurriedly said, "Lord Fan, what do you mean?"

Fan Yaodong smiled and said, "There's no need to deny it. It's human nature to strive upwards. I don't see anything wrong with it."

"I have occupied this position for many years and have long grown weary. I merely hope that once I leave, you will amicably treat my former subordinates, for they are indeed the backbone of the Deceit Suppression Bureau."

Seeing Fan Yaodong express such sentiments, He Dongqi essentially confirmed that Fan Yaodong indeed intended to leave the Deceit Suppression Bureau, so he promptly said, "Lord Fan, I am not a narrow-minded person, nor is it as you've stated. They are indeed the backbone of the Deceit Suppression Bureau. The Bureau will need them to suppress the sinister threats sabotaging Dazhou in the future."

A smile appeared on Fan Yaodong's face, "With your assurance, I am at ease. Then I preemptively congratulate you, Lord He, on becoming the new Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau."

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

Imperial Study Room.

Pei Shuhua, dressed in a dark golden Profound Robe, sat at a desk made of Golden Silk Nanmu. She looked at the memorial in her hand, snorted coldly, and said, "Fan Yaodong is indeed a smart man. Just after I ordered him to take good care of Lu Chen, he got severely injured by an Earth Realm Wolf Demon that appeared out of nowhere."

Pei Shuhua was no fool. Fan Yaodong had been with the Deceit Suppression Bureau for countless years, and his strength was not weak; otherwise, he wouldn't have been able to hold that position. With Fan Yaodong's strength, not to mention mid Earth Realm spiritual evil, even late-stage or peak Earth Realm spiritual evil, he had the capability to handle them.

Earth Realm Spirit Warriors can live for thousands of years, and judging by Fan Yaodong's age, he was in his prime. How could he be defeated by a mid Earth Realm Wolf Demon, especially while burning vital essence?

After burning vital essence, not only was he severely injured but also let that mid Earth Realm Wolf Demon escape. It was clear that Fan Yaodong did this intentionally.

As for why Fan Yaodong did this, it was clear he didn't want to take responsibility or offend the Zhen Nan Prince Manor and Emperor Zhou, seeking to protect himself.

Having finished reading the memorial, Pei Shuhua said to a stunning maid beside her, "Since Fan Yaodong wants to preserve himself, I shall fulfill his wish. Draft a decree..."

A forced melon is never sweet; since Fan Yaodong doesn't want to take responsibility, Pei Shuhua couldn't force him. Of course, Pei Shuhua wouldn't severely punish Fan Yaodong out of anger. After all, Fan Yaodong had managed the Deceit Suppression Bureau for many years, and most of the Bureau belonged to him. Offending Fan Yaodong meant indirectly offending the entire Bureau.

Since Fan Yaodong doesn't want to take responsibility, they'll find someone willing to.

...

Deceit Suppression Bureau.

He Dongqi sat high in the Meeting Hall, glancing at his colleagues below.

At this moment, he was full of vigor; he'd worked tirelessly for years to reach this position.

The news that Fan Yaodong was going to resign as Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau had spread throughout the Capital city. It was likely true, and He Dongqi was the most qualified among the Bureau to be the next Commander.

Moreover, Fan Yaodong had already recommended him to take the position to Your Majesty. Although He Dongqi disliked Fan Yaodong, he had to admit that with Fan Yaodong's status in the Bureau, whoever he recommended would likely be chosen by the Imperial Court.

If the Court parachuted someone into the Bureau as Commander, they'd likely be ostracized soon.

At this time, He Dongqi spoke, "Everyone, let's discuss the Earth Realm Wolf Demon that entered the Capital city. What are your thoughts?"

For He Dongqi, the immediate task was to deal with that Wolf Demon effectively. If he failed to handle it well, even if he became Commander, he wouldn't gain much respect in the Bureau.

A new official ignites three fires, and his first fire was to deal with the Earth Realm Wolf Demon.

At that moment, a Commander said, "Sir, it's improbable for an Earth Realm spiritual evil to appear in the Capital city without warning. Therefore, I suspect this Wolf Demon might not be purely spiritual evil, but a Spirit Martial Artist who transformed after suffering spiritual evil backlash."

When Spirit Martial Artists suffer backlash, they might transform into spiritual evil. What kind of spiritual evil they become depends on what kind of spiritual evil's essence they've absorbed before the transformation.

Hearing this Commander's words, He Dongqi rested his chin on his hand, thought for a moment, and then said, "Since this Wolf Demon is Earth Realm spiritual evil, it proves the Spirit Martial Artist involved was also Earth Realm during the backlash. But I haven't heard of any Earth Realm Spirit Martial Artist in the Capital city experiencing such backlash..."

At this time, a Commander suddenly remembered something and quickly said, "Sir, there is..."

Before this Commander could finish, the voice of an Imperial Eunuch came from the entrance of the Meeting Hall, "Holy Decree is here!!"

Upon hearing this, He Dongqi immediately stood up from his chair and led the Bureau's high-level officials to the entrance.

Soon, the Imperial Eunuch stepped into the Meeting Hall, holding the Holy Decree.

Everyone in the hall knelt down as the Imperial Eunuch announced the decree, "By the authority of Heaven, the Emperor decrees..."

Once the decree was read, the stone in He Dongqi's heart finally settled. Although he knew very well that since Fan Yaodong recommended him, the position of Commander was most likely his, there was always the uncertainty that Fan Yaodong might deceive him, or the Empress Dowager had her own plans.

Now the decree unequivocally stated that he would take over as Commander of the Bureau, he could now boldly ignite his first fire.

After sending off the Imperial Eunuch, He Dongqi joyfully held the Holy Decree as he returned to the top position. At this moment, he lightly stroked the armrest of his chair with his hand; finally, this seat was his.

At this moment, the high officials of the Bureau simultaneously greeted He Dongqi, saying, "Greetings, Commander!"

He Dongqi came back to his senses, smiling, "Rise, all of you!"

"Alright, let's continue discussing the Wolf Demon matter."

The urgent task now was to swiftly eradicate that Wolf Demon. If it committed more misdeeds, he'd undoubtedly face impeachment.

To secure his position, he needed achievements; eliminating the Earth Realm Wolf Demon was his accomplishment.

After He Dongqi spoke, he recalled the earlier words of the Commander. He looked at the Commander and said, "You mentioned earlier that an Earth Realm Spirit Martial Artist might have suffered spiritual evil backlash?"

The Commander promptly said, "Yes, Sir. Have you forgotten Prince Zhen Nan?"

Upon hearing the three words "Prince Zhen Nan", He Dongqi seemed thunderstruck; his earlier joy vanished, his face turned slightly pale.

The Bureau indeed has the duty of supervising Spirit Martial Artists across the land, but not all of them, such as those from the Royal Family or the Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Thus, initially He Dongqi didn't consider Prince Zhen Nan until the Commander mentioned him. Only then did He Dongqi recall the recent rumors about Prince Zhen Nan suffering severe spiritual evil backlash, nearing his end.

Thinking this through, fine sweat appeared on He Dongqi's forehead.

Upon further reflection, Fan Yaodong had been the overseer of the Bureau for many years, his strength undeniable. Furthermore, he had sparred with Fan Yaodong not long ago during a breakthrough, and was nearly overwhelmed throughout by Fan Yaodong.

Given Fan Yaodong's formidable strength, he was ultimately no match for that Wolf Demon, and even after burning vital essence, the Wolf Demon managed to escape. If that Wolf Demon indeed transformed from a Spirit Martial Artist, that indicates it possessed immense power in its original form, which explains Fan Yaodong's inability to gain the upper hand.

Among the powerful Earth Realm Spirit Martial Artists in the Capital city, aside from those of the Royal Family, the first to come to mind was Prince Zhen Nan.

Thinking deeply about it was terrifying, and for a moment He Dongqi felt as if he were sitting on needles.

At this point, a Commander tentatively asked, "Sir, should we send someone to Zhen Nan Prince Manor to inquire about Prince Zhen Nan's situation?"

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

Upon hearing the commander's question, He Dongqi's face instantly darkened.

If he sent someone to Zhen Nan Prince Manor to inquire whether Prince Zhen Nan had turned into a malicious demon, he'd be risking his life.

Even if Zhen Nan Prince Manor was in decline, it still wasn't something the Deceit Suppression Bureau could afford to provoke.

If that Wolf Demon was indeed transformed from Prince Zhen Nan, it would be up to Zhen Nan Prince Manor to handle it. If the Deceit Suppression Bureau dared to intervene, Zhen Nan Prince Manor might decide to deal with the Bureau before disbanding.

Wait...

At the mention of Prince Zhen Nan, He Dongqi felt he had forgotten something, something extremely important.

Seeing He Dongqi remain silent for a while, everyone present from the Deceit Suppression Bureau understood he likely didn't want to get involved with Zhen Nan Prince Manor's affairs. After all, the manor was filled with powerful figures, and offending them would make future days difficult for the Bureau.

He Dongqi had just become the commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau, and naturally, he didn't want to bring trouble upon himself.

Yet, even if He Dongqi wished to avoid provoking Zhen Nan Prince Manor, the matter of the Wolf Demon couldn't be ignored.

At this point, a commander said, "Actually, it might not necessarily be Prince Zhen Nan. If it were indeed him, there would definitely have been some whispers about it."

It was obvious to everyone that He Dongqi didn't want to meddle in Zhen Nan Prince Manor's affairs, so the commander thus spoke to offer He Dongqi a way out, preventing embarrassment.

However, the head of the Bureau's department, Evil Suppression, spoke up: "Even if that Wolf Demon is indeed Prince Zhen Nan, Zhen Nan Prince Manor wouldn't let news of such a transformation spread. If Prince Zhen Nan were compromised, it would signal the end of the manor, so they'd do everything possible to cover it up."

The Deceit Suppression Bureau has five departments. Evil Suppression deals with suppressing malicious entities. The Investigation Bureau investigates them. Secret Storage manages the treasures used to suppress them. The Night Patrol Office keeps vigil at night. The Criminal Law Department oversees the Bureau's guards.

Of these departments, Evil Suppression wields the most power, and before He Dongqi became vice commander, he was the department's head.

Thus, the head of Evil Suppression often harbors great ambition, perhaps enjoying seeing their superiors face setbacks, as any issue with the commander might advance their own prospects.

Right now, the head of Evil Suppression was eager to see how He Dongqi would proceed.

After hearing the department head's words, He Dongqi's expression grew darker; he could easily see this man was causing him trouble.

Just then, the head continued, "By the way, sir, Your Majesty recently ordered Prince Zhen Nan's heir to join the Deceit Suppression Bureau. The former commander advised him to report in half a month, but now that you're in charge, why not have him report early, and maybe glean some inside information about Prince Zhen Nan?"

Upon these words, He Dongqi's mind jolted, and he finally remembered what he had forgotten.

A while back, Emperor Zhou's decree had every senior member of the Bureau on edge. Though the Bureau seldom engages in court intrigues, they're by no means politically naive; rather, they're highly sensitive to political matters.

Emperor Zhou sending Lu Chen, a wayward youth, into such a dangerous place as the Deceit Suppression Bureau clearly signaled that the royal family intended to act against Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

Later, however, news spread of Emperor Zhou lifting Ji Yunmeng's house arrest, and since Ji Yunmeng aligned with Zhen Nan Prince Manor, the Bureau's senior members breathed a bit easier. This indicated an internal division in the royal family's stance towards Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

With someone backing them, the Bureau need only find a way to protect Lu Chen, and could thus deflect accountability to Emperor Zhou.

Lu Chen's delayed arrival at the Bureau amid daily pressing matters almost led He Dongqi to forget. Yet, the department head's reminder made him realize he'd fallen into a trap.

He thought Fan Yaodong, the old man, had generously ceded his position due to serious injury and a desire to retire.

Now it was evident Fan Yaodong was not injured but had used this pretext to pass the buck, letting the new commander deal with the conflict between Zhen Nan Prince Manor and the royal family.

If anything happened to Lu Chen at the Bureau, Zhen Nan Prince Manor would surely hold He Dongqi, the commander, accountable. Conversely, if Lu Chen stayed safe, the Empress Dowager would likely trouble him.

With the Empress Dowager now in power, dealing with a Bureau commander would be a simple matter for her.

Understanding all this, He Dongqi clenched his fists tightly.

Fan Yaodong, the old scoundrel!!!

No way, Lu Chen mustn't encounter any trouble at the Bureau. Thinking this, He Dongqi coughed, glanced at the department head, and said, "Then, I'll assign Lu Chen to Evil Suppression."

Upon hearing this, the department head's face turned instantly dark as he quickly replied, "Sir, that's impossible; Lu Chen's weak, placing him in Evil Suppression could soon lead to trouble. Better he go to Investigation Bureau."

Upon this suggestion, the Investigation Bureau head protested, "Our bureau is constantly on assignments; if he faces danger during a mission, who's responsible then?"

Furthering the point, the Investigation Bureau head looked towards the Criminal Law Department, whose head promptly said, "Don't look at me. Our department supervises colleagues from the Bureau; if one encounters spiritual evil backlash, turns malicious, and harms Lu Chen, I couldn't bear such responsibility."

Seeing every department head unwilling to accept Lu Chen, He Dongqi said coldly, "Since none of you want him, let Lu Chen organize the malicious entity files from home."

He Dongqi thought to himself, Lu Chen absolutely cannot come to the Bureau, but this is an imperial decree taken by Zhen Nan Prince Manor, and defying it is not an option.

That said, the decree only ordered Lu Chen to join the Bureau, without specifying what he must do.

Assign Lu Chen a Chief Banner role and send a few Deceit Suppressing Guards to assist him in file handling at Zhen Nan Prince Manor, thus integrating him into the Bureau.

He Dongqi continued, "Alright, Lu Chen's matters are settled for now, let's proceed with the Wolf Demon issue."

Lu Chen's situation could still be postponed, but the Wolf Demon case couldn't; the Wolf Demon had already orchestrated a massacre, and if allowed to rampage through the capital, He Dongqi's term as commander would end quickly.

Even aware that Fan Yaodong appointed him to take the fall, He Dongqi was still unwilling to relinquish the commander's position.

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

As He Dongqi finished speaking, a deep silence enveloped the Meeting Hall, creating an atmosphere of immense gravity.

Their primary concern now was whether the Wolf Demon was actually Prince Zhen Nan in disguise. If that were the case, it would be beyond the Deceit Suppression Bureau's capacity to handle such a supernatural case.

Amidst the prolonged, oppressive silence, He Dongqi turned his gaze to the Director of the Investigation Bureau and said, "Director Wu, tracing the Wolf Demon's whereabouts is your bureau's responsibility. Deploy all your staff over the next few days to locate its hideout at all costs."

Upon hearing this, a flash of discontent appeared on Wu Feng's face, but he said nothing, acknowledging that tracking the movements of supernatural entities was inherent to the Investigation Bureau's duties.

However, the strength of this malevolent entity was overwhelming. If their Deceit Suppressing Guards encountered this Wolf Demon, their only recourse might be to fire signal flares before waiting to be ripped apart by the creature.

Even though the Deceit Suppressing Guards of the Investigation Bureau were skilled Spirit Martial Artists in Qinggong, their speed was negligible against a malevolent force of Earth Realm.

Wu Feng stepped forward and said, "Yes, my lord."

He Dongqi then remembered something and said, "Director Lu, accompany me later to Zhen Nan Prince Manor."

Lu Yu, as Director of the Secret Storage Bureau, was responsible not only for cataloging mystical artifacts but also for organizing dossiers on various supernatural phenomena. Since a task involving sorting through supernatural dossiers was assigned to Lu Chen, He Dongqi naturally wanted to bring Lu Yu, his superior, to meet him.

He Dongqi also had other intentions; he wanted to test whether the Wolf Demon was indeed Prince Zhen Nan. If it wasn't, they could confidently and boldly deal with the Wolf Demon once it was found.

Lu Yu replied, "Yes, my lord."

He Dongqi glanced over the assembly and said, "That will be all for today. Notify me immediately once the Investigation Bureau uncovers the Wolf Demon's tracks."

"Meeting dismissed."

Following his words, the assembly uniformly saluted He Dongqi and departed the hall.

Zhen Nan Prince Manor.

In the inner courtyard, within a pavilion.

Lu Chen lay on Bai Qingqing's elongated, jade-like legs, eyes slightly closed, appearing somewhat bored.

After realizing that absorbing spiritual evil no longer elevated his Realm, Lu Chen stopped cultivating altogether, opting to wait until the Hidden Guards from Zhen Nan Prince Manor captured suitable supernatural entities for him to practice on.

Seeing Lu Chen lazily reclined on her legs, Bai Qingqing couldn't help but experience an involuntary maternal affection towards him, reminiscent of a mother's fondness for her child.

Fieled with helplessness for her maternal inclination towards this man, Bai Qingqing was bewildered.

The tranquil scene was abruptly disrupted when a servant approached the courtyard, announcing, "Master Lu, the newly appointed Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau wishes to see you."

Hearing this, Lu Chen opened his eyes and said, "Lead him to the reception hall."

"Yes, Master Lu."

Lu Chen then rose from Bai Qingqing's legs, smiling, "It's unexpected that someone with a mere Little Flag status can draw a Commander's personal visit; power doesn't always equate to hierarchical oppression."

Bai Qingqing cast a gentle glance at him, thinking that if he weren't the Heir of Prince Zhen Nan, the Deceit Suppression Bureau's Commander wouldn't have personally sought him.

Lu Chen and Bai Qingqing soon arrived at the reception hall, where He Dongqi and Lu Yu were already waiting.

Upon Lu Chen's arrival, He Dongqi and Lu Yu immediately greeted him, saying, "Greetings, Master Lu."

Although Lu Chen wasn't the reigning Prince Zhen Nan yet, usually not requiring a greeting from He Dongqi and Lu Yu, he was the only heir and would inevitably inherit the title.

His status and rank were certainly incomparable to that of a Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau.

He Dongqi introduced himself, "I am He Dongqi, the newly appointed Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau, and this is Lu Yu, Director of the Secret Storage Bureau."

With a smile, Lu Chen said, "My apologies for having the two supervisors visit such a minor official like me."

"Are you both here to initiate my employment at the Deceit Suppression Bureau?"

Upon hearing this, He Dongqi quickly replied, "Master Lu, you jest. With your esteemed identity, should anything arise at the Deceit Suppression Bureau, we couldn't shoulder the responsibility."

Lu Chen said, "But Emperor Zhou issued a Holy Decree, refusing would mean defiance. Surely, you're not implying that you wish for me to incur the charges of defiance against the decree?"

He Dongqi assured, "Rest assured, Master Lu, we would never contradict the Holy Decree."

"Our visit this time is to discuss work arrangements with you."

"The Deceit Suppression Bureau has five departments, not all are equally perilous."

Lu Chen inquired, "Oh? May I know which department Lord He intends to place me in?"

He Dongqi replied, "I intend for Master Lu to join Director Lu's Secret Storage Bureau, serving as Chief Banner to sort through supernatural dossiers. What are your thoughts, Master Lu?"

Lu Chen frowned slightly, "If I recall correctly, the Holy Decree indicated for me to start from Little Flag rank, correct?"

He Dongqi said, "With Master Lu's esteemed identity, starting as a Little Flag doesn't seem appropriate."

Lu Chen expressed, "I've accomplished nothing of merit yet ascend to Chief Banner, others might harbor discontent."

He Dongqi asserted, "Master Lu need not worry, no one would object to you assuming that position. With your status, even elevating to Commander wouldn't stir discontent, let alone just a Chief Banner."

"I believe the Emperor's intent in sending you to the Deceit Suppression Bureau is to eventually ascend its command to you."

Listening to He Dongqi's nonsensical remarks, Lu Chen chuckled, "Lord He, let's not play this game. You surely know the Emperor's true intention behind my placement at the Bureau."

"Why don't you tell me when I should report to the Deceit Suppression Bureau?"

He Dongqi glanced at Lu Yu, who instantly took the cue and said, "Master Lu, for your safety, there's no need for you to physically report to the Bureau. We will deliver the dossiers to Zhen Nan Prince Manor and allocate a few Deceit Suppressing Guards to assist you in organizing them."

Upon hearing Lu Yu, Lu Chen's lips twitched slightly, recognizing the pragmatic consideration shown by the Bureau.

After Lu Yu concluded, He Dongqi scrutinized Lu Chen, gauging his reaction. Seeing Lu Chen's expressionless face, He Dongqi tentatively asked, "Master Lu, do you find this arrangement suitable?"

After contemplating, realizing his current strength was insufficient for roaming freely, venturing out without adequate self-defense was problematic. He was not inclined to rely purely on sheer luck.

The adage goes, frequent night walks do eventually lead to encounters with evil; constant pacing by the river eventually leads to slipping your feet. Caution was the wiser approach.

With this in mind, Lu Chen smilingly said, "Lord He, you are the Commander of the Deceit Suppression Bureau, and I am but a Little Flag. Naturally, I comply with your directions."