

Es. Benefits 1421

Chapter 1421: You'd better call me Heavenly Emperor Brother

Lu Chen pondered for a moment, then said to the commander of the Thirteenth Legion, "You've done very well this time. I'll credit your legion with a significant achievement."

Hearing this, the commander of the Thirteenth Legion excitedly said, "Thank you, Your Majesty, this is all just what we should be doing!"

After switching off the projection, Lu Chen looked into the distance. In a corner stood a woman in the black uniform of the War Dragon Army. She was tall, with a single ponytail, a fresh face, and a lean body.

When the woman noticed Lu Chen's gaze, her eyes dodged slightly; she didn't dare to meet his gaze directly.

The next moment, Lu Chen used the system to check the woman's personal information.

[Name: Qi Qinghan]

[Identity: Last Empress of the Qingyun Dynasty, twenty-three years old, Divinity Transformation Realm Fifth Layer. As she ages, she's gradually become aware of the gap between herself and the host, and intends to keep her distance from him.]

[Score: 95]

[Favorability: 100]

Seeing Qi Qinghan's information, Lu Chen's lips slightly curled. Time flies; the girl who used to call him Heavenly Emperor Brother has now grown up.

Moreover, Qi Qinghan's cultivation talent is exceptionally rare throughout the universe. At twenty-three, she has reached the Divinity Transformation Realm Fifth Layer. If she continues at her current cultivation speed, she might achieve the position of a Saint before fifty.

Fifty might be considered middle age in the mortal world, but in the cultivation world, fifty is just the beginning of one's life.

Although Qi Qinghan could cultivate so quickly because Lu Chen provided her with many cultivation resources, even without those, Lu Chen believed that with her talent, achieving the position of a Great Emperor within ten thousand years would not be impossible.

The Qi family's cowardly lot managed to leave such a talented person behind; perhaps that's just fate.

However, as Qi Qinghan gradually grew up, she also started to distance herself from Lu Chen.

When she first arrived in the Tianchen World, she would call Lu Chen Heavenly Emperor Brother without the slightest reservation.

However, as she grew older, she began to understand what kind of being Lu Chen was. She then realized that surviving these years was nothing short of a miracle.

As a survivor of the Qingyun Dynasty, not only did she not hide from Lu Chen, but she also approached him, calling him Heavenly Emperor Brother unapologetically.

No Great Emperor can be insulted; if it were any other Great Emperor, she might not even have ashes left.

Lu Chen then said, "Qinghan, come here."

Upon hearing Lu Chen call her, Qi Qinghan was slightly stunned, but she still approached him. Upon reaching him, Qi Qinghan saluted and said, "Greetings, Heavenly Emperor."

Lu Chen said, "Rise."

Lu Chen directly asked, "Are you accustomed to your time with the Thirteenth Legion?"

Qi Qinghan replied, "Thank you for your concern, Your Majesty. I have gotten used to life on the starship."

The people in the Thirteenth Legion all knew that Qi Qinghan was from the Qingyun Dynasty, but they also understood that Qi Qinghan had a connection with their Heavenly Emperor.

Many in the Thirteenth Legion had witnessed the young Qi Qinghan calling him Heavenly Emperor Brother. Facing Qi Qinghan's address, not only did the Heavenly Emperor not reject it, he responded to her with a smile.

It could be said that the Heavenly Emperor's love for her was no less than the love he had for his own children.

Because of this, after Qi Qinghan joined the Thirteenth Legion, she received special care. Even though she started as the lowest-ranking soldier, no one dared to speak to her in a commanding tone, knowing that Qi Qinghan would enter Lu Chen's Imperial Palace one day.

Seeing Qi Qinghan being so respectful towards him, Lu Chen sighed inwardly. Observing Qi Qinghan's changes, he suddenly felt a sense of nostalgia.

Although she was still the same person, the feeling she gave off was entirely different.

At this moment, Lu Chen glanced at the soldiers present and then continued to tell Qi Qinghan, "Come with me and tell me what you discovered when you encountered the Heavenly Demon."

Saying this, Lu Chen walked towards the starship's combat conference hall.

Qi Qinghan seemed a bit nervous, but she still followed him.

Once they entered the combat conference hall, the automatic doors closed on their own. Lu Chen turned to Qi Qinghan and said, “You used to call me Heavenly Emperor Brother so readily, but now you’re so distant?”

In the past, Lu Chen never thought that Qi Qinghan would meet the system’s criteria. His kindness towards her was purely based on a gut feeling. Perhaps it was because he also had a daughter that he was more forgiving towards the innocent Qi Qinghan.

Hearing Lu Chen’s question, Qi Qinghan’s mind momentarily froze, then she lowered her head and said, “I know my wrongdoing, Your Majesty. I was too young and naïve back then, and I disrespected you.”

Listening to Qi Qinghan’s words, Lu Chen sighed deeply once again.

Her words made him feel once more the meaning of being alone.

Lu Chen then said, “I still prefer the younger you.”

Qi Qinghan was very beautiful, radiating youthful and sunny energy, yet she was the only woman among those meeting the criteria for the system’s numerous offspring category that didn’t awaken any desire in Lu Chen.

Perhaps having watched her grow up, there was a sense of generational gap between Lu Chen and her.

Upon hearing what Lu Chen said, a blush quickly spread across Qi Qinghan’s face.

While Lu Chen had no romantic desires towards her, Qi Qinghan held different feelings towards Lu Chen.

In Qi Qinghan’s eyes, Lu Chen was gentle, powerful, and handsome. Despite realizing the gap in their status as she grew older, it only deepened her admiration for Lu Chen.

Having a strong man constantly caring for you, who is not only gentle but also incredibly handsome—facing such a man, unless one had a heart of stone, it would be hard not to develop feelings.

Lu Chen then said, “You should still call me Heavenly Emperor Brother.”

Hearing this, Qi Qinghan was about to say something, but Lu Chen added, “That’s an order.”

With Lu Chen putting it that way, Qi Qinghan had no choice but to follow his orders, “Yes, Your Maj... Heavenly Emperor Brother...”

Uttering the words Heavenly Emperor Brother, a blush spread from Qi Qinghan’s cheeks to her entire neck.

Lu Chen continued, “When you encountered the Heavenly Demon, what did you see?”

Although there was footage on the starship, it was a bit blurry. Perhaps it was because the ship Qi Qinghan piloted was too far from the main battleship at the time, making it hard to capture clearly.

The ship Qi Qinghan piloted had been destroyed, and Lu Chen couldn’t be bothered to look for its wreckage, so he directly asked Qi Qinghan what she saw.

Qi Qinghan came back to her senses. After pondering for a moment, she replied, “Those Heavenly Demons seemed to appear out of nowhere. When they showed up, there were no spatial fluctuations or space rifts.”

Upon hearing Qi Qinghan’s answer, Lu Chen fell into deep thought.

Appear out of nowhere?

Could it be that Qi Qinghan didn’t sense the spatial fluctuations due to her insufficient realm, making it seem to her that they appeared suddenly?

Lu Chen thought for a moment and said to Qi Qinghan, “Hmm, alright, have a good rest.”

With these words, Lu Chen left the starship directly, personally heading to the Star Domain where the Heavenly Demon appeared.

Chapter 1422: Military Training

When Lu Chen appeared in the star domain where the War Dragon Army was battling Heavenly Demons, he clearly felt the Heavenly Demon Power diffusing through the void.

Lu Chen furrowed his brows slightly; such dense Heavenly Demon Power, the source of this demonic strength, perhaps has already reached the Returning Ruin Realm.

A Heavenly Demon at the Returning Ruin Realm can already wrestle with a Saint; fortunately, the Thirteen Legions carry black gold during patrols.

No, that’s not right...

Lu Chen suddenly realized something.

Black gold does indeed cause some damage to Heavenly Demons, but it wouldn’t kill a Heavenly Demon of the Returning Ruin Realm so easily. He had seen that in the starship’s recordings, the Heavenly Demons were all blasted by the War Dragon Army’s starship cannons; the strength of those Heavenly Demons clearly hadn’t reached the Returning Ruin Realm.

If it were a Returning Ruin Realm general from the starship dealing with a Returning Ruin Realm Heavenly Demon, it wouldn’t be much of a problem, but using a black gold bomb to wipe out a Returning Ruin Realm Heavenly Demon in a single strike is rather abnormal.

Not to mention Heavenly Demons, even low-level demons might not be completely affected by black gold. Black gold comes from within Heavenly Demons, so there

must exist some resistance to black gold within Heavenly Demons, thus its lethality to them is naturally limited.

Lu Chen immediately released his Divine Thought, probing once again the situation in this nearby star domain, and soon discovered something amiss.

He seemed to sense the Power of Dao of the Creation Dao.

What is going on?

Right then, some black mist appeared out of nowhere in the distant void, rapidly spreading to half a light-year in less than fifteen minutes.

Lu Chen then realized the Heavenly Demon Power present in the star domain wasn't left by previous Heavenly Demons but new Heavenly Demons were being born.

The strength of these upcoming Heavenly Demons would all be at the Returning Ruin Realm.

At this point, the Commander of the Thirteen Legion, seeing the sudden appearance of vast black mist, quickly commanded the fleet to prepare for another attack.

Lu Chen glanced at the black mist but didn't immediately take action. With his strength as a Great Emperor, combined with cultivating the Chaos Demon Slaying Technique, he could effortlessly eradicate these Heavenly Demons.

Lu Chen then returned to the Thirteen Legion's starship, and seeing Lu Chen back, the Commander of the Thirteen Legion immediately came before Lu Chen.

"Your Majesty, should we initiate an attack?"

Xu Tianlei had seen Lu Chen standing in the void without acting; he figured the Heavenly Emperor had other thoughts, perhaps wanting to observe these Heavenly Demons, thus he hadn't ordered the fleet to attack, but awaited the Heavenly Emperor's command.

Lu Chen said, “What appears now are Returning Ruin Realm Heavenly Demons; first use black gold cannons to attack. If they can’t be dealt with, let the Divinity Transformation Realm soldiers who’ve cultivated the Demon Burying Spell engage personally.”

Xu Tianlei instantly understood Lu Chen’s intention; the Heavenly Emperor was testing their ability to confront the Heavenly Demons.

After all, the Heavenly Emperor couldn’t always be by their side. Now, with Heavenly Demons appearing on a large scale, their numbers would keep increasing, and the War Dragon Army of the Daxia Dynasty would face more battles involving Heavenly Demons.

Currently, it’s just the early stage of Heavenly Demon emergence, hence it’s indeed crucial to train the troops well now.

Upon realizing Lu Chen wanted to train them, Xu Tianlei immediately said, “Understood, I will proceed with your orders.”

Once he finished speaking, Xu Tianlei returned to the command cabin of the starship and commanded it to attack the expanding black mist.

As each black gold bomb exploded within the black mist, its expansion halted, and the Heavenly Demons within gradually became visible.

These Heavenly Demons had enormous bodies and varied forms; some resembled animals, some insects, and others appeared as humans.

Seeing these Heavenly Demons, Lu Chen’s expression turned extremely grave; with their birth, he realized the universe’s Creation Dao also automatically activated, and the Power of Dao from Creation Dao was invisibly employed.

Additionally, as these Heavenly Demons appeared out of nowhere, it implied they were possibly created by the universe itself.

Lu Chen had initially speculated Heavenly Demons were external invasive species, and the universe would indiscriminately eradicate all life forms to eliminate them, this being the origin of the Era Tribulation.

But now, his speculation proved entirely wrong; Heavenly Demons are not external species but life forms evolved by the universe itself.

Before the Era Tribulation commences, the universe creates so many Heavenly Demons. What is its intention?

Could it be intending to use these Heavenly Demons to annihilate the life within this universe?

If the intent is to eliminate all life, starting the Era Tribulation directly would suffice, entirely unnecessary to create Heavenly Demons.

While pondering why the universe creates Heavenly Demons, those Heavenly Demons also charged toward the Thirteen Legion's starship.

"Food! It's the aroma of food!"

"This demon has finally been resurrected; humans, I shall tear you apart!"

"Hahaha, the Era Tribulation has begun again, our era has arrived!"

The Heavenly Demons in the void were exceedingly excited, as if the starship of the Thirteen Legion seemed like pieces of cake to them.

Soon, those Heavenly Demons reached the Thirteen Legion's fleet; just as they prepared to "tear apart the box," some starship hatches opened, and over a hundred War Dragon Army soldiers above Divinity Transformation Realm flew into the void.

Seeing those people actively emerging from the "box," the Heavenly Demons grew even more excited.

“Ants, have you eagerly come to become this demon’s food?”

“I will savor you well, devour you all completely, leaving nothing behind.”

...

As the Heavenly Demons were about to charge ahead, Xu Tianlei personally led the soldiers forward.

It’s impossible for them not to have felt fear; after all, these are Heavenly Demons that even black gold cannons can’t kill.

Initially perceiving Heavenly Demons easily destroyed by black gold bombs, they assumed all Heavenly Demons were such; now it’s clear those were mere minor figures.

Yet, the War Dragon Army soldiers understood; before Heavenly Demons, the greater the fear, the stronger they become, hence they earnestly sought to ease their inner panic.

At this moment, Xu Tianlei transmitted to all soldiers who’ve left the starship, “This is our first direct combat against Heavenly Demons, with His Majesty watching over us from behind, we absolutely cannot disappoint Him!”

Upon hearing this from Xu Tianlei, the soldiers remembered; yes, they have the Heavenly Emperor overseeing them, a nemesis to all evil forces with the Heavenly Emperor; what do they have to fear?

Additionally, as members of the War Dragon Army, each of them has cultivated the Demon Burying Spell, which can restrain demonic qi and Heavenly Demon Power, eliminating their need for fear.

Thinking about these two points, the soldiers of the War Dragon Army instantly dissipated their inner fear.

Seeing the War Dragon Army soldiers charging forth without a trace of fear, the Heavenly Demons were bewildered.

What is going on?

As cultivators, should their greatest fear not be Heavenly Demons?

Why is it that as they charge, there is no fear to be found on them?

Something is amiss; those humans carried fear when emerging from the iron boxes suddenly their fear dissipated.

Chapter 1423: The Universe Will Fall into Chaos, You Should Be Prepared!

The sudden dispersal of the fear aura left the Heavenly Demons in the void extremely displeased. They had been enjoying the feast, only for it to be abruptly interrupted.

It was akin to a mortal, starving for a month, having his meal taken away just as he begins to eat.

In an instant, the Heavenly Demons were enraged. Although they did not know why the fear aura from these humans had dissipated, these beings, unable to supply it, must pay with their bodies.

Within moments, the soldiers of the War Dragon Army clashed with the Heavenly Demons.

As soon as the soldiers engaged the Heavenly Demons, they discovered their Black Gold weapons could inflict significant damage, unlike before when even the Black Gold Cannon couldn't obliterate these demons, yet their weapons proved immensely powerful.

With a single stroke, a Heavenly Demon would lose an arm or a leg; their Heavenly Demon Power was helpless against the soldiers' Black Gold weapons.

Soon, it became apparent that it wasn't the effect of the Black Gold weapons but rather the Demon Burying Spell within them at work.

The soldiers, having cultivated the Demon Burying Spell, had Spiritual Power within them that carried a purifying effect, easily suppressing Demonic Qi and Heavenly Demon Power.

Instantly, the Heavenly Demons within the void let out howls of despair.

“How is it possible! You insignificant ant managed to wound me!”

“What is this power, that it can suppress my Heavenly Demon Power!”

“No... impossible, you are just food, how could food display such formidable power!”

“Ah!!! Daring to wound me, I will tear you all apart!!!”

...

Seeing the soldiers of the War Dragon Army perform commendably in their first close combat with the Heavenly Demons, Lu Chen showed a satisfied smile.

Although the Immortal Spirit Umbrella could protect the entire Daxia Dynasty, most of the War Dragon Army starships must patrol beyond the umbrella's protection.

They were already outside the Qi Fortune's coverage area of the Daxia Dynasty; Lu Chen couldn't expend his energy to protect these zones.

If the soldiers encountered Heavenly Demons, never having experienced real combat, only knowing fear, they would find it hard to resist them.

This battle significantly boosted the morale of the War Dragon Army soldiers. In future patrols, even when facing stronger Heavenly Demons, they could remain composed, free of fear.

Against the Heavenly Demons, there must be no panic. The more panic, the stronger the demons become, as all human negative emotions are their sustenance.

Under Xu Tianlei's leadership, the Heavenly Demons in the starry sky were swiftly resolved by the War Dragon Army soldiers, though some were severely injured, none perished.

Having achieved such outcomes in their first encounter with the Heavenly Demons speaks volumes about the War Dragon Army's capability to handle the Heavenly Demon Army.

Lu Chen then waved his hand, a surge of Life Force infused into the bodies of the injured soldiers, healing their wounds in moments.

The soldiers immediately realized it was the Heavenly Emperor who intervened and respectfully saluted towards Lu Chen's starship.

Inside Lu Chen's starship, Qi Qinghan approached him from behind, looking at his broad shoulders, unsure what to say, she simply stared in a daze.

At this moment, Lu Chen turned to look at Qi Qinghan, "Qinghan, I will head back first, be careful. If you encounter any danger, immediately use my puppet to notify me."

With that, Lu Chen produced a clone puppet of himself.

Though he felt no romantic desire towards Qi Qinghan, she was crucial for fulfilling the conditions of the system's prosperity, thus meriting special protection.

Seeing the puppet fly towards her, Qi Qinghan hesitated slightly.

In ancient times, Witch Worm Skill was significant even in an Empire, existing as an evil technique, a taboo for the Emperor.

Qi Qinghan didn't expect Lu Chen would give her his puppet, making her reluctant to accept it.

Noticing Qi Qinghan hadn't taken the puppet, Lu Chen inquired, "What's wrong?"

Qi Qinghan responded, "Maj... Heavenly Emperor Brother, isn't it inappropriate for a living person to be made a puppet?"

Lu Chen immediately understood Qi Qinghan's concerns, smiled, and said, "Every woman of mine has a puppet identical to me. This puppet can be seen as my clone, don't worry about what others say."

Ah...

Qi Qinghan instantly froze.

Lu Chen's women all had such puppets?

Now that he's given this puppet to her, doesn't that imply, in Lu Chen's eyes, she is one of his women?

Reflecting on this, Qi Qinghan's cheeks turned hot and flushed, her Spiritual Power within her also became tumultuous.

Coming back to herself, she slowly raised her hand, cautiously grasping the puppet floating before her.

Lu Chen smiled faintly, said no more, and used Space Teleportation Skill to arrive at the site of the War Dragon Army soldiers' battle with the Heavenly Demons.

Lu Chen released Divine Thought again, probing the area, confirming no new Heavenly Demon Power had emerged, thus ensuring no new Heavenly Demons appeared in this star domain, preparing to depart.

Just as he was about to leave, suddenly, Empress Tianhong's voice came through Divine Sense.

“Heavenly Demons emerged in Xuanyang Star Domain.”

Upon hearing this, Lu Chen promptly headed to Xuanyang Star Domain. Now within the Daxia Dynasty, he could reach any location with a mere thought, even across dozens of star domains.

In the blink of an eye, he arrived at Xuanyang Star Domain, where Empress Tianhong had mentioned.

The Heavenly Demons at the outskirts of Xuanyang Star Domain had been completely slaughtered by Empress Tianhong, leaving their bodies' Black Gold quietly floating in the void.

Observing the piles of Black Gold, one could estimate the Heavenly Demons numbered no less than ten thousand.

If facing such a scale of Heavenly Demon attack, an ordinary empire would likely see its entire life force reduced to piles of bones instantly.

However, facing Empress Tianhong, who cultivated the Chaos Demon Slaying Technique, they were destined to be reduced to ashes.

Lu Chen glanced at the Black Gold in the void, then back at Empress Tianhong, “I had just arrived, and you’ve already dealt with all the Heavenly Demons.”

“No wonder you’re the Empress wielding the Power of Slaughter; impressive!”

With this, Lu Chen’s gaze shifted to Lie Hongyun standing beside Empress Tianhong, who stared dumbfounded at the floating Black Gold, seemingly in shock.

The Great Emperor could easily annihilate low-level Heavenly Demons, but these were all Returning Ruin Realm and above, and Empress Tianhong solved them with a single move, disrupting Lie Hongyun’s worldview severely.

Since when did cultivators destroy Heavenly Demons so easily?

Heavenly Demons had always been nemeses to cultivators; now, it seemed Empress Tianhong was their nemesis.

Ignoring Lu Chen's praise, Empress Tianhong said expressionlessly, "Heavenly Demons appearing massively, the universe shall fall into chaos, you ought to prepare."

Lu Chen replied with a smile, "Rest assured, I have long been ready."

Chapter 1424: Become His Woman, and You Will Know

According to some secrets left behind from the Ancient Era, before the beginning of the Epoch Catastrophe, the Heavenly Demons will massacre all the living beings in the universe.

Now that the Heavenly Demons are already appearing in groups, their numbers will inevitably grow, and by then these demons might attack the Great Sum Empire. This is why the Rainbow Empress is having Lu Chen prepare.

Upon hearing Lu Chen's confident response, the Rainbow Empress immediately thought of that Immortal Artifact Lu Chen had brought out.

Indeed, with that Immortal Artifact, the Heavenly Demons might not be able to invade the Great Sum Empire.

However, speaking of which, if the Heavenly Demons directly appear in the Star Domain ruled by the Great Sum Empire, the Immortal Spirit Umbrella seems to have no effect.

Lu Chen continued, "My main body is already preparing to convene the Great Summer Cultivator Conference. By then, I will have the War Dragon Army intensify their patrols over the major Star Domains of the Great Sum Empire."

Seeing Lu Chen already making preparations, the Rainbow Empress said no more and was ready to return to her cultivation resting palace.

However, just as she was about to leave, Lie Hongyun suddenly asked, “How is that possible?”

Clearly, this question was directed at the Rainbow Empress.

The Rainbow Empress slightly turned her head, cast a cold glance at Lie Hongyun with the corner of her eye, and left a sentence, “Become his woman, and you will know.”

After saying this, the Rainbow Empress used space teleportation to leave the Xuanyang Star Domain.

After the Rainbow Empress left, only Lu Chen and Lie Hongyun were left in the void.

Lie Hongyun looked back at Lu Chen, wanting to speak but hesitating.

She really wanted to ask the same question again, but the Rainbow Empress had already given an answer: to know how she could so easily solve the Heavenly Demons, just become Lu Chen’s woman.

At this point, she still resisted relying on a man to become stronger, but with their marriage line pulling, it seemed that she had no better way than to compromise.

After much thought, Lie Hongyun finally took the initiative to say to Lu Chen, “I can become your woman, but I want to know why she can so easily eliminate those Heavenly Demons.”

The Catastrophe approaches, and the members of the Heavenly Demons in this universe are increasing. According to historical records, many Great Emperors have died at the hands of Heavenly Demons before each Epoch Catastrophe begins.

If one can find a method to deal with the Heavenly Demons, it ensures that they can survive until the Catastrophe arrives. She does not want to finally reach the time of the Catastrophe only to not die from it, but to become food for those Heavenly Demons.

For most cultivators, they would rather self-destruct than become food for the Heavenly Demons.

Upon hearing the demand from Lie Hongyun, Lu Chen just gave a faint smile, “Even if you didn’t bring it up, I would have told you how she did it. As long as you’re my woman, I will tell you how to deal with the Heavenly Demons.”

Faced with Lu Chen’s words, Lie Hongyun felt complicated inside, never expecting that one day she would make a trade of body for benefits.

To know that in her previous life she followed the Heartless Tao, an Emperor on the path of Heartless Tao, and now in rebirth, she would engage in Dual Cultivation with a man, completely overturning her previous life’s Dao.

Fortunately, in this life, she isn’t practicing the Heartless Tao; otherwise, her Dao Heart might have collapsed by now.

Lu Chen continued, “Since you have agreed, come with me to the Tianchen World.”

As his words fell, Lu Chen used the Space Teleportation Skill to bring Lie Hongyun to the Tianchen World.

As soon as Lie Hongyun entered the Tianchen World, she felt the rich Spiritual Energy madly pouring into her body. Feeling the Spiritual Energy density far exceeding that of Yunhua Palace’s main star, Lie Hongyun was once again shocked.

The Tianchen World is but an inconspicuous world in the Chaotic Star Sea, positioned at the edge of the universe. It is absolutely impossible for it to possess such dense Spiritual Energy.

Lie Hongyun looked at Lu Chen, “What is this place?”

Lu Chen replied, “This is the Tianchen World.”

Lie Hongyun immediately said, “Impossible.”

Although she had never been to the Tianchen World, it was very close to the Lieyan World where she used to be; the Lieyan World was considered a world with relatively dense Spiritual Energy in the Chaotic Star Sea but did not have the density of this world.

How could this be the Tianchen World?

Seeing Lie Hongyun's disbelief, Lu Chen smiled and said, "The Lieyan World has already fused with the Tianchen World. At that time, all major forces from the Lieyan World also integrated into the Tianchen World. You can ask them what place this is."

Lie Hongyun fell into silence, her gaze fixed on the giant World Tree in the distance.

If what Lu Chen said is true, then it proves that Lu Chen's previous life might not have been as simple as a Great Emperor.

To transform a Life World in a marginal Star Domain into a Holy Land level existence, Lu Chen's means are truly terrifying.

Lu Chen said, "Familiarize yourself with the Tianchen World first, and when you're ready, come to the Imperial Palace to find me."

Lu Chen knew Lie Hongyun still had some resistance in her heart. After all, she was an Empress in her past life. It's normal for her to not easily accept being with someone else; even a Great Emperor has pride.

Back when he captured the Rainbow Empress, it also took him a long time. To this day, the Rainbow Empress has not fully accepted him; she still has some small emotions.

Lu Chen wasn't in a hurry; after all, there was plenty of time.

After Lu Chen finished speaking, his body vanished in place, leaving Lie Hongyun alone in the air.

Lie Hongyun hovered in the sky, her eyes fixed on the Tianchen World, lost in thought. It was a long time before she gradually came back to her senses.

Afterward, she searched for some forces that used to exist in the Lieyan World. Soon she found one that was relatively close to her.

After reaching that force, she learned through them in detail how the Great Sum Dynasty had developed step by step from a kingdom to its current state.

After understanding the full development history of the Great Sum Dynasty, Lie Hongyun became even more curious about Lu Chen's previous identity.

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Meanwhile.

Yunhua Palace.

In the Palace Master Hall.

The Life-saving Empress unleashed her full pressure, and all the Emperors in the hall felt the immense weight of it. Despite being Emperors, they still found it hard to breathe under this pressure.

In the middle of the hall, the Emperor Yanyue lowered her head, her wrinkled skin covered with sweat beads.

The Emperor Yanyue, fearing reprisal from the Life-saving Empress, attempted to rescue Lie Hongyun on her own. But despite unleashing all her strength outside the Great Sum Empire, she couldn't break the barrier protecting the Great Sum Empire.

Just as she was about to try again, she discovered a large number of Heavenly Demons appearing on the outskirts of the Great Sum Empire. Although as a Great Emperor she had no trouble dealing with ordinary Heavenly Demons, such a large number indicated that the Heavenly Demon threat before the Epoch Catastrophe had begun,

and there might already be especially formidable Heavenly Demons near the Great Sum Empire.

Considering her own safety, the Emperor Yanyue had a clone report the situation of the Great Sum Empire to the Life-saving Empress.

Coincidentally, the Life-saving Empress was holding a Hall Master meeting at that time. Upon hearing that Lie Hongyun was captured, the Life-saving Empress was instantly furious.

Besides Liu Qingyun, Lie Hongyun was already the most suitable body for her Reincarnation, and now even Lie Hongyun had been captured.

If she couldn't find a suitable Seizing Body before the Epoch Catastrophe, she might not survive it.

After a while, the Life-saving Empress coldly asked, "Who did it?"

Chapter 1425: Your Majesty, the Fifth Prince has broken through to the Saint Realm!

Emperor Yanyue hurriedly replied, "It's the Daxia Dynasty."

The Life-saving Empress sneered, "An empire no one has ever heard of, able to snatch someone from under your nose, and you have no way to deal with them?"

Emperor Yanyue, looking flustered, said, "Please forgive me, Palace Master; that empire seems to have a powerful formation guarding it. I've tried my best, yet I can't break that formation."

At this moment, Emperor Xuanming added insult to injury, "Yanyue, incompetence is incompetence. What excuses are you trying to make here?"

Hearing these words, Emperor Yanyue wanted to retort but thought better of it, recalling how he failed to protect the Saintess. Saying something now might only provoke the Life-saving Empress further, so he held back.

The Life-saving Empress did not flare up further due to Emperor Xuanming's provocation. With a solemn expression, she asked, "Oh? Even you cannot break that empire's formation even with all your might?"

Emperor Yanyue, though not in the top echelon, stood in the middle tier of Great Emperors in the universe, being a Fifth Layer Great Emperor.

For the emperors of empires on the cosmic edge, Emperor Yanyue, in principle, could easily crush them.

Yet, unexpectedly, a formation now appears that can withstand even Emperor Yanyue's full-on assault, illustrating the formation's formidable defensive strength.

If even Emperor Yanyue cannot break this formation, what about the Heavenly Demons?

Is it possible for them also to fail to break it?

Now that a Heavenly Demon disaster has already descended, with the number of Heavenly Demons set to increase, Yunhua Palace would spend significant time and energy dealing with them in the future.

If a formation could be found to withstand Heavenly Demons, Yunhua Palace could then focus more on facing the Era Tribulation.

Seeing the Life-saving Empress's anger seemingly subside, Emperor Yanyue hurriedly said, "Yes, Palace Master, despite using all my methods, I could not damage that formation at all."

The Life-saving Empress showed a thoughtful expression, "Interesting."

Then, the Life-saving Empress said, "Give me the coordinates."

Emperor Yanyue, without hesitation, used his Divine Sense to transmit the coordinates of the Daxia Dynasty to the Life-saving Empress. A golden glow flew from Emperor Yanyue's forehead to the Life-saving Empress.

The Life-saving Empress caught the golden glow. After confirming the location of the Daxia Dynasty, without any hesitation, she split off a clone, which then headed towards the Daxia Dynasty.

The Life-saving Empress, coming back to her senses, looked at Emperor Yanyue and said, "Transmit your memories of this period to me."

At the level of a Great Emperor, one can convert a period of memory into a legacy memory and share this memory with others.

The Life-saving Empress did not suspect Emperor Yanyue of lying. She was merely curious about what kind of force this Daxia Dynasty was to dare oppose Yunhua Palace.

Emperor Yanyue, without any hesitation, directly copied the memories he had from his time at Daxia Dynasty, then sent this memory in the form of a legacy light orb to the Life-saving Empress.

The Life-saving Empress sensed Emperor Yanyue's memory. Upon seeing the other party call themselves the Heavenly Emperor, her brows immediately furrowed.

Her first reaction was the same as Emperor Yanyue's.

How could someone this bold, a mere emperor from the cosmic fringe, dare call themselves Heavenly Emperor?

What gave this person the courage?

However, when the Life-saving Empress saw Emperor Yanyue use his full strength yet still fail to break the so-called formation of the Daxia Dynasty, she seemed to understand why the other party dared to call themselves Heavenly Emperor.

A Fifth Layer Great Emperor couldn't even shake that formation in the slightest, showing just how solid that formation is.

Thinking about this possibility, the Life-saving Empress instructed her clone to hasten towards the Daxia Dynasty.

Returning to herself, the Life-saving Empress withdrew her pressure and scanned the assembled Great Emperors, "Set aside the matter of the Saintess for now. The urgent task is defending against Heavenly Demon invasions."

Although having her Seizing Body captured was unsettling, now wasn't the time to dwell on it. Currently, Heavenly Demons were appearing across the universe, even in the star domains controlled by Yunhua Palace.

The currently appearing Heavenly Demons were at relatively low realms. The affiliated forces of Yunhua Palace could handle them without Yunhua Palace's intervention.

However, according to historical records, as the Era Tribulation approaches, the realms of Heavenly Demons will increase; Yunhua Palace must prepare for high-tier Heavenly Demons.

Seeing the Life-saving Empress shift the topic, Emperor Yanyue breathed a sigh of relief. Thankfully the Heavenly Demon issue arose now; otherwise, she would surely face punishment.

Afterward, the Hall Masters made suggestions, focusing their minds on dealing with the Heavenly Demons.

While Yunhua Palace was discussing how to prevent Heavenly Demons, other Super Forces were also discussing the same, including the Shenyue Dynasty.

Shenyue Dynasty.

After intense discussions, Emperor Shenwu decided to temporarily halt external expansion and prepare for dealing with the Heavenly Demons.

At this moment, in the Heavenly Palace.

Emperor Shenwu looked up at the void, his expression somewhat solemn.

The appearance of the Heavenly Demons seemed off to him; based on some historical records from the Ancient Era, Heavenly Demons shouldn't appear so soon.

The time difference between Heavenly Demon appearances and Era Tribulation is supposed to be no more than five hundred years.

Didn't the Heavenly Mystery Maiden's prophecy say the Era Tribulation was around ten thousand years away?

Why have the Heavenly Demons appeared so soon?

Could it be the Era Tribulation has come earlier?

Or is there something different about this era compared to the Ancient Era, causing Heavenly Demons to appear early?

Facing the Heavenly Demons, even Emperor Shenwu, who wields the Power of Slaughter, felt the challenge.

With time, the strength of the Heavenly Demons will increase. If there's still ten thousand years until the Tribulation, who knows how terrifying they will become later on.

This created a sense of urgency within Emperor Shenwu.

No, he must quickly complete the Reincarnation.

Just as Emperor Shenwu was about to sense the cultivation state of the princes, a Shadow Guard appeared behind him, "Your Majesty, the Fifth Prince has broken through to the Saint Realm!"

Upon hearing this, Emperor Shenwu, without hesitation, immediately used his Bloodline Power to sense, and just that instant, the gloom on his face disappeared.

At last, a prince has broken through to the Saint Realm, indicating his plan can proceed.

Then, Emperor Shenwu said, “Draft a decree; the Fifth Prince is virtuous and talented, extraordinarily gifted. As of today, let him be crowned Crown Prince of the Shenyue Dynasty. A coronation ceremony will be held in three days.”

A ripple effect was felt empire-wide as the news of Lu Yanghua breaking through to the Saint Realm spread swiftly, reaching the ears of many Super Forces.

The major Super Forces showed little interest in this; after all, it’s merely a prince being crowned, and Lu Yanghua might not even ascend to the throne before the Era Tribulation arrives.

However, those within the Shenyue Dynasty cared deeply about the position of Crown Prince. The emperors of Shenyue knew Emperor Shenwu planned to retreat and attempt a breakthrough to a higher realm in preparation for the Era Tribulation.

Chapter 1426: Just a dying person, what’s there to celebrate?

Once Emperor Shenwu enters seclusion, the Crown Prince Lu Yanghua will effectively control the entire Shenyue Dynasty.

Currently, with the Heavenly Demon rampant, those factions friendly with the Crown Prince don’t have to deal with the demon, while those unfriendly with the Crown Prince will inevitably be sent to resist the demon invasion.

At this time, choosing sides becomes particularly important.

After hearing that Lu Yanghua was appointed Crown Prince, many Great Emperors came to congratulate him, including those originally from other Prince factions.

People knew very well that unless something unexpected happened, Lu Yanghua's position as Crown Prince was already stable, and the struggle for the position of Emperor had ended.

If they continued to support other Princes now, when Lu Yanghua becomes regent, they might end up with all the dirty and tiring work.

The Shenyue Dynasty, East Palace.

After receiving the Holy Decree, Lu Yanghua immediately moved into the East Palace. Located on the left side of the Shenyue Palace, it is as big as half the Imperial Palace.

Inside the East Palace, the floor is made of top-grade Spirit Stones, with Xianjin used for the building materials, extremely luxurious.

At this moment, the plaza of the East Palace was bustling with activity, with several Great Emperors present, all bearing gifts to win over Lu Yanghua.

Seeing so many Great Emperors gather at the East Palace, Lu Yanghua's vanity swelled to an extreme.

Finally...

He had finally reached the place he'd longed for!

At this moment, Thunderbolt Emperor, holding an exquisite box, walked up to Lu Yanghua and flatteringly said: "Congratulations on becoming a Saint, Crown Prince! A small token of appreciation, not worthy of mention!"

Seeing Thunderbolt Emperor, Lu Yanghua laughed and said: "Thunderbolt Emperor, I recall you were quite close with my ninth brother. If he were to find out you visited the East Palace today, I wonder what he'd think. Aren't you worried about his discontent?"

Thunderbolt Emperor replied with a full smile: “What do you mean, Crown Prince? You are the Crown Prince, and the future Emperor of the dynasty. As a subject, naturally, I should come to congratulate Your Highness.”

“As for Lu Chen, he’s nothing but a traitor to the Shenyue Dynasty.”

At this point, Thunderbolt Emperor sighed deeply, showing a pained expression, and continued: “Ah, I must have been blind back then to have been so close to that traitor.”

Hearing Thunderbolt Emperor’s words, Lu Yanghua felt very satisfied inside.

Back then, Lu Chen always overshadowed him, with talent and cultivation far superior. Lu Chen also gathered a group of capable people around him.

Now Lu Chen had lost everything and had become a traitor to the Shenyue Dynasty.

Thinking about this, Lu Yanghua almost wanted to laugh out loud; after all, he had gained everything!

No matter how high the talent and cultivation, hadn’t he become a stray dog?

After Thunderbolt Emperor finished congratulating, other Great Emperors gathered around, offering flattering remarks in front of Lu Yanghua.

At this time, Thunderbolt Emperor retreated to the side, his previous sycophancy gone, replaced with a solemn look.

Upon entering the East Palace, he felt a familiar Yin Yang Power, which immediately reminded him of several Great Emperors involved in the assassination of Chu Yunzhi in the Imperial Palace.

Though he had already guessed there might be connections between Lu Yanghua and those Emperors, Thunderbolt Emperor hadn’t planned to report it to Emperor Shenwu.

Those Great Emperors wielded Yin Yang Power and had ties with Tianji Pavilion. Currently, Tianji Pavilion and the Shenyue Dynasty are allies, and bringing this up might affect their cooperation.

Moreover, Thunderbolt Emperor believed that Emperor Shenwu had already sensed the Great Emperors around Lu Yanghua. This is the Imperial Capital; with Emperor Shenwu's perception, it's impossible to be unaware.

However, for some reason, Thunderbolt Emperor had a feeling that something major was yet to unfold; the appointment of the Crown Prince might not be the end, but rather the beginning of some events.

Meanwhile.

Guiyi Sect.

On the vast continent stood high towers built of countless large stones, with cryptic murals carved on the stone walls.

In the top floor of one stone tower, two elders sat facing each other on the floor, with a Go board between them.

At this moment, the elder on the left spoke up: "Guiyi Sect Leader, don't you plan to congratulate that Crown Prince?"

Upon hearing this, the elder referred to as the Sect Leader smiled faintly and then said: "Just a dying man, what's there to congratulate?"

Saying this, the Guiyi Sect Leader picked up a Go piece with his fingers and placed it on the board.

The next moment, the board emitted a dazzling light, and then a projection of Tianchen World appeared above it.

The Guiyi Sect Leader continued: "Now that the Saintess has overcome her tribulation, it's time for us to head to Tianchen World."

Hearing this, the elder sitting opposite the Guiyi Sect Leader said: “Guiyi Sect’s mission has been completed; since that’s the case, why continue to follow that woman?”

The Guiyi Sect Leader calmly stated: “It was she who single-handedly created the Guiyi Sect in her past life. Without her, there would be no Guiyi Sect today; the Guiyi Sect will forever be her Guiyi Sect.”

Upon hearing this, the elder chuckled, “You are indeed stubborn.”

“But I’m curious, why did she choose Lu Chen? Could they have had some connection in their previous lives?”

The Guiyi Sect Leader said: “Who knows, that’s her own affair.”

“Alright, that’s all for today; you should leave too, if you stay any longer, Emperor Shenwu might discover you.”

As those words fell, the board before them disappeared. The Guiyi Sect Leader stood up and with a wave of his embroidered robe, he vanished from the spot, leaving only the elder he had played Go with.

After a while, the elder stood up slowly, looked at the distant stone tower, and with a smile said: “Interesting.”

The elder was the Holy Land Master of Nirvana Holy Land, a top cosmic force. Initially, he planned to draw the Guiyi Sect into joining the Nirvana Holy Land, but to his surprise, the Guiyi Sect chose a forsaken Prince.

The Guiyi Sect seemed like an ordinary force, but only Golden Flame Emperor knew that since the era began, the Guiyi Sect had existed in the universe, its history predating many Holy Lands.

The Guiyi Sect merely maintained a low profile; its true strength, perhaps no one knew.

Golden Flame Emperor had long been observing the Guiyi Sect's every move. When the Guiyi Sect sent their Saintess to Shenyue Palace, he had suspected the Guiyi Sect wasn't as strong as he imagined or that it had diminished.

After all, she was their Saintess; if they truly had strong figures, they wouldn't have sent her away.

It was only just now, facing the Guiyi Sect Leader, that Golden Flame Emperor realized his previous assumptions were wrong.

The pressure the Guiyi Sect Leader exerted on him was no less than that of top-tier Holy Land Ancestors, even Emperor Shenwu might not match him.

Perhaps, when the Guiyi Sect Leader handed over the Saintess, he was scheming something.

With this in mind, Golden Flame Emperor planned to keep a closer eye on the Daxia Dynasty after returning.

Years ago, Golden Flame Emperor received a legacy memory from a Guiyi Sect Elder. Through it, he learned that the Guiyi Sect's Saintess wasn't ordinary; she was likely the reincarnation of the Empress who created the Guiyi Sect.

How could someone of such noble identity choose a Prince abandoned by Emperor Shenwu?

Maybe Lu Chen isn't simple either?

Chapter 1427: Chu Yunzhi's Worry

As the chaos in the universe intensified, Lu Chen also began to get busy.

Upon seeing the large-scale appearance of the Heavenly Demons, Lu Chen's first thought was that the Immortal Spirit Umbrella could withstand even the Heavenly

Emperor's attacks. Given this, he decided to continue hiding under the protection of the Immortal Spirit Umbrella, focusing on helping his wives cultivate, and wait for the Era Tribulation to arrive.

But this idea was soon discarded by Lu Chen. On one hand, he was unsure if there were any women in the universe who met the conditions of the system, and if he stayed within the Daxia Dynasty, he might not find them even if they existed.

Although the Red Flower Sedan occasionally brought some suitable women to him, he had no control over the Red Flower Sedan, and no one could say for sure if it would continue to bring women who met the system's conditions in the future.

Waiting passively seemed somewhat helpless.

Moreover, based on the memories within the Reincarnation Stone, it could be inferred that the women who met the system's conditions were very likely his reincarnation partners from countless past lives.

In his countless past lives, even before the Era Tribulation arrived, he had always searched for those reincarnation partners scattered across the universe.

In this life, with the help of the system, he found many women from his past lives, which was closest to a great reunion. So he planned to go all the way and find all the women who might have close relationships with him.

Perhaps after finding all those women, the mystery of his identity would be completely solved, and he might also learn the origin of the System of Lots of Sons and Lots of Blessings.

In this life, he shouldn't continue playing the nesting dolls game. If he fails to find those reincarnation partners in this life, they might be separated in the next era, and then he would fall into the cycle of searching for reincarnation partners again.

Tianchen World.

Yancheng Imperial Palace.

In the depth of night, on top of the tallest building in the palace, Lu Chen's main body sat on the rooftop, gazing at the galaxy in the sky, sipping on wine, accompanied by two beauties, Liu Qingyun and Chu Yunzhi.

These days, Lu Chen's main body's energy was focused on the two women, now having reached the Fourth Layer Realm of the Great Emperor, his combat power was stronger than all his clones.

For proud women like Liu Qingyun and Chu Yunzhi, naturally, his main body needed to first completely subdue them.

At this moment, Chu Yunzhi asked, "Your Majesty, do you not intend to expand externally? The Heavenly Demons are rampaging, and many empires are heavily damaged. Perhaps now is the time for the Daxia Dynasty to expand."

Recently, Chu Yunzhi discovered that the Daxia Dynasty seemed to have few major movements; the Imperial Court's focus remained mostly on dealing with the Heavenly Demons, with no signs of external expansion.

Upon hearing Chu Yunzhi's words, Lu Chen smiled lightly, put down the wine glass, turned his head to look at Chu Yunzhi, and said, "Why are you suddenly concerned about this?"

Recently Chu Yunzhi had entangled with him daily, with their interaction mostly revolving around matters of dual cultivation, and she hadn't mentioned anything beyond that.

The sudden mention of the Daxia Dynasty's external expansion surprised Lu Chen.

Chu Yunzhi said, "The Heavenly Demons appeared so early on, there's a great possibility the Era Tribulation might come earlier again. If the Daxia Dynasty does not accumulate sufficient Qi Fortune before the Era Tribulation arrives, it may not be able to survive it."

Chu Yunzhi, after all, was the Saintess of the Guiyi Sect; even if she hadn't recovered the memories of her past life, she had some understanding of the Era Tribulation.

According to some historical records left from the Ancient Era, Heavenly Demons only appear in large scale when the Era Tribulation is about to begin.

The Heavenly Mystery Maiden predicted that the Era Tribulation would definitely occur within ten thousand years, a saying quite intriguing.

The tribulation occurring within five thousand years would still be within ten thousand years; occurring within a thousand years is also within ten thousand years; and within five hundred years is similarly within ten thousand years.

Ten thousand years is the ultimate deadline for the tribulation to occur, but no one can precisely say when the Era Tribulation will actually commence.

After hearing Chu Yunzhi's words, Lu Chen poured himself another glass of wine, then stared at the boundless starry sky and said, "You're correct, but we need not rush for now."

"Expansion is necessary, but the time is not yet ripe. We should wait until the universe is in a little bit more chaos."

"Moreover, you needn't worry. The appearance of the Heavenly Demons does not necessarily mean the tribulation has been brought forward again."

Upon hearing Lu Chen's words, Liu Qingyun curiously asked, "Why do you say that?"

According to records left from the Ancient Era, it was always the case that when the Heavenly Demons appeared, the Era Tribulation would soon follow. Anyone with a little understanding of the Ancient Era is aware of this.

Lu Chen raised his wine glass, sipped gently, and answered, "It is merely my speculation, not necessarily correct."

“Heavenly Demons feed on despair and fear. The more chaotic the universe, the more it suits their existence. Every time a tribulation begins, the universe falls into chaos, causing their numbers to surge.”

“The Heavenly Mystery Maiden predicted the Era Tribulation in advance, throwing the universe into chaos ahead of time, thus providing a breeding ground for Heavenly Demons, hence their quick and large-scale appearance.”

After hearing Lu Chen’s conjecture, Chu Yunzhi and Liu Qingyun thought for a moment and found some sense in it, yet it remained a speculation, unverified.

At this time, Lu Chen put down his wine glass, his body surrounded by green spiritual power, then he called upon the Creation Dao to create a dozen Returning Ruin Realm clones.

Upon seeing so many clones appear on the rooftop at once, the two women were momentarily stunned, feeling somewhat anxious.

Lu Chen wouldn’t engage in another kind of sandwich game, would he?

While the two women were worried, Lu Chen sent out all the clones. After witnessing the clones vanish, the two women breathed a sigh of relief.

Lu Chen said, “Speaking of which, we should indeed pay more attention to the situations in the universe.”

Upon hearing Lu Chen’s words, the two women realized that Lu Chen had created so many clones at once to investigate the status of other forces in the universe.

Just at that moment, Chu Yunzhi’s mind suddenly froze, and the Dao Charm emanated from her body involuntarily, with Dao Patterns swirling around her.

Feeling the anomaly in Chu Yunzhi’s body, Lu Chen promptly asked, “What’s wrong?”

Chu Yunzhi didn't immediately respond. She raised her jade hand, supporting her forehead, appearing disoriented.

Lu Chen hurriedly infused her with Life Force, but Chu Yunzhi's symptoms did not alleviate.

A moment later, Chu Yunzhi suddenly lifted her head, her starry eyes sparkling, her complexion revealing a charming blush, exuding the aura of a mature woman.

Seeing this scene, Lu Chen wondered, could it be she is about to break through?

Chu Yunzhi's Dao was the Path of Love, and whenever she breakthrough, she needed Lu Chen at her side to assist. Seeing her like this, Lu Chen immediately thought she was on the verge of a breakthrough.

In the next moment, Chu Yunzhi lifted her slender jade arms, wrapping them around Lu Chen's neck, cuddling intimately in Lu Chen's arms, showing a look of seeking affection.

Chapter 1428: Chu Yunzhi Recovers Past Life Memories

Seeing Chu Yunzhi in such discomfort, Lu Chen didn't hesitate in the slightest, using the sky as a blanket and the rooftop as a bed, helping Chu Yunzhi to alleviate her pain.

Nearby, Liu Qingyun merely pursed her lips slightly after seeing Lu Chen at work and didn't say much.

When she was brought back by Lu Chen, she had already accepted the reality that it was impossible to have Lu Chen all to herself, and she never harbored such an idea.

Moreover, not everyone can endure the affection from Lu Chen's main body. Recently, when cultivating together with Lu Chen's main body, she thought several times that she was about to die.

Although she didn't mind Lu Chen engaging in dual cultivation with that woman, seeing Lu Chen acting unruly right in front of her, Liu Qingyun felt a strange sensation in her heart.

She couldn't describe the feeling, which was somewhat akin to gloating.

At this moment, the Dao charm on Chu Yunzhi's body became increasingly intense, and even Liu Qingyun began to find it difficult to control herself under its influence.

Liu Qingyun felt speechless, thinking she was only there to watch the drama, yet even she was being affected.

She hurriedly circulated the spiritual power within her, trying to calm her mind, but found that, with the circulation of spiritual power, it instead became more chaotic, and her soul's throbbing grew more apparent.

Liu Qingyun cast a cold glance at Lu Chen and Chu Yunzhi, who were in the midst of their activities.

Despicable!

These two wretched people, devoured by their desires, were even trying to drag her into their mess.

Just as Liu Qingyun considered going over to pull Lu Chen away, Chu Yunzhi's spiritual power suddenly burst forth, enveloping them both in halos of light.

Immediately, countless images appeared before their eyes, swiftly playing like a slideshow.

Seeing this, Liu Qingyun recalled the experiences she had had and suddenly had a suspicion in her heart.

Could it be that Chu Yunzhi also had some connection with Lu Chen in a past life?

Was her past life memory awakening?

As Liu Qingyun thought this, Chu Yunzhi opened her drowsy eyes, which turned from dazed to tender and gentle.

Looking at the man on her, a hint of affection flashed in Chu Yunzhi's eyes as she gently stroked Lu Chen's black hair with her jade hand.

Noticing Chu Yunzhi's change, Lu Chen immediately stopped and gazed into her eyes.

At this moment, Chu Yunzhi's gaze bore no desire, only the tenderness of one seeing a beloved.

Seeing Chu Yunzhi like this, Lu Chen hesitated to increase the intensity.

Curiously, Lu Chen asked, "What's wrong?"

Upon speaking, Lu Chen intentionally perceived Chu Yunzhi's realm and found that she was still at the First Layer of the Great Emperor Realm, with no advancement in her realm.

Without an increase in realm, how did she cause such a big stir just now? This puzzled Lu Chen greatly.

Chu Yunzhi, smiling, said, "I've awakened my past life memories."

Hearing this, Lu Chen was momentarily stunned.

Awaken past life memories?

Was it really as he had thought?

Did women who met the system's conditions have ambiguous past life connections with him?

Returning to his senses, Lu Chen smiled and asked, "What was our relationship in our past life?"

Chu Yunzhi wistfully glanced at Lu Chen, "You already know the answer."

She believed Lu Chen had likely recovered some memories too, knowing that they were Dao partners in their past lives, or accurately in their countless previous lifetimes...

She had gone through numerous reincarnations just to find Lu Chen again.

Seeing the two gaze at each other affectionately, Liu Qingyun felt a bit sickened and abruptly interjected coldly, asking Chu Yunzhi, "Yunzhi, have you seen me in your past life?"

Liu Qingyun also suspected that she might have been in a Dao couple relationship with Lu Chen in a past life, which was why she was at his mercy in this life.

Hearing Liu Qingyun's voice, Lu Chen and Chu Yunzhi only then realized there was another person watching them.

Chu Yunzhi turned to look at Liu Qingyun, "No."

"But that's normal. Lu Chen has been reincarnated countless times. Perhaps in one of your lifetimes, you were also his Dao partner."

Saying this, there was a hint of jealousy in Chu Yunzhi's tone as she continued, "In the life when he was with me, he was constantly searching for his past life partners. How many Dao partners his reincarnations have had, not even he knows."

Uh, this...

Lu Chen didn't expect Chu Yunzhi to know about such matters. It appeared that during the lifetime they were together, he had unlocked most of the Reincarnation Stone's memories and even told Chu Yunzhi about it.

At this time, Lu Chen coughed and then shifted the topic, asking, "By the way, Yunzhi, why did your past life memories suddenly awaken at this moment?"

Chu Yunzhi responded, "Someone activated the Inheritance Stone I left behind at Guiyi Sect."

Lu Chen, puzzled, asked, "Inheritance Stone? What is that?"

Chu Yunzhi answered, "The Inheritance Stone stores my memories. If someone actively activates it, then I can recover those memories."

"However, the memories within the Inheritance Stone are many and involve some causality. If my cultivation state doesn't reach that of a Great Emperor, I can't bear those causal consequences."

"After founding Guiyi Sect in a past life, upon reincarnation, I sealed all my reincarnation memories and their related causality."

Chu Yunzhi has not just reincarnated once; she has been reincarnated countless times, experiencing who-knows-how-many eras.

Her reincarnation memories and the causality they carry are vast. If she inherited those memories and causality without reaching the Great Emperor state, her Divine Sense in this life might be overwhelmed by those memories, turning her into a madwoman.

When a person reincarnates too many times, it's very hard to manage past life memories. Those memories can feel like another personality, and without adequate strength, the conflict between the memories can lead to madness or even a split personality.

Having reincarnated so many times, Chu Yunzhi had stored up so many memories. If those memories were unlocked without attaining the Great Emperor cultivation state, they would drive her insane.

This is why many reincarnated Great Emperors seal their own memories, waiting until they are sufficiently powerful before unsealing them gradually.

Now that Chu Yunzhi has attained the Great Emperor state, past life memories play back like a slideshow in her mind and swiftly merge together without causing any split personality issues.

Upon hearing Chu Yunzhi's words, Lu Chen felt a bit surprised. This was the first time he'd heard of someone being able to seal away causality.

If Chu Yunzhi in past lives could do this, it must mean she was very powerful then. If so, why did she choose to reincarnate?

Lu Chen, bemused, asked, "In your past life, weren't you in this universe too? Why did you suddenly seal memories and causality and choose reincarnation?"

Chu Yunzhi replied, "My past life survived from the Ancient Era, and my life span had reached its limit. If I didn't take the initiative to reincarnate, I would soon face total annihilation of body and soul."

Chu Yunzhi's situation was similar to Lu Chen's. Lu Chen, after arriving in the new era, was still at the Heavenly Emperor Realm, but due to life span limitations, he ultimately had no choice but to reincarnate, eventually being reborn as the son of Emperor Shenwu.

Many of the rules of the Ancient Era do not apply in the new era. If the bodies from the Ancient Era are not reformed, even if they survive the Era Tribulation, they may still fall in the new era.

Chapter 1429: Punishment Still Needs to Be Meted Out

No matter who survives from the Ancient Era to the new era, the first thing they must do is reincarnate so that they can gain recognition from the new era's cosmic laws.

Even the Heavenly Emperor is no exception.

This also explains why Lu Chen, despite living through so many lifetimes, has never been able to break all the seals of the Reincarnation Stone and find his companions from past lives.

Every time Lu Chen reaches a new era, he must reincarnate, and as a result, his previous life's memories are sealed within the Reincarnation Stone, and his Cultivation State is lost as well.

When Lu Chen's strength and Cultivation State recover enough to bear the memories sealed within the Reincarnation Stone, a new Era Tribulation approaches, causing Lu Chen to reincarnate repeatedly, never able to gather all his past companions or recover his memories.

Instead, the sealed memories accumulate, and the companions increase, creating a vicious cycle.

Lu Chen pondered for a while. After hearing Chu Yunzhi's reason for reincarnating, he seemed to understand why he has been reincarnating continuously.

Considering this, perhaps this lifetime is the one where he is closest to gathering all his past companions and unlocking all the seals of the Reincarnation Stone.

At this time, Liu Qingyun also wondered if she had sealed some memories. She had always known she was a reincarnated persona and even knew she would certainly avoid the Era Tribulation.

But she was unclear about her past life memories. After hearing Chu Yunzhi's words, she felt it was very likely she had sealed her memories and karma during reincarnation out of fear of not bearing the past's memories and karma, leaving only a portion of the memory.

Perhaps, once she regains all her memories, she will know if she had any ties with Lu Chen in a past life.

However, speaking of which, even if she was indeed Lu Chen's companion in a past life, Lu Chen's actions in this life are too crude.

She was doing well as the Saintess in Yunhua Palace, yet her clone was imprisoned by Lu Chen and toyed with daily, while her Main Body was ultimately lured to Daxia Dynasty by the Red Flower Sedan, and there Lu Chen also tormented her in various ways.

Thinking of Lu Chen's actions, Liu Qingyun's evaluation of him was only summed up in two words: "lousy."

But all these matters are now past. Although Lu Chen's methods were somewhat unsavory, if it was for the sake of reuniting past fates, she could reluctantly accept it, and she was now somewhat happy.

Those unbearable things seemed less important now.

At this moment, Chu Yunzhi continued to caress Lu Chen's silky hair, her hand gradually sliding down to caress Lu Chen's cheek.

Having reincarnated countless times, Chu Yunzhi finally laid eyes on her beloved once again, making her heart stir with restlessness. She fretted with each Era Tribulation, fearful that after her death, she might never see Lu Chen again.

Feeling Chu Yunzhi's warm jade palm, Lu Chen gathered his thoughts and asked, "Yunzhi, in the lifetime we were together, did I ever tell you about the Reincarnation Stone?"

Chu Yunzhi thought for a moment, then replied, "Yes, you did."

Lu Chen continued, "In that lifetime, how many companions did I have?"

Upon hearing the question, Chu Yunzhi glanced at Lu Chen with a hint of resentment, "In that lifetime, I was the only one."

Lu Chen paused; the lifetime he shared with Chu Yunzhi should have been an early one. Earlier reincarnations meant more seals of the Reincarnation Stone were

unlocked. Yet, back then, he had only Chu Yunzhi as a woman, indicating he had never gathered all his companions throughout his reincarnations.

Of course, it's also possible that during the lifetime with Chu Yunzhi, it was too early, and he didn't have many companions at the time. Over continuous reincarnations, his companions increased gradually.

Seeing Lu Chen's handsome face, Chu Yunzhi was lost in her memories of the "past life" spent with Lu Chen.

In that lifetime, Lu Chen was a graceful gent, not yet so consumed by desire. Although they often practiced Dual Cultivation, it wasn't as excessive as in this lifetime.

Somehow, Lu Chen had changed into such a person in this life.

To speak of it, in his past life as Emperor Shenwu's son, Lu Chen was solely focused on cultivation.

Thinking this far, Chu Yunzhi's brain froze; could it really be the problem with the Sky Evolution Stone?

Had she manipulated Lu Chen's fate with the Sky Evolution Stone, causing him to indulge in love and consequently undergo personality transformation?

As Chu Yunzhi gazed at Lu Chen's face, lost in thought, he continued to ask, "In the lifetime we were together, which Dao did I cultivate?"

Chu Yunzhi replied, "Sword Dao."

Lu Chen thought to himself, Sword Dao, huh, it's vastly different from the Creation Dao.

The Creation Dao is the origin of all Dao, whereas the Sword Dao is merely a great Dao derived from the Creation Dao.

If one cultivates merely the Sword Dao, the cultivation achievements would naturally be limited.

Lu Chen pondered, feeling that now thinking about these things didn't seem to hold much significance.

He should let his clone explore the universe promptly, looking for more women scoring above ninety points.

Lu Chen snapped back to reality, gazing intensely at Chu Yunzhi. Under his fiery gaze, Chu Yunzhi's jade body trembled slightly.

In her "past life" with Lu Chen, she had never experienced such tyranny from him as she did in this lifetime. She felt that if this continued, she might be transformed by Lu Chen.

The crux was that in this lifetime, under Lu Chen's influence, she also cultivated the Path of Love. Thinking of this made Chu Yunzhi feel a little embarrassed.

She also practiced the Sword Dao in her "past life." How did it change into the Path of Love in this life, a Dao so improper, yet existing in the world, allowing her to achieve Dao and become an Emperor?

Thinking so, it appeared not only did Lu Chen change, but she had changed as well.

Lu Chen now clearly sensed Chu Yunzhi's body temperature rapidly rising, and he couldn't hold back anymore as he increased his intensity with her.

"Hmph, even recovering your past memories doesn't change the troubles you caused me in this life. What deserves punishment still needs to be punished."

Seeing Lu Chen start again, Chu Yunzhi felt quite helpless and could only mobilize the Power of Dao to cooperate with Lu Chen's cultivation.

“I...um...won’t shirk responsibility. However you want to punish me...it’s fine...”

“Oh, and there’s one more thing...”

Lu Chen curiously asked, “Hah...what is it?”

Chu Yunzhi wrapped her arms around Lu Chen’s broad shoulders, “The Guiyi Sect... is probably coming to the Daxia Dynasty... sigh...”

Hearing this, Lu Chen stopped, “Guiyi Sect?”

“They initially sent you to the Shenyue Palace, and now they dare come seeking refuge with me?”

After all, Chu Yunzhi was the Saintess of the Guiyi Sect, yet the Guiyi Sect sent their Saintess to the Shenyue Dynasty.

If not for Chu Yunzhi’s Spiritual Body still being immature, his head would turn green. Lu Chen harbored no goodwill toward the Guiyi Sect.

Chu Yunzhi also saw Lu Chen’s strong disapproval of the Guiyi Sect and continued, “In fact, the Guiyi Sect can’t really be blamed for this.”

Chapter 1430: The Fall of Emperor Shenwu

Seeing Chu Yunzhi speak for the Guiyi Sect, Lu Chen moved again and began to exert himself fiercely.

“How can it have nothing to do with them? I almost lost you.”

Chu Yunzhi furrowed her eyebrows tightly, lips slightly parted, “I... ah!”

“When I reincarnated... I used all my strength to deduce... the future...”

“The future shows... that Emperor Shenwu holds something very important to you... Ah~”

“Moreover... deep within my Divine Soul, there is a sword embryo that nourishes together with yours. If I encounter any danger, it will erupt.”

Lu Chen was stunned again, a sword embryo?

If the sword embryo erupts, Chu Yunzhi’s fate would be to have her Divine Soul utterly annihilated, disappearing completely.

The sword embryo that Chu Yunzhi nurtured is akin to the Purity Lock; from a female perspective, it’s not a good thing.

Seeing Lu Chen suddenly stop, his gaze flashing with complex emotions, Chu Yunzhi continued, “Phew... this is my own choice...”

Lu Chen sighed and said, “Sigh, now that I think about it, I really am not a human.”

Hearing this, Liu Qingyun, who was beside him, sneered, realizing that this guy finally acknowledged he wasn’t human; he was no different from a beast.

Lu Chen continued, “The item you deduced in your past life should be the Sky Evolution Stone.”

The Sky Evolution Stone fell from the Reincarnation Stone, and within the Reincarnation Stone was the sealed memory, which was indeed very important to Lu Chen.

Lu Chen sighed again and said, “Forget it, let’s not talk about these things. If the Guiyi Sect wishes to come, then let them come.”

As he finished speaking, Lu Chen continued with his tasks, but this time without intensity.

Feeling the gentle demeanor of Lu Chen, Chu Yunzhi, conversely, felt somewhat uneasy. If she had cultivated the Sword Dao like in her past life, such things wouldn’t matter as much.

But in this life, she walked the Path of Love, and Lu Chen’s tenderness wasn’t necessarily a good thing for her.

Chu Yunzhi then mobilized the Power of Dao, with the Dao Charm of the Path of Love surrounding Lu Chen. Influenced by this force, Lu Chen’s eyes gradually turned red, and all his Spiritual Power rampaged, needing to be expelled urgently.

Lu Chen immediately realized this was caused by Chu Yunzhi. He looked at her with confusion and asked, “What are you doing?”

Chu Yunzhi's cheeks blushed deeply, looking at Lu Chen with affectionate eyes, holding no answer.

Her reaction at this moment was already the best answer.

Lu Chen immediately understood what this meant, his gaze became sharp instantly, before coldly snorting, "Regardless of whether you have a sword embryo inside, you shouldn't be this reckless!"

"I don't allow my woman to get entangled with other men!"

"You're still going to be punished!"

Then Lu Chen intensified on Chu Yunzhi, just as before.

Liu Qingyun looked speechlessly at the two of them. Just when she finally got some relief, Chu Yunzhi released the power of her Love Path again, affecting her once more.

She best hurry and leave this place of trouble.

Thinking of this, Liu Qingyun gently stood up, preparing to flee the scene.

But just at that moment, Lu Chen's Quasi-Emperor clone suddenly appeared before her, smiling at her and saying, "Yun'er, where are you going?"

Liu Qingyun's mind froze; how did she forget Lu Chen had more than one body?

Liu Qingyun tried to calm herself, feigning composure, and said, "I won't disturb your cultivation anymore."

Lu Chen smiled and said, "What are you talking about? How is this disturbing?"

"Yunzhi even released the Power of Dao; this can actually aid our cultivation. If you leave now, wouldn't that let her good intentions go to waste?"

Under the influence of the Power of Love Dao, Liu Qingyun's Spiritual Power would become increasingly agitated, enhancing the flow of Spiritual Power during cultivation, making dual cultivation more effective.

Of course, the side effect was that Liu Qingyun would lose control over herself.

Liu Qingyun said again, "Qingqiu just mentioned she was feeling a bit unwell. I'm going to check on her."

Saying this, Liu Qingyun prepared to escape the scene. Yet after taking only a few steps, Lu Chen pulled her back.

Then Lu Chen pinned her against the rooftop railing, “I’m right next to Qingqiu. Wouldn’t I know if she’s feeling unwell?”

Liu Qingyun was dumbfounded, realizing she forgot Lu Chen had more than one clone.

Rip...

“You!”

...

In the blink of an eye, several years passed.

During this period, none of Lu Chen’s confidantes became pregnant, leading him to suspect if it was his problem.

Though it’s indeed difficult for a Great Emperor to have children, someone did conceive before; Empress Tianhong and Chu Yuqin both became pregnant.

Even though the child in Empress Tianhong’s belly hasn’t been born yet, she still got pregnant.

Yet, there was no movement at all from other women.

His main body never stopped all these years, even employing the Power of Dao from the Creation Dao, but to no avail.

Shuyun Star Domain, Skywind World.

Lu Chen's Guixu Realm Ninth Layer clone traveled here aboard the Immortal Boat, beginning a quest to find women potentially meeting system criteria.

But as in past years, he hasn't found any new women who fit the criteria till now, even those he met who were very beautiful only scored eighty-nine.

This made Lu Chen wonder if there are no ninety-score women left in this universe, or if any ninety-score women exist, the system would send them to the Daxia Dynasty automatically, negating the need for him to search.

Looking over his experiences over the years, most of his women came to him naturally or their clones appeared in the Daxia Dynasty due to various reasons even if their main body didn't come.

Moreover, in such a vast universe with such a large population, finding a woman meeting system criteria among the vast sea of people is like finding a needle in a haystack unless ninety-score women are everywhere.

But from current observations, ninety-score women likely had some connection with him in their past life, and finding them everywhere is unlikely.

Some teahouse.

Lu Chen's clone sat near the window, wearing a stack of straw hats, watching cultivators moving back and forth down below.

He thought to himself, perhaps there really isn't any ninety-score women left in this universe. Given the system's nature, if such women still exist, they probably have been sent to him long ago.

Especially concerning that Red Flower Sedan, although he didn't know its origins, it likely had something to do with the system.

If there aren't any ninety-score women left, perhaps he should wrap things up—first dealing with Lie Hongyun and Pei Shuhua within the Daxia Dynasty, then figuring out a way to take down Yun Xianxian's main body, Yun Qingshu.

As soon as he thought of Yun Qingshu's coldly beautiful face, Lu Chen felt his blood boiling.

While Lu Chen's thoughts were elsewhere, discussions from nearby Guixu Realm cultivators were heard.

“Alas, life is getting tougher.”

“The number of Heavenly Demons keeps increasing; who knows what's happening in the Outer Domain now.”

“How can you still care about the Outer Domain’s situation now; that’s a place only Great Emperors can go to. Better be concerned with the changes in the Shenyue Dynasty.”

“What’s happening in the Shenyue Dynasty?”

One person sighed and said, “Not long ago, it was reported that Emperor Shenwu had problems with cultivation and fell.”