

## All Hail 401

### Chapter 401 Heavy and Light

"The heir is loyal. Even though he's young, crippled, and sick, he's still a man. Why shouldn't he bring a sword and take over the 50 prefectures of Guanshan? What's hateful is that Marquis of Ningyuan, who has received the emperor's kindness, was the commander-in-chief back then. He couldn't escape responsibility for King You's injustice and only lost his title. It's really too easy on him. He should have volunteered himself to quell the chaos and prove his merit, but he still relied on his leg disease and said he couldn't lead the army. No matter how serious his leg problem is, can it compare to the heir? It's simply the biggest joke in the world..."

Of course, there were also many people who felt that the heir, Yin Huaixi, was old, weak, and disabled. They felt that the emperor was too rash—

"Ridiculous, this is really ridiculous. I admit that King You has been a hero for a lifetime, but the case against King You is still being investigated by the three divisions. Yin Huaixi is a criminal, so how can he lead the army? Moreover, Yin Huaixi is only 15 years old. He hasn't officially led troops into battle in the past. He doesn't have any experience in leading troops and is only talking about strategies on paper. How can he quell the rebellion? He's also crippled and can't go to the battlefield. What right does he have..."

"Who does he, Yin Huaixi, think he is? He's just a piece of trash, yet he dares to invite his own troops to quell the chaos in Shandong? Haha, this court of civil and military officials actually made a fool of themselves and played along with him. How ridiculous..."

"That's right. This Prince You is simply ignorant. How big is the rebellion in Shandong? How can a young boy like him interfere? In my opinion, there's no need to settle this mess. Since we're going to lose anyway, we might as well send someone to negotiate with Li Qiguang..."

Many people argued because of disagreements.

"Shut up. Gan Luo paid homage to a minster at age 12. Li Shimin led the army at the age of 14. Huo Qubing fought against the Xiongnu at the age of 17. Sun Ce 18 dominated Jiangdong. On the other hand, the heir fought against the Di people with his father at the age of 12. How can the bandits of Shandong be as fierce as the Di people? How can you know that the heir can't return to the court with a huge victory?"

"Heh, Yin Huaixi is just a cripple. What right does he have to be compared to Tang Zong, Huo Shuai, Gan Xiang, and the others? Hmph, he's simply ignorant..."

"When the heir was twelve years old, he resisted the Di people and was harmed by a traitor. His legs were disabled, but he still had ambition. He helped his father redress his grievances and took on the title of the guilty son. It's easy for him to invite himself to Shandong to quell the rebellion. So what if he's crippled? The heir is disabled but not mentally disabled, unlike some people whose limbs are intact that are not even as good as a cripple..."

"Not only is Yin Huaixi crippled, but I heard that he also has a short life. If he's asked to go to Shandong to quell the rebellion, he'll probably meet the King of Hell before he even arrives..."

"Who did you say had a short life? Say it again if you have the guts..."

"So what if I did? Yin Huaixi is a cripple with a short life..."

"Ah, someone's been hit, someone's been hit..."

Everyone on the streets was discussing this matter. It had only been a month since the palace examination. Due to the case of King You's injustice being reopened, the Imperial Court had not released the rankings for a long time. Many scholars stayed in the capital. Teahouses, restaurants, and inns could be seen everywhere. The scholars chatted and even fought because they had disagreements and disputes...

Yu Zongshen lowered the curtain and returned to the Yu Residence. He went straight to An Shou Hall.

Old Madam Yu sent someone to invite Zhou Linghuai over.

Yu Zongshen looked at Zhou Linghuai and couldn't help but think of Prince Yin, who lived in the palace but no one could figure him out. The two of them were both sickly and crippled. They were even the same age.

Recalling Young Master Yin's appearance carefully, she suddenly realized that he had only revealed his true appearance on the day Ye Hanyuan knocked on the drum.

However, at that time, when the emperor was interrogating Ye Hanyuan, everyone in the hall was in a panic, so no one would take a closer look at his appearance.

She could only vaguely see a long scar on the right side of Yin Huaixi's face.

Later on, in order to avoid questions, he kept wearing a mask.

He shook off the chaotic thoughts in his mind and said, "The emperor has ordered the Ministry of War to manage the troops and rations. The Ministry of Revenue and the Imperial Court have to cooperate fully."

Old Madam Yu pondered for a moment and frowned. "Young Master Yin's reason for asking to quell the rebellion is spot-on. No one can refute him. It's obvious that he's shrewd."

No matter what Yin Huaixi's motive was, just based on these three reasons, there was no better candidate than him to quell the rebellion.

The emperor understood that even if he had scruples, he had no choice but to agree.

The court officials understood even better that even though they knew that it was inappropriate for Yin Huaixi to lead the troops, no one dared to step forward and say no.

Yu Zongshen pondered for a moment and said, "King You is innocent. Although the Marquis of Changxing is guilty of a heinous crime, killing a good general by mistake is also a loss of virtue, benevolence, and righteousness to the emperor. It's a loss of morals, dignity, and reputation. It's impossible for the emperor not to have scruples."

At this point, he paused slightly.

After a while, Yu Zongshen continued, "Although the emperor's eyes are red with killing intent and he looks like he won't stop, when the trial of the Marquis of Changxing's three divisions is over and it's King You's turn to truly clear his name, he will be let off lightly."

When Old Madam Yu heard this, she understood and sighed again. "This is the mind of an emperor. The more people you kill in the beginning, the more fearful the court officials will be later. The more worried they are that the more extensive the implication will be, the more trouble will fall on them. After all, no one in the court dares to touch their conscience and say that they're innocent. When a dog is anxious, it's inevitable that it'll jump over the wall. The court officials who have always been in conflict will instead join forces to stop the emperor. Although the emperor is the king, he still needs the court officials to assist the country. It's impossible for him to ignore the opinions of the court officials. At that time, it won't be easy for King You to clear his name."

Everyone knew that the emperor was in a fit of anger. No one was willing to provoke him.

In addition, although the emperor had killed many people at the moment, they were all scapegoats pushed by those in power. However, he had not touched the interests of those really powerful cabinet aides and generals.

Naturally, they were happy to let the emperor kill to his heart's content. After venting his anger, they would be safer.

Once their own interests were involved, the court officials would use all kinds of underhanded methods.

Yu Zongshen thought of the actions of some of the old ministers in the cabinet and agreed deeply. "Indeed, King You is being persecuted by the Marquis of Changxing, as well as the officials and nobles of the north. There's no doubt about it. According to my understanding of them, they will definitely use some groundless accusations. It's not a serious crime, but it'll damage his reputation. If King You's reputation is tarnished and he loses his virtue, the emperor's mistakes won't be so serious. At that time, in order to take into account King You's reputation, it's only right that this matter will be lightened."

The court officials could still say that King You had lost his virtue, which was why the court officials and nobles in the north had joined forces to resist him.

After all, these people had harmed the royal family's bloodline. It was a heinous crime, so they had to be beheaded.

If the rumors spread, who would know if they were true?

#### Chapter 402 Emperor's Mind

From the looks of it, even if King You was killed by someone and even if his injustice was cleared and his reputation was damaged, no one in the world would think that he was good anymore.

King You was already dead. Even if his name was tarnished, could he still climb out of his grave to refute?

Old Madam Yu frowned. She did not like these dirty methods of the court officials. "However, if Young Master Yin succeeds in quelling the chaos, the emperor's reputation will be greatly boosted, and it will be even more logical for King You's injustice to be reversed. Young Master Yin is so smart. He must have seen through human nature and understand this very well. That's why he asked to quell the chaos."

Previously, Old Madam Yu had felt that this Young Master Yin was a hidden dragon. Now, it seemed that she had underestimated him.

Zhou Linghuai lowered his head and drank his tea, his long eyes inevitably filled with mockery.

From the moment Ye Hanyuan knocked on the drum, he had already guessed that it wouldn't be so easy to clear his father's name. Not to mention that this matter was very important to the court officials and they wouldn't just sit back and watch. Even the dog emperor himself had many scruples. How could he ignore his reputation and dignity for a dead brother?

Therefore, in his initial plan, there was no so-called "reparation" at all.

After Ye Hanyuan entered the capital, he beat the drum and exposed the Marquis of Changxing's crime to the world. In addition, there was evidence that he had brought into the capital. The Marquis of Changxing could not deny it even if he wanted to. When Ye Hanyuan entered the hall, he would directly assassinate the dog emperor.

At that time, Li Qiguang from Shandong would use the excuse of him being an incompetent ruler and harming loyal and good people to raise the rebellion flag. He would spread the idea that the dog emperor would harm loyal and good people and be a disgrace to the world. Naturally, his father's grievance would be understood.

It was just that simple. It hit the nail on the head.

Even so, he did not regret changing his original plan.

There were some things that could be achieved by beating around the bush.

However, since he had decided to protect some people, he had to protect them completely without any hesitation.

Yu Zongshen changed the topic. "King You's case has caused the emperor to lose his trust in the court officials. Now that King You's rebellion is imminent, the emperor is facing a huge problem. That is, once King You's rebellion is successful, should Young Master Yin inherit King You's throne and follow King You's last wish to control 300,000 troops in Youzhou to manage the war in Youzhou? The emperor wants to use Young Master Yin, but Young Master Yin is weak, crippled, and sick. He's really worried, so he simply asked him to go to Shandong to calm the chaos and test Young Master Yin's ability."

Old Madam Yu was also sick of it. "Even if Young Master Yin is emperor has fulfilled Young Master Yin's benevolence, righteousness, loyalty, and filial piety. He can also gain a good defeated in the rebellion, a weak young man with a crippled leg is not enough to damage the dignity of the Great Zhou. Firstly, the emperor has fulfilled Young Master Yin's benevolence, righteousness, loyalty, and filial piety. He can also gain a good reputation. Secondly, he has used Young Master Yin to probe the military situation in Shandong. Then, he will be more confident in sending more experienced generals to suppress the rebellion."

This was the mind of an emperor. Behind the seemingly ridiculous scene, there was always a terrifying scheme.

It was obvious that the emperor had sent the palace guards to protect Young Master Yin because he valued his relationship with this nephew. However, the so-called familial bloodline was always mixed with all kinds of schemes. It was even more terrifying.

Yu Zongshen nodded slightly. "Heir Yin has done his best. He wants to use the effort to calm the chaos to gain the emperor's trust and regain control of the 300,000 troops in Youzhou."

Although the emperor's schemes were deep, they were not as deep as Yin Huaixi's.

Therefore, all of this was planned by Yin Huaixi.

Ever since Ye Hanyuan struck the drum, the situation in the royal court had been under Yin Huaixi's control.

Naturally, Old Madam Yu had also thought of this. "In history, there are many young people who have achieved great ambitions. Only Yin Huaixi is as ambitious as him." She turned to look at Zhou Linghuai. Zhou Linghuai and Yin Huaixi were childhood friends. "What do you think Yin Huaixi's chances of winning are?"

Now, because of King You's case, people's anger rose everywhere. Li Qiguang naturally used the excuse of seeking an explanation for the people to start a rebellion.

Everyone in the court knew clearly. Once the Imperial Court was defeated and Li Qiguang became famous, there would be an endless stream of anti-Zhou forces joining Li Qiguang. The "resentment of the people" everywhere would also intensify. At that time, the world would definitely be in chaos.

It was precisely because they understood this that no one in the court dared to help quell the rebellion.

If he did not have the confidence to win, he would only lose the heads of his family.

"100%!" Zhou Linghuai put down his teacup and said casually.

Not only Old Madam Yu, but even Yu Zongshen was shocked. He asked, "The situation in Shandong is complicated and has always been a thorn in the side of the Imperial Court. Now that Li Qiguang has joined forces with the clans, it's obvious how prestigious he is."

Zhou Linghuai said calmly, "In at most three months, Yin Huaixi will definitely win and return to the court."

Old Madam Yu and Yu Zongshen were speechless.

Not only was he 100% confident, but he only needed three months to calm the rebellion in Shandong. Did they underestimate Yin Huaixi, or did Zhou Linghuai think too highly of him?

These words seemed to be without reason, but when they thought about it carefully, it was extremely terrifying.

Zhou Linghuai stopped there. "Prince Yin's goal is very clear. First, he will naturally help King You resolve his grievances. Second, he will gain the emperor's trust and control the military power in Youzhou. Both of these are related to the suppression of the rebellion in Shandong."

As soon as these words were spoken, Old Madam Yu and Yu Zongshen couldn't help but look shocked.

One had lived for most of his life and was wise. The other was a second-in-command of the cabinet and held great power. Neither of them was simple. How could they not understand this?

Zhou Linghuai was clearly reminding her.

From the moment Ye Hanyuan struck the drum, the overall situation in the royal court had already been under Yin Huaixi's calculations. Even the overall situation in Shandong was under Yin Huaixi's control.

From the looks of it, Yin Huaixi wasn't just terrifying.

After all, she had seen the world. Old Madam Yu quickly calmed down and asked, "Can Yin Huaixi regain control of Youzhou?"

Yin Huaixi was indeed scheming, but the Youzhou area was complicated. It was the hinterland at the edge of the Central Plains and was less than 2,000 kilometers away from the capital. It would take at most three to five days for elite troops to reach it. It could coordinate with the capital and intimidate the vassal lords on the inside and resist external enemies on the outside. It was the strongest defense line of the Great Zhou Dynasty. Could the emperor really be at ease to hand Youzhou over to a weak, crippled, and sick youth to guard?

Even though Yin Huaixi had quelled the rebellion in Shandong and proved his ability, there were still many variables in this matter.

After all, one's heart was unpredictable.

He couldn't get past all the civil and military officials in the court.

Zhou Linghuai chuckled. "Mr. Xian Yun brought Yin Huaixi into the palace."

Old Madam Yu gasped, and her pupils constricted and did not move. "I see. Shandong will contribute to calming the chaos. Coupled with the recommendation of a person of virtue, it's guaranteed that nothing will go wrong. This Young Master Yin is really..." She paused for a moment before sighing. "He's flawless!"

Chapter 403: Hidden

However, Yu Zongshen turned to look at Zhou Linghuai.

His mother felt that Yin Huaixi's plan was flawless, but he felt that Zhou Linghuai was the truly unfathomable one.

The atmosphere in the room was a little heavy. Zhou Linghuai put down his teacup and said calmly, "I'm going back to Youzhou in a few days. I'll be back in a month or two, or at most three months."

Old Madam Yu was a little surprised, but not surprised. "From the looks of it, King You's case should be settled in three months at the latest. At that time, the Zhou family's grievances will be clear, and we should indeed make a trip back. However, it's a long way to Youzhou, and it's chaotic there. Bring more people and be careful."

Zhou Linghuai could only go back and settle the matters in Youzhou himself, but the Yu Residence could not interfere.

Zhou Linghuai nodded.

The court officials could not be related to the vassal lords. Once they provoked the suspicion of the royal family, they would be killed. Therefore, he could not reveal his true identity to the Yu Residence and had always stayed in the Yu

Residence with the identity of “Zhou Linghuai.”

With the rebellion imminent, he had to find a suitable excuse to leave the Yu Residence.

It made sense to return to Youzhou.

At this moment, in the Zhenguo Marquis Residence—

The Marquis of Zhenguo, Song Xiuqi, also mentioned the matter of Young Master Yin inviting his troops to Shandong to quell the rebellion.

Old Madam Song listened carefully and picked up her tea from time to time to drink it. When the faint medicinal bitterness entered her mouth and into her throat, she also felt the heat in her heart ease a lot.

Yao Huang had brought this medicinal tea back from the Yu Residence during the Dragon Boat Festival last time.

Although Eldest Miss Yu rejected her good intentions, her etiquette was so sincere that no one could find fault with it.

At the end of his sentence, the Marquis of Zhen sighed slightly. “With his weak age, crippled legs, and sickly body, he asked to calm the chaos. This is because he has ambition. There are a few reasons why he asked to fight. It shows loyalty, filial piety, integrity, and righteousness. That’s why he has the conviction to win. It is intentional. He should be a man of the dynasty and hold a three-foot-long sword. He has yet to fulfill his ambition. Why should he be afraid of death? This is a bold decision.’

The Zhenguo Marquis Residence was a meritorious family that had been passed down from its great ancestor. Its foundation was rare in the entire Great Zhou, so it naturally looked at problems more thoroughly.

Hearing this, Song Mingzhao put down his teacup and said in a low voice, “As a general, one has ambition, conviction, and has determination. If you’re prepared for the three above, you’re already a qualified general.” At this point, a complicated look flashed across his eyes. “He’ll definitely win the battle in Shandong?’

Although Li Qiguang was powerful when he joined forces with the clans, in the end, they were just a pile of loose sand. If they were united, they would gather.

If they were not, they would disperse

How could it compare to Yin Huaixi’s bravery?

Yin Huaixi was so shrewd. No wonder not long after Mr. Xian Yun went to Youzhou to travel, there were rumors in the north that he wanted to take him in as his disciple.

Mr. Xian Yun had always cherished talent. It was only right for him to take Yin Huaixi in as his disciple and teach him carefully.

The Marquis of Zhen agreed deeply. “Since ancient times, heroes have always been young. Yin Huaixi’s intelligence, shrewdness, schemes, and strategies are rare in the world. The Great Zhou Dynasty might not be able to produce another outstanding war god.”

With that, he picked up his teacup. When he lowered his head to drink his tea, he quietly looked at his son, who was sitting in front of him.

Back then, Mr. Xian Yun had originally wanted to take Yin Huaixi as his disciple first and Mingzhao as his disciple later. Now, Yin Huaixi, who was only 15 years old, was already able to stand in the royal court and control the military.

On the other hand, Song Mingzhao was still a High Scholar. He was waiting for three years to shine in the imperial examination before he could enter the court.

Old Madam Song glanced at the Marquis of Zhen indifferently. "At the age of 12, he resisted the Di people. At the age of 15, he endured the pain of his crippled leg and his sickly body. He is indeed a prodigy of a generation. Unfortunately, the imperial physicians in the palace asserted that he wouldn't live past 20. No matter how talented he is, he will disappear in a flash. It's really a pity."

Her tone was filled with genuine regret.

However, the Marquis of Zhen trembled when he heard this. He felt a little ashamed. "It's indeed a pity."

Previously, he had not allowed Mingzhao to continue with the imperial examination because the Marquis of Weinings Residence was powerful. He had the intention to avoid it and hide his strength.

It was also because he planned to shine in the imperial examination three years later. The Marquis of Weinings Residence could not suppress Mingzhao's shocking talent. Only then would he be placed in an important position by the emperor as soon as he entered the royal court.

Now, it was a busy period in the royal court. It was a good thing for him not to enter the royal court.

With Mingzhao's talent, he would definitely be able to enter the pavilion in the future.

How could Yin Huaixi compare to him for a moment?

Just by looking at what kind of person Yin Huaixi was after Ye Hanyuan entered the capital, he should understand what kind of person he was.

However, there was another person that Song Mingzhao cared about very much.

Song Mingzhao held his teacup and lowered his head without drinking. "Father, have you heard of Zhou Linghuai, the young master of the former commander of the You Prefecture?"

Yin Huaixi's plan was flawless, and his goal was clear.

However, Zhou Linghuai was hidden very deeply, making him unable to see through him.

The Marquis of Zhen was stunned for a moment before saying, "I've heard Eldest Master Yu mention it a few times. It's because there's no one else at home, so he's staying in the main house of the Yu Residence. From Lord Yu's tone, he seems to admire this nephew of his from Youzhou very much. He should be talented, but what a coincidence. This Young Master Zhou is also like Young Master Yin. He's weak, crippled, and sick. It's a pity. Why are you suddenly asking about him?"

He felt that there was a coincidence between King You and Zhou Linghuai.

On second thought, after the rebellion in Youzhou, many people in Youzhou were implicated. The Zhou family was one of them.



Even if the Yu Residence mediated the situation and protected the entire family, their outcome probably wouldn't be too good. It didn't seem strange for Zhou Linghuai to end up like this.

Song Mingzhao put down his teacup. "After Mr. Xian Yun entered the capital, he specially visited Zhou Linghuai more than once. If I'm not wrong, he should have known him back then in Youzhou. Father, I'm afraid you've underestimated him. Zhou Linghuai is definitely not a simple person."

Not only was the Marquis of Zhen stunned, but even Old Madam Song was stunned. "How did you know about this? There was no news outside?"

Mr. Xian Yun and Zhou Linghuai were old friends?

Old Madam Song and the Marquis of Zhen's first reaction was disbelief. After all, Mr. Xian Yun was a virtuous person, and not just anyone caught his eye. There was already Yin Huaixi in Youzhou.

Song Mingzhao lowered his eyes. "He's my teacher."

This was only one aspect.

Most importantly, he happened to hear his third sister, Song M/anhui, mention Zhou Linghuai. He felt that this person was not simple, so he could not help but pay more attention.

Although Zhou Linghuai lived under someone else's roof and rarely left, he was very trusted in the Yu Residence. It was not difficult to find out some things about him after he entered the Yu Residence

Although Mr. Xian Yun's visit to the Yu Residence was not publicized, he did not do it secretly or deliberately avoid people. If someone asked, they could still find out.

These indifferent words were very convincing. The Marquis of Zhen couldn't help but feel shocked. "This Young Master Zhou is really hiding well.."

Chapter 404: Family Friends

Who was Mr. Xian Yun?

In this world, only Mingzhao and Yin Huaixi could catch his eye. The third young master of the Xie family, Xie Jingliu, seemed to have received guidance from Mr. Xian Yun when he was young.

Now that Zhou Linghuai was added, she could guess that he was definitely also talented.

However, Old Madam Song frowned and couldn't help but sigh. "Mr. Xian Yun's attitude towards Youzhou seems a little unusual."

There was a flawless Prince Yin in Youzhou, and now there was Zhou Linghuai, who had always been hiding his strength. In addition, there was Ye Hanyuan...

Old Madam Song's heart sank. "There are talents in troubled times. It seems that these peaceful days won't last for long." As she spoke, she turned to look at Song Mingzhao. "You deliberately mentioned Zhou Linghuai. Are you

suspecting that he's related to Yin Huaixi and Ye Hanyuan?"

Song Mingzhao nodded. "The matter of commanding is hereditary. Although it's not deeply related to the vassal king, it's under the jurisdiction of the state capital. Zhou Linghuai and Ye Hanyuan must be involved. On the other hand, Ye Hanyuan knocked on the drum and reported the Marquis of Changxings ten crimes. However, after investigating, he was crying out for justice for King You and was ordered by Yin Huaixi."

What he didn't say was true!

Yin Huaixi could drive Ye Hanyuan, the son of the Prefecture Governor, away. It was obvious that even though King You was dead, the Marquis of Changxing had been in charge of Youzhou for three years. Yin Huaixi was weak, crippled, and sick. Youzhou was still under Yin Huaixi's control.

On the surface, Yin Huaixi, Ye Hanyuan, and Zhou Linghuai did not seem to have anything to do with each other, but they were all involved.

In that case, what role did Zhou Linghuai play?

Song Mingzhao frowned and continued, "Zhou Linghuai must be related to Yin Huaixi. Moreover, I suspect that Zhou Linghuai's motive for entering the capital is definitely not as simple as seeking refuge with his relatives. Recently, everything in the royal court is probably related to him."

Old Madam Song frowned and said nothing.

Song Mingzhao thought for a moment. "When Mr. Xian Yun entered the capital this time, he brought Ye Hanyuan and Yin Huaixi to see Mr. Hu Shan and Zhou Linghuai. He's indifferent on the outside, but his heart is focused on the royal court. It's definitely not as simple as visiting an old friend."

The Marquis of Zhen couldn't help but feel wary. "Our family has been on good terms with the Yu Residence for generations, and we're in-laws. It's a huge taboo for vassal lords to be related to the court officials, especially for military families..."

Old Madam Song was also worried.

Song Mingzhao said calmly, "There's no need to panic. Zhou Linghuai has a crippled leg and can't become an official. Even if he's involved with Prince Yin, others won't take him seriously. In addition, the Zhou family's hereditary love is thanks to the emperor's grace. Zhou Linghuai is a smart person and knows his limits. He won't let the Yu Residence have any connections with the vassal lord on the surface."

With that said, Old Madam Yu felt relieved. "That's true. Yin Huaixi is a crippled man and is alone. Zhou Linghuai is also a crippled man. He can't even become an official. Even if he's involved, as long as he doesn't expose himself on the surface, it's fine. Moreover, the relationships between aristocratic families are beneficial for all. As long as the interests of each other are the same, there's no need to be afraid of unpredictable changes in the court." The Marquis of Zhen agreed deeply.

Song Mingzhao lowered his eyes. "The court is in troubled times. It's not necessarily a bad thing to have some secret connections." As for why it wasn't a bad thing, he didn't say it clearly.

However, Old Madam Song and the Marquis of Zhen both understood that the imperial court was in a troubled period. There were vassal lords stirring internally and four external threats eyeing them covetously. The situation in the imperial court was also unpredictable.

Once Yin Huaixi had military power, he would definitely become the emperors most trusted person. Being related to him was equivalent to a protective talisman.

Old Madam Songs gaze darkened. "In a few days, it won't be a big event even on Wan Hui's birthday. I'll invite her young sister who she usually plays with into the residence to join in the fun."

The more troublesome it was, the more they should stick together and hold each other tightly.

Their relationship should be closer.

It looked like an ordinary interaction between the younger generation, but what was important was the tacit understanding between them. There was no need to waste their breath to know each other. This was a family friendship!

Song Mingzhao's heart skipped a beat, and he thought of Eldest Miss Yu. He lowered his head and drank his tea, covering his thoughts without leaving a trace.

The news that Yin Huaixi was going to lead troops to Shandong to quell the rebellion caused an uproar.

Everyone in the court was preparing to suppress the rebellion.

Yu Youyao also helped her cousin pack up and prepare to return to Youzhou.

"Returning to Youzhou is just an excuse. The emperor has sent an imperial physician, an internal servant, and an old nanny from the palace to accompany me and take care of my daily life. All of this will also be carefully arranged by the East and West Palaces." Zhou Linghuai's gaze darkened slightly as he frowned. "I probably won't be able to bring them along. There's no need to trouble myself to tidy up."

Yu Youyao placed a velvet blanket into her bag. "I know, but you have to put on a full show. I can't let anyone suspect Cousin."

After saying that, she realized in a daze that her cousin was really leaving.

She would not see her cousin for a long time.

Her cousin would not accompany her to practice calligraphy, teach her zither skills, guide her in her studies, play chess with her, and make tea with her for a long time...

Yu Youyao suddenly felt sad.

Her cousin had only lived in the Yu Residence for three to four months. It was clearly such a short period of time, but to her, it was as long as a lifetime. It was so long that this person had already penetrated into the bits and pieces of her life. Thanks to his existence, she felt that every day was a surprise, and every day was stable and reassuring.

However, the person who had been accompanying her was suddenly leaving! Yu Youyao was both reluctant and afraid! A suffocating silence spread through the room...

Zhou Linghuai pursed his lips and broke the silence. "What's wrong?"

Yu Youyao shook her head, but she lowered her head, not daring to look at him. Zhou Linghuai leaned forward and gently pinched her chin, raising it bit by bit. Yu Youyao's face was pale, and her eyes seemed to be covered in a layer of rouge. They were thin and red, and her eyes were also red.

She held back her tears and stubbornly refused to let them fall. She pursed her lips tightly, and even the tip of her nose was red.

She looked pitiful, like a little rabbit about to be abandoned.

Zhou Linghuai's heart ached, and his throat felt like it was blocked. He looked at her for a long time before comforting her. "Don't cry. I'll be back in three months at most."

It would have been better if he hadn't said anything. As soon as he did, Yu Youyao felt a lump in her throat. She couldn't help but tear up. It flowed down her face and suddenly slid down to her chin, landing on the back of Zhou Linghuai's hand.

Zhou Linghuai felt the back of his hand tremble and he panicked. "Don't cry..."

"Cousin... Yu Youyao threw herself into her cousin's arms and hugged his neck. She sobbed, probably because she was crying too sadly. Even her small figure trembled.

Zhou Linghuai completely froze and pursed his lips..

Chapter 405: Can 't bear to part with you

Yu Youyao was not a girl who liked to cry.

From a young age, Yu Youyao had known that she was a motherless child.

Although her grandmother doted on her, she was old and not in good health. She could be mischievous and playful, but she could not be willful.

It was precisely because Yu Qingning was deliberately making things difficult for her that she was always scolded by her father.

Even though Yu Jianjia always pretended to be innocent and weak, every time, she would suffer in silence.

Even though Madam Yang appeared to be kind, she still schemed against her and wanted to ruin her reputation for being obedient and proud.

She had never complained or cried to her grandmother.

She knew that no matter how much her grandmother doted on her, she was still different from her biological mother.

Perhaps it was because a child without a mother did not have any confidence. She did not have anything to rely on, let alone anyone to teach her how to deal with it and

fight back. Even though she had suffered grievances, she could only pretend to be stupid and pretend not to care. Even when she cried, she had to hide under the blanket and cover her head with the blanket. She cried softly and suppressed her tears, not daring to cry out loud and let others know.

Until her cousin entered the residence. He had taught her a lot and would indulge and tolerate her. In front of her cousin, she did not have to force herself. Her cousin would tell her, "I'm here!"

Even now, when she cried like a little fool in her cousin's arms, she didn't have to worry about being hated or cried.

”

Don't, don't cry...” Zhou Linghuai's body stiffened, and his hands gripped the armrests of the wheelchair tightly. He could hear the little girl's whimpering cries in his ears. She was as weak and sad as a kitten, making him feel at a loss and flustered.

What, what should he do?

Should he coax her?!

“Yao Yao...” Zhou Linghuai subconsciously opened his mouth, but suddenly realized that his mind was blank. He didn't know how to coax her to stop crying.

For a moment, he was helpless.

Zhou Linghuai pursed his lips and his grip on the armrest of the wheelchair suddenly relaxed. He moved to the little girl's back and patted her back awkwardly.

As if that would make her feel better.

“Cousin, sob, I don't want you to leave. I don't want to not see you for a long time...”

Actually, not wanting her cousin to leave was one thing, but she was most worried about him. However, she did not dare to say it out loud, afraid that it would be inauspicious.

She knew that her cousin was confident of winning this time.

However, war was not child's play. On the battlefield, knives and arrows were blind and unpredictable. She was not worried about him losing the battle, but she was worried that her cousin's body would not be able to take it and he would be injured.

She had been trying her best to pretend that she was fine these past few days and help her cousin prepare something to nourish his body and save his life.

Actually, she wasn't strong at all.

She was also very worried and afraid.

She only wanted her cousin to be well and did not want him to be in danger.

She thought that she could pretend very well and deliberately ignored the weak emotions in her heart.

However, at this moment, when she realized that her cousin was really leaving to fight, even her hands and feet turned cold. The weakness in her heart instantly burst.

Zhou Linghuai sighed softly and gently stroked her back. “Don't cry. When we reach Shandong, I'll write you a letter every ten days...”

She had originally planned to write more letters to Yu Youyao after going to Shandong to prevent her from worrying.

Unexpectedly, before he even went to Shandong, she was already so afraid that she was crying.

It was also because he had neglected the little girl's feelings. It seemed that the little girl had been very worried these past few days, but she was afraid that she would distract him, so she had been holding it in and not saying anything.

Yu Youyao came out of his arms and looked at her cousin with swollen eyes. She sobbed and asked, "Really? Is it inconvenient? If others find out..."

Seeing the tears on her face, Zhou Linghuai felt bitter. He took out a blue handkerchief from his sleeve and gently wiped her tears. "I'll get the secret guards to send a message and not let anyone know."

Yu Youyao was a little hesitant. "Cousin's secret guards are to protect Cousin's safety..."

Zhou Linghuai shook his head. "The emperor has sent a hundred palace guards to protect my safety. It doesn't matter if I lose a secret guard. Shandong is only 600 kilometers away from the capital. If it's urgent, I can reach it in two days at most. If you're worried about me, you can also ask the secret guards. I'll never lie to you about my situation in Shandong. It's the same for my secret guards."

Yu Youyao finally stopped crying and was still sobbing. "Won't it be too troublesome for Cousin? After all, you're going to war. I don't want to trouble you."

Zhou Linghuai's expression paused for a moment and he stopped talking.

Yu Youyao lowered her head sadly and sniffed. Then, she forced herself to look up calmly. "Cousin, I'm sorry. I was too insensible. You..."

Zhou Linghuai suddenly interrupted her. "You can't bear to part with Cousin, and Cousin..." Seeing that the little girl's swollen eyes were still wet, his throat felt a little dry. "Can't bear to part with you!"

Yu Youyao's eyes widened as she stared blankly at her cousin.

Zhou Linghuai chuckled. "So, when I write to you, you have to remember to

His fingers gently wiped away the tears on her eyelashes. Perhaps it was because his actions were too light and gentle, but the little girl felt an itch. Her eyes trembled slightly, and her eyelashes fluttered, landing on his fingertips. It was as gentle as a butterfly stopping for a moment before flying away.

Zhou Linghuai retracted his hand calmly, his fingers still trembling slightly. "Don't worry. I'm not even afraid of the Di people, so why would I take a mere thief seriously?"

It was true that she couldn't bear to part with him, but the real reason for her crying was still because she was too worried about him!

After all, Zhou Linghai lowered his head and couldn't help but tighten his hands on his legs. If his legs were intact and his body was healthy, she probably wouldn't be so worried and cry.

Yu Youyao suddenly smiled. "Okay!"

The little girl's curved eyebrows were like ink, revealing a hint of elegance.

It was a type of ancient Tang ink that he had accidentally found when he was flipping through ancient books a while ago.

He added musk, dragon brain, and other spices into the graphite. Then, he burned away the smoke. The smoked ink was like cream, bright and thick. He dipped it in water and drew eyebrows. They were as lifelike as smoke.

“You’re not crying anymore?” Zhou Linghuai looked at her beautiful eyes and felt happy.

Yu Youyao was embarrassed. ‘Cousin, was I a little... unreasonable just now? Cousin is going to war. I should have been obedient and not let you worry. ‘ I

She pursed her lips and felt a little like crying again. It wasn’t that she was worried or afraid, but that she was crying for being disappointing.

However, she also knew that she shouldn’t be crying, so she pursed her lips tightly to stop herself from crying.

Zhou Linghuai put the blue handkerchief back into his sleeve and brought over the tea on the table, handing it to her. “You don’t have to force yourself in front of me...

After crying for a long time, Yu Youyao felt her mouth go dry. She held the tea that her cousin had handed her and took small sips.. “It’s because Cousin has been living in the Yu Residence for a few months, and I’ve never been separated from him...

#### Chapter 406: Bewitching

At the thought of not seeing her cousin for a long time and not having him by her side, she couldn’t help but feel disappointed and sad. In addition, she was worried about her cousin and couldn’t help but want to cry. She also knew that it wasn’t good to rely on her cousin too much.

But she just wanted to rely on her cousin.

When her cousin was around, she wanted to stay by his side.

When her cousin was not by her side, she thought of her cousin.

Zhou Linghuai sighed softly. “I’m sorry!’

That day, the little girl had lost her temper because he was going to Shandong to quell the rebellion. Later on, she had calmly accepted it. In the past two days, he had been busy planning and studying the map of Shandong. The little girl seemed to be busy managing the household and studying.

However, he did not expect that to the little girl, war was a very cruel thing. Naturally, she would feel uneasy, panicked, and even afraid.

In the end, he was too rash. He should have told her in advance.

Yu Youyao pouted. “Cousin, why are you apologizing? I know that you’re a man and have many things to do. It’s impossible for you to stay in the inner residence and stay by my side forever. I blame you because I’m just not used to it for a moment. It’ll be fine in the future.”

Zhou Linghuai was speechless.

Yu Youyao forced herself to perk up and changed the topic. “Cousin is going to Shandong to calm the chaos. I’ve prepared some other things for him.”

Zhou Linghuai looked at the table. There was a large package on it.

Yu Youyao opened an oil paper bag, and there were dozens of Eight Treasures Cake neatly placed inside. "The army will set off from the capital. It's about a ten-day journey to Shandong. It's a long journey. The weather is hot, so

Cousin's body definitely won't be able to take it. I made the Eight Treasures Cake that Cousin likes. If you don't have any appetite on the way, eat one or two."

The Eight Treasures Cake was not a rare item. It was sold in the Food Hall, so he could just find an excuse to bring it along.

As she had used the spiritual dew, the taste and effect were naturally better, and it was more to her cousin's liking.

Seeing that the little girl had wrapped the Eight Treasures Cake and tied it with a thin rope, Zhou Linghuai felt a lump in his throat. "Okay!"

Yu Youyao took out a chubby round-bellied jade bottle. "This is the medicinal dew I made with the Lingxi Bug. When bathing, put a small drop into the water. It can relieve fatigue and strengthen your foundation."

The Xie Residence had given her two Lingxi Bugs. She tried to feed them with spiritual dew. Both Lingxi Bugs were well-nourished, and the effect of the medicinal liquid was getting better.

She had made this medicinal dew herself. She had added the Lingxi Bug Liquid and spiritual dew.

Zhou Linghuai took the jade bottle and rubbed it gently with his fingers. "Okay!"

Yu Youyao took out a smaller jade bottle with a complicated expression. "This is spiritual dew. Cousin, you can eat a small drop every day. It's similar to the medicinal dew, but purer." She hesitated for a moment and said softly, "It's good for your body."

She had also hesitated for a long time about whether to take out the spiritual dew.

However, the clan had many strange methods. Even if her cousin couldn't come to the battlefield personally, it was easy to dodge in the open, but difficult to guard against in the dark. It was naturally good to have more life-saving items.

Zhou Linghuai noticed that when she mentioned the spiritual dew, her tone was a little vague. He knew that the spiritual dew was probably something extraordinary.

He gently opened the bottle's seal, and a faint lotus fragrance immediately entered his nostrils.

He was no stranger to this smell.

The medicinal cuisine, medicinal tea, and medicinal fragrance that he used were better because of this faint lotus fragrance.

The medicinal oil he had used also had this faint lotus fragrance and it could relieve the pain in his legs.

It was precisely because of this faint lotus fragrance that the Heaven Protection Pill he had taken had the possibility of recovery.



What was beneficial to his body was not the so-called medicinal cuisine, medicinal tea, medicinal fragrance, and medicinal oil, but the “spiritual dew” added.

He had guessed before that Yu Youyao probably had some suspicious methods.

Yu Youyao did not deliberately hide it from him, so he did not ask.

Zhou Linghuai’s eyes flickered. “Okay!”

After that, Yu Youyao opened another treasure box. There were more than ten jade boxes and jade bottles neatly placed inside. She introduced them one by one.

“This is the Musk Medicinal Fragrance Pill. If you faint, you can burn it to save your life.”

“This is the Ten Rescue Pill. It’s used to save lives when there’s a sudden emergency. It can be used for any emergency.”

“This is the Antidote Pill. It’s a prescription that Cousin helped me find previously. I made it myself. The effect should be very good.”

“This is a cold incense pill. It’s for heat poisoning...”

“This is a heat-repelling pill. Chew one when your body has too much heat. It can relieve the heat. Although Cousin is wearing cooling beads, this effect is faster just in case.”

“This is an incense pill. Cousin’s health isn’t good, and he has been living in the capital for a long time. When he arrives in Shandong, he will definitely not be used to the weather. If he feels unwell, he can eat it directly, or burn one every day in the incense burner to relieve all kinds of discomfort.”

“This is a calming incense pill. It can help you sleep at night.”

“This is an appetizing pill. It’s hot. Take one when your appetite isn’t good.”

“This is insect repellent incense powder. Take some every day. It can prevent insects, snakes, mosquitoes, and flies from the door, windows, bed, or around your body.”

After a long journey, in order to make it easier to preserve, Yu Youyao had made incense pills with medicinal fragrances that could also be life-saving medicine. Not only could they be preserved for a longer time, but they were also not easily destroyed.

The little girl rambled on and finished introducing everything in the treasure box. Every word and sentence was filled with concern and sincerity for him. Her voice was gentle and sincere.

After giving her instructions, Yu Youyao was still worried. She added, “I stuffed a small note into each bottle. It also says how to use it, how much to use it, the symptoms, and so on. Cousin, look at the small note before you use it. You won’t use it wrongly. However, it doesn’t matter even if you use it wrongly. In any case, it’s useful for your body.”

With that, she looked up at her cousin—

Zhou Linghuai was looking at her. His deep eyes were like a bottomless vortex, as if they wanted to devour her mind.

Yu Youyao suddenly panicked. "Cousin?"

Zhou Linghuai nodded and looked at her without blinking. A faint red color suddenly appeared at the corner of his long and narrow eyes, and a smile appeared on his pale lips. When his lips closed, there was a hint of red, revealing a demonic aura.

"Cousin!" He called out softly, and there was a hint of redness between his lips.

Yu Youyao couldn't help but gasp. Her cousin was really good-looking.

Like jade and emeralds.

His appearance was unique.

In the past, she had only felt that her cousin was graceful, noble, and divine. However, it was only today that she realized that "unique beauty" was simply the best portrayal of her cousin.

"What did you say just now? Can you say it again?" Zhou Linghuai smiled slightly, and the tip of his tongue gently pressed against his lips. His beauty was bone-chilling and bewitching..

Chapter 407: Waiting for Cousin to Return

Yu Youyao's eyes widened in shock.

Zhou Linghuai lowered his voice, his tone gentle and bewitching. "Be good and say it again!"

Yu Youyao was a little stunned. "There's a small note stuffed inside. It also says how to use it, how much to use it, the symptoms, and so on. Cousin, you don't have to worry about using it wrongly."

"I want to hear you say it again, okay?" Zhou Linghuai was still smiling. His voice was unbelievably gentle, but his tone revealed a hint of palpitating paranoia.

Yu Youyao had never rejected her cousin's small request.

Hence, she nodded obediently. "Okay, I'll say it again. Cousin, you have to listen carefully."

Zhou Linghuai nodded. With one hand on his forehead and a beautiful smile on his lips, he watched as the little girl took the things she had carefully prepared and introduced them one by one.

After the little girl finished introducing them, Zhou Linghuai handed her a cup of tea.

The little girl took the teacup and sipped from it.

She was very soft and obedient!

After drinking the tea, Yu Youyao put down her teacup and tilted her head to see her cousin looking at her with eyes as deep as an abyss.

Yu Youyao smiled. "Did I prepare too much? Will it be difficult to take care of?"

Zhou Linghuai chuckled. "No. When the time comes, it's only right to arrange for someone who's proficient in medicinal fragrances to be among the nannies to follow me." He paused for a moment and his smile became warmer. "Of course I can't let Cousin down."

Her cousin's smile was like fire.

Yu Youyao felt happy. She gently tugged at her cousin's sleeve and looked up. "Then I'll prepare some more medicinal tea for you. You're used to my medicinal tea, so you probably won't be used to other tea."

With someone at her cousin's place, many things were much easier.

Zhou Linghuai smiled. "Okay!"

Yu Youyao blinked. "What else do you need, Cousin?"

Zhou Linghuai glanced at the treasure box with a deep smile in his eyes.

'Cousin, you've prepared well."

There was no one more prepared than her.

Yu Youyao thought about it carefully. The most important things to nourish his body and save his life were indeed almost ready. "Cousin, you have to be fine.

Don't get injured or fall sick."

Zhou Linghuai chuckled. "Be good. I'll be back in three months at most." Yu Youyao nodded. "Okay, I'll wait for Cousin to come back."

The little girl's eyes were bright and reflected his figure. Zhou Linghuai suddenly felt a little reluctant. "I'll leave the city tomorrow morning. Don't specially send me off."

Yu Youyao pursed her lips and threw herself into her cousin's arms. "No, I won't. Not only do I have to send you off, but I also have to send you out of the city." She had an unexpected stubbornness about this. "Cousin, don't persuade me. I won't listen." Zhou Linghuai said helplessly, 'Okay!"

On the second day—

Yu Youyao had already arranged the carriage and luggage early in the morning.

She went to the Green House to accompany her cousin for breakfast and the two of them went to An Shou Hall.

Old Madam Yu had to explain, "Recently, the royal court hasn't been stable, and it's not peaceful outside. Bring along the business token of the Yu Residence. If you encounter any difficulties along the way, take it to the local government office to make things easier. When you're outside, you have to take care of your health. When you reach Youzhou, remember to send a letter home...? Zhou Linghuai nodded. "Grandnephew, remember everything."

Old Madam Yu originally wanted to give more instructions, but when she thought about how unfathomable this grandnephew of hers was and how he must know many things, she changed the topic. "King

You's grievances have been resolved. The position of commander in charge of Youzhou is also hereditary. The Imperial Court will probably be reinstated. However, your health isn't good. In the future, you'll be living in the capital for a long time and have to cut ties with the Zhou Clan. This official position is also a hot potato for you. When the time comes, you can ask for more grace and forget about the official position."

Commanding troops was a military duty. He had to lead troops to the battlefield. With his health condition, if the Imperial Court was reinstated, this position would most likely not be assigned to him.

Instead of letting that group of despicable people from the Zhou Clan benefit, it was better to directly ask for more grace. Without an official position, he would also be peaceful.

Yu Youyao's heart skipped a beat.

Since this matter concerned the Zhou family, her grandmother shouldn't have said much. However, she had already said what she shouldn't have said, but she was still sincere.

It was obvious that she really treated her cousin as one of her own.

Zhou Linghuai naturally understood what Old Madam was thinking. "Since the

Zhou Clan has expelled me from the clan, I'm not a descendant of the Zhou Clan. I'm not capable of taking on the role of commander, so I naturally have to ask for grace."

Back then, when he made the deal with "Zhou Linghuai", they already had an understanding.

He used his identity as "Zhou Linghuai". From now on, Zhou Linghuai would no longer be Zhou Linghuai. All matters regarding his identity as "Zhou Linghuai" would be handled by him.

The only thing he needed to do was avenge the Zhou family.

Old Madam Yu's expression relaxed. "If the Zhou Clan makes things difficult for you, just use the name of the Yu Residence. I don't think the small Zhou Clan will dare to act rashly!

At this point, her expression darkened.

Zhou Linghuai nodded.

Old Madam Yu was worried and asked Yu Youyao, "Have you prepared everything? Your cousin's body is weak, so you need to prepare more carefully."

Yu Youyao smiled and said, "It's all done Grandmother, don't worry!'" Yesterday, after packing up, she had specially drafted a list for her grandmother to take a look.

Old Madam Yu thought of the list and couldn't help but laugh. "I forgot that you and your cousin are the closest in the family. You're the most nervous about your cousin returning to Youzhou. There's nothing you can't do..."

With that, Zhou Linghuai bade Old Madam Yu farewell.

Yu Youyao really got into the carriage and sent Zhou Linghuai out of the city.

Outside the city!

Yu Youyao hesitated for a moment before taking out a sachet. “This is the Soul Seizing Incense. If it’s light, it will mess up one’s mind, making one rash, irritable, and easily angry. If it’s heavy, it can even make one go crazy.” She hesitated but still whispered, “It’s fatal!”

If there was medicinal fragrance, there was naturally a poisonous fragrance.

Despite her hesitation, she still did it.

The little girl lowered her head, not daring to look at him. Even her hand that was holding the sachet was trembling slightly. When she said the word “fatal”, her voice unknowingly revealed panic.

Zhou Linghuai’s expression was indifferent, but he did not say anything.

Yu Youyao was a smart girl. Therefore, when she found out that he planned to use the Cooperation strategy to defeat Li Qiguang and flatten the rebellion in Shandong, she knew that the effect of the Soul

Seizing Incense would have an unexpected effect on breaking the clan alliance, so she secretly used it.

The reason why she had only taken it out now was probably because this was the first time she had made such a “fatal” poisonous fragrance. Her heart was also filled with conflict.

After Madam Yang entered the Tranquil Heart Residence, Yu Youyao’s management skills were revealed. No one in the residence treated her as a child..

Chapter 408: Heir Song’s Goodwill

Everyone treated her with the same respect as Old Madam Yu.

As time passed, everyone, including Yu Zongzheng, naturally treated her as an adult.

But no one noticed that she was just a ten-year-old child.

No matter how good the household manager was at handling matters, she was still a half-grown child.

Therefore, when she found out that her cousin was going to Shandong to quell the rebellion, she was anxious, threw a tantrum, and cried.

However, after crying, she would also calmly prepare all kinds of health and life-protecting items for her cousin.

She knew very well that the incense she had made could harm lives. As long as she handed the incense to him, many people would die under her incense making in the future.

That was why she was uneasy and terrified.

It was also because she knew this that she handed the incense to him without hesitation.

Compared to all this, she was more worried that something would happen to him.

Yu Youyao took a deep breath and calmed down a little. “The fragrance of the Soul Seizing Fragrance is light, but it won’t be noticed when used with any spices. Cousin, take it to protect

yourself in case you need it. I can't go to Shandong with you. I hope the Soul Seizing Incense can help you."

Zhou Linghuai nodded. "Okay!"

Now that the Soul Seizing Incense was in his hands, it was up to him how to use it.

After receiving the assurance, Yu Youyao did not delay. She lifted the curtain and jumped out of the carriage.

Zhou Linghuai sat in the carriage and reached out to lift the curtain of the carriage window. He saw the little girl standing by the roadside. She was wearing a pomegranate dress. The flowers were bright and dazzling. Yu Youyao waved her hand. 'Cousin, I'll wait for you to come back.'

Zhou Linghuai looked at her steadily. "Okay!"

The window was lowered, and the sound of hooves could be heard. Yu Youyao watched the carriage leave until she could no longer see it. Then, she returned to the carriage waiting to go back to the residence.

Chun Xiao was the only one in the carriage, so Yu Youyao couldn't help but cry.

Chun Xiao was shocked. "Young-Young Miss, Young Master has only returned to Youzhou to settle some matters. He'll be back soon. Why are you crying?"

No, Cousin was clearly going to the battlefield!!

Yu Youyao retorted loudly in her heart.

She had never experienced war, but this was not an obstacle. She had all kinds of guesses and doubts about war in her heart. The unknown was the most terrifying. She also knew that her emotions were not right and she should not let her imagination run wild.

Back then, when her cousin was resisting the Di people on the battlefield in Youzhou, he was ambushed by the Marquis of Changxing and almost trampled to death. Even though he survived, his leg was broken and his body was injured. If it weren't for the fact that she had spiritual dew and obtained a strange medicine like the Essence Protection Pill, her cousin wouldnt have lasted for more than a year or two.

Every time she thought of this, Yu Youyao felt flustered.

In the end, it wasn't in front of her cousin that Yu Youyao restrained her emotions after she shed a few tears. "I just feel a little reluctant to not see him for a while!"

Chun Xiao thought about it and agreed, so she comforted her. "If Young Miss misses Young Master, write a letter to him and use more money. If you send an urgent message, as the distance is 400 kilometers, I think the letter will be in

Young Master's hands in half a month."

As the master and servant were talking, the carriage suddenly stopped. After a while, Tao Da reported through the curtain, 'Young Miss, there should be a problem with the axle. The carriage can't leave for the time being.'

Yu Youyao responded and instructed, "Get out of the carriage first. Move the carriage to the side and don't block other people's path."

When she went out today, in addition to Chun Xiao, she had also brought two burly old maids. Among them, Old Madam Liu, who had previously exposed the truth and saved Yu Shansi, was sitting outside the carriage to serve her. Hearing Young Miss's instructions, the two old maids quickly got out of the carriage and set up a footstool. Chun Xiao was the first to get out. She stood beside the carriage and helped Yu Youyao out.

Tao Da and the two old maids worked together to move the carriage to the side of the road.

This was a little difficult.

There was still a distance to the Yu Residence. If the carriage was damaged, it probably wouldn't be repaired in a short period of time. Even if she sent someone back to deliver a letter, it would take a lot of time to come and go. She couldn't just wait.

Yu Youyao looked across at a restaurant called Fragrance Restaurant and hesitated for a moment.

A woman was out and did not have an elder by her side. It was indeed inappropriate to go to a place like a restaurant.

After thinking about it, Yu Youyao could only say, "Tao Da, there's no need to repair the carriage. I'll wait in the carriage. Go back to the residence and get another carriage."

Tao Da felt that it was inappropriate, but there was indeed no better way, so he agreed.

Just as Yu Youyao was about to return to the carriage, she saw a person walk out of the Fortune Pavilion opposite. He was tall and slender, and his blue robe was embroidered with moon-white orchids, making him look elegant and beautiful.

It was Song Mingzhao!

He was targeting her.

Yu Youyao couldn't pretend not to see him, so she bowed. "Heir Song."

The little girl in front of him was wearing a pomegranate dress. The flowers were like fire and the satin of the dress was spread out. Her eyes were burning.

She was even brighter than when she had seen her at the Precious Peace Temple.

Song Mingzhao cupped his hands in greeting and looked at the carriage parked at the side. "Is the carriage broken?"

Yu Youyao felt a little helpless. "It turned out that my cousin had something on and I had specially come to send him off. Unexpectedly, on the way back to the residence, there was a problem with the carriage and we couldn't leave."

The two families were family friends and were in-laws. They had bumped into each other on the way. It was one thing not to see each other, but since they had already come over, they couldn't be rude.

On second thought, Song Mingzhao understood her difficulties. "The Fragrance

Restaurant in front is the property of the Zhenguo Marquis Residence. There are private rooms inside. Miss, why don't you go and sit with the Fragrance Restaurant?"

He had arranged to meet a few friends at Fragrance Restaurant today. It was a table by the window on the second floor.

Hearing his friends arguing about Young Master Yin leading the troops to Shandong to quell the rebellion, he lost interest in talking.

Suddenly, he glanced out of the window and saw the Yu Residence's carriage parked opposite.

A maidservant helped Eldest Miss Yu out of the carriage.

For some reason, he suddenly couldn't sit still anymore, so he stood up. 'You guys chat first. I suddenly have something to do, so I'll leave first.'

Since it was the Zhenguo Marquis Residence's business, there was no harm in sitting for a while in the current situation.

However, Yu Youyao shook her head. "Thank you for your kind intentions, Heir

Song. I'm out alone today. It's fine if my elders aren't around, but there are many inconveniences. I hope you can understand."

Wasn't this attitude a little too reserved?

Song Mingzhao lowered his eyes. Occasionally, he would hear his third sister mention Eldest Miss Yu. She was always beaming with joy, and her words clearly implied that she was a lively and bright young lady.

That day at the Precious Peace Temple, the scene of the young girl tiptoeing and throwing the brocade to make a wish was even more light and agile. However, after meeting him a few times, Yu Youyao was clearly indifferent and polite. She seemed to be a stranger to him and did not have any relationship with him.

If he hadn't come looking for her today, it seemed that even if Eldest Miss Yu saw him, she would pretend not to see him..

Chapter 409: Human Life Is At stake

Logically speaking, the Yu and Song families were family friends and in-laws. If he had not been sent to the Precious Peace Temple to study since he was young, based on the relationship between the two families, they would have been childhood sweethearts.

Even if she was being polite, she shouldn't be so distant.

Song Mingzhao couldn't force her, so he changed the topic. "It's not that I haven't thought it through, but the carriage is broken, and it's not something that can be repaired immediately. The person who went back to deliver the letter won't be able to return immediately. It's indeed inappropriate for Young Miss to wait on the streets like this. Why don't we do this? My carriage is parked nearby. Why don't you take my carriage back to the residence first?" Yu Youyao couldn't refuse openly, and she still looked a little hesitant.

Song Mingzhao understood her concerns. "I've arranged to meet a few friends at Fragrance Restaurant. I don't need the carriage for the time being. Miss, you can use it without worry."

At this point, Yu Youyao could only nod. "Thank you, Heir Song."



The Song and Yu families were close friends. Song Mingzhao's help this time was quite appropriate. If she refused, it would seem like she did not care about his feelings and did not know what was good for her.

At the thought of this, Yu Youyao couldn't help but sigh.

She rarely had the chance to go out, but recently, for some reason, she met Song Mingzhao every time she went out?!

Due to that nightmare, she couldn't help but be a little wary of Song Mingzhao.

However, in fact, she did not have much prejudice against Song Mingzhao.

Song Mingzhao turned around and instructed the servant behind him, "Go and rush the carriage over."

The servant quickly left. Since the carriage did not arrive, Song Mingzhao naturally would not leave. The silence was inevitably awkward.

Yu Youyao couldn't show any mercy. After all, nothing in the nightmare had really happened. Song Mingzhao had indeed helped her today. It was a little unreasonable for her to ignore him like this. Hence, she broke the silence. "How's Grandmother Song's health recently?"

She indeed did not have much of a relationship with Song Mingzhao, nor did she have anything else to say. She had to ask about her elders.

Song Mingzhao nodded. "Grandmother thinks it's a bitter summer. The weather is hot this year, but thanks to the medicinal fragrance and medicinal tea that Miss gave me, she's in better spirits."

Yu Youyao asked about the Marquis of Zhen, the Marquis's wife, her aunt, Yu Mengxiang, Song Wanhui, and the other young misses in the residence who she knew but were not close. Song Mingzhao also answered them one by one and even asked the people from the Yu Residence.

At this moment, a cry suddenly came from not far away.

Song Mingzhao tilted his head to look. Not far away was a medical center. A woman with disheveled hair was carrying a child in her arms and was pushed out by the waiter in the shop.

After being pushed out, the woman refused to give up. She knelt in front of the medical center with the child and cried, causing a commotion. Everyone on the street ran over to watch the commotion.

Song Mingzhao was worried that Yu Youyao would be alarmed. "Young Miss, why don't you go to the carriage and wait first?" Yu Youyao shook her head and turned to instruct Old Madam Liu, who was beside her, "Go over and see what's going on." Old Madam Liu quickly agreed.

She was big-shouldered and agile. In a few large strides, she rushed over and squeezed into the crowd. In a moment, she was sweating and panting as she returned.

Yu Youyao waited for her to catch her breath before asking, "What happened?"

Old Madam Liu said eloquently, 'Eldest Miss, there's a medical center in front. That crying farmer's wife originally brought her son to the medical center to treat his illness, but her son has asthma and his entire body is convulsing non-stop. His eyes are even rolling back and he's foaming at the mouth. It looks too scary. Even the doctor doesn't dare to treat him...'

Before she could finish speaking, Yu Youyao immediately said, "Let's go over and take a look."

As she spoke, she had already walked over quickly. However, she did not delay for a moment.

Old Madam Liu was shocked and quickly stopped her. “Oh, my Eldest Miss, I know you’re kind, but this is a matter of human lives. You’re just a young miss.

You can’t go up...”

Song Mingzhao also felt that something was amiss. Eldest Miss Yu was the daughter of an official, so she shouldn’t interfere in this matter.

Not only would it damage her reputation if she accidentally caused trouble, but it would also expose her. Eldest Master Yu was a censor, so it was easy for others to use this as an excuse to implicate the entire Yu Residence.

“Human lives are at stake. Let’s go over and take a look first.” Yu Youyao did not listen to Old Madam Liu’s advice and quickened her pace.

Seeing that Yu Youyao refused to listen to advice, Song Mingzhao suddenly held her wrist. “There are many people gathered in front. It’s very chaotic. Young Miss, it’s better not to go over. As for the child with asthma, I’ll arrange for someone to treat him immediately.”

Eldest Miss Yu’s wrist was unbelievably soft and thin. It was clearly a hot summer day, but the fair wrist in his hand felt as cold as jade.

Just like his Qingtian stone seal that was as clear as jade. In the hot summer, when he was drenched in sweat, he placed an inch-long frozen stone in his palm and instantly stopped sweating. Even if he held it for a long time, it would not be warm. Unexpectedly, she was pulled back by Song Mingzhao!

Yu Youyao was a little displeased, but she also knew that Song Mingzhao was just being kind. He was worried that a young miss like her would cause trouble in public and it would be difficult for her to escape, so he held her back. Yu Youyao couldn’t refute directly, so she struggled a few times.

Song Mingzhao suddenly realized that he had been a little rude. He loosened his grip, and there was a faint coldness and softness in his palm.

He lowered his eyes and clearly saw that her hands were trembling uncontrollably. He apologized in a low voice, “I’m sorry. I was rude.”

Yu Youyao retracted her wrist and said calmly, “Since it was an unintentional mistake, you just have to be more careful in the future.” After saying that, she did not want to harp on this matter. “If patients with asthma can be treated in time and effectively, no lives will be lost.” In other words, the reason why she did not hide at all was not because she was kind or impulsive.

Yu Youyao added, “However, if we don’t treat him in time, his life will be in danger. We’ve already been delayed for a long time. We can’t delay any longer. I’ve learned some first-aid treatment from the nanny at home. Human lives are at stake, so I can’t sit back and do nothing.” In other words, it was too late to find a doctor now.

With that, she was already in the crowd.

Seeing that she couldn’t stop her young miss, Old Madam Liu quickly rushed to the front and helped her open the way. Chun Xiao and the other old woman protected her from the surrounding people.

Hearing this, Song Mingzhao understood that he had underestimated Yu Youyao.

It wasn't that Yu Youyao didn't know the severity of the matter.

Since something had happened at the medical center, Yu Youyao did not go over rashly at first. Instead, she asked the old maid to go over and ask about the situation.

When the old woman found out that the child had asthma, she knew that as long as this illness was treated in time, he wouldn't die. Coincidentally, she had a way to treat him, so she naturally couldn't leave him in the lurch.

She knew her limits!

Chapter 410: Yao Yao Is Kind and Virtuous

He suddenly recalled the scene of the little girl standing under the Bodhi tree with her eyes closed and making a wish on the day of the Buddhist Festival.

She was wearing a plain brocade dress that complemented her green outfit. Even she had become elegant and bright.

Now, her clothes were like fire, and she suddenly looked extremely lively.

Song Mingzhao followed behind and protected Yu Youyao.

When the people around saw that Yu Youyao was accompanied by maidservants and old maids, exuding a noble aura from head to toe, and that there was also an extraordinary young man following behind her, they knew that they were from extraordinary backgrounds and were not people they could afford to provoke. How could they dare to block the way? They made way.

At the entrance of the medical center, a woman in gray clothes and with patches all over her body was hugging her son. She knelt on the ground and begged, "Doctor, Doctor, please, save my son. Save him. I-I have money." As she cried, she untied the money pouch at her waist and the old copper coins spilled to the ground. She couldn't be bothered to pick them up and only cried and begged, "Doctor, save him. I-I'll do anything for you..."

The doctor did not know if he could not stand the crowd pointing at him or if he really pitied this woman. He said helplessly, "Madam, it's not that I don't want to save you, but I'm really helpless..."

When the woman heard this, she hugged her son and broke down crying. "My son..."

"Put him on the ground and lie flat."

Just as the woman was about to die, a voice suddenly sounded in her ear. She suddenly looked up with tears in her eyes. At first glance, she thought that she had seen a fairy.

It was obvious that she was desperate. The woman hugged her son and knelt in front of Yu Youyao, tugging at her dress. "You can save my son, right? Please, save my son..."

Yu Youyao quickly said, "Put your son on the ground first. Lie him flat and press down on his hands and feet. If you hug him like this, not only will you not save him, but you'll also harm him..."

Her voice was gentle, but her tone revealed an unquestionable authority that had the power to calm people down.

The woman did not listen to anything. She only heard that she would harm her son if she hugged him. She quickly placed her son in her arms on the ground.

Yu Youyao raised her voice and said, "Please spread out a little to let the air flow."

Her voice was clear and not high-pitched, nor did it contain any arrogance. Her calm tone made the surrounding crowd consciously step back a little.

The child was about six or seven years old, and his body was still considered strong. Generally speaking, children with asthma were relatively thin and weak. From the looks of it, he should be having asthma for the first time. At this moment, he was lying flat on the ground, his body convulsing and trembling. His eyes kept rolling back into his head, and white foam was coming out of the corners of his mouth. There was a sound coming from his throat.

It was indeed very dangerous.

Yu Youyao did not delay any longer. "Go to the medical center and borrow the medicinal mortar. Prepare the straw paper for moxibustion and a lighter."

A life was at stake. Chun Xiao did not dare to delay and immediately wanted to go to the medical center.

Young Master Song, who had been following behind Young Miss, had already entered the medical center.

As these things were all commonly used, there was no need to deliberately search for them. They could be easily obtained. Not long after, Song Mingzhao had already taken out the items.

Yu Youyao untied the pouch at her waist and took out a string of wooden beads.

She pulled one out. "This is an incense pill. Its fragrance has the effect of opening the aperture, calming the Qi, and calming the mind."

Her expression was calm, and her voice was neither high nor low. Her tone was also very stable.

The woman, who had broken down, gradually calmed down. She stared intently at Yu Youyao's every move, and hope reignited in her eyes.

The surrounding crowd also quietened down. Seeing the young girl's noble aura, they guessed that the medicine she had taken out must be very expensive. Seeing her calm appearance, they actually felt that this child could be saved.

Yu Youyao quickly pounded the incense pill and poured the crushed incense residue on the straw paper. She rolled the straw paper into a strip and opened her mouth. Just as she was about to start a fire, she saw a burning fire stick being handed to her.

She looked up and met Song Mingzhao's deep gaze. She nodded at him and burned the roll. She pressed two fingers on both sides of the child's nose and brought the roll close to his nose to burn.

Song Mingzhao looked up at the sky. The dazzling sunlight suddenly pierced into his eyes.

Only then did he realize that it was almost noon and the weather was hot.

Eldest Miss Yu's fair face was pink from the sun. It had a clear and translucent crystal color, and it was unbelievably pure.

Song Mingzhao turned around and saw that the servant had returned. "Get the umbrella from the carriage."

There were always all kinds of items on the carriage.

The servant ran up and quickly brought over an umbrella.

Song Mingzhao reached out to take it and opened the umbrella.

On the light green umbrella, there were a few strokes of ink, but they were clear and elegant. He placed the umbrella over Yu Youyao's head, but he was still exposed to the sunlight.

The servant's mind suddenly exploded. He immediately recalled that during the Dragon Boat Festival, Eldest Young Master had inexplicably paid a lot of attention to Eldest Miss Yu...

Eldest Young Master, who had a pure heart and few desires, seemed to treat Eldest Miss Yu...

The servant couldn't help but glance at his young master.

Unexpectedly, he met the young master's glance. That bottomless gaze pressed down on him until he almost couldn't breathe. The servant quickly lowered his head.

About ten minutes later!

The child, who was lying on the ground and twitching, gradually calmed down. Although his eyes were still rolled back, it was obvious that his condition was already improving.

The woman's body went limp. She covered her face and cried silently.

Yu Youyao also heaved a sigh of relief and asked Chun Xiao to change to a roll.

"Do as I did just now. Don't burn him."

Chun Xiao immediately took the roll and did as she was told.

Yu Youyao squatted on the ground and maintained the same posture for too long. As soon as she stood up, she felt a numbness in her legs and staggered, almost falling.

Fortunately, Song Mingzhao stood close and reached out to support her shoulder. "Are you alright?"

Yu Youyao took a step back and kept a distance from Song Mingzhao. She stabilized her body and shook her head. "I'm fine. I just squatted for too long and my legs are a little sore."

Song Mingzhao's expression darkened a little as he handed the umbrella forward.

She looked up at the oil-paper umbrella above her head and was stunned for a moment before saying, "Thank you!"

Song Mingzhao's lips curled up slightly. "It's sunny outside. Shall we go to the medical center to rest first?"

Yu Youyao lowered her head and saw that the child's face was gradually calming down. Some kind-hearted passers-by had borrowed an umbrella for the woman, who was helping her son hold it.

It was too hot outside. Yu Youyao couldn't take it anymore, so she instructed Chun Xiao, "The child can't be moved casually. Report to me first when the roll is finished."

Chun Xiao quickly agreed.

Yu Youyao and Song Mingzhao entered the medical center side by side, with Old Madam Liu following behind spontaneously.

Seeing the imposing aura of the two of them, the doctor quickly ordered someone to prepare tea..