

## All Hail 911

### Chapter 911 - 911: Helping to Encourage

At that time, although the nobles would be denounced by the Imperial Court for not “assisting” with the national policies, there was still a chance of survival.

However, one had to note that the nobles were simply “assisting”. However, the person who advocated accepting and settling the refugees was King Yue Fei. King Yue Fei had to bear the main responsibility.

This was the dying struggle of the nobles.

However, this chance of survival for the nobles had failed because of the interference of the Xie family and Princess Shaoyi. Princess Shaoyi advocated prevention and treatment of the disease. The Xie family donated medicine and money, filling the hidden danger of the lack of medicinal herbs in the refugee camp.

With the Xie family’s huge wealth, the You army could also completely use the army’s salary to support the refugees. Then, they could also buy military supplies from the nobles or other food-rich areas with the army’s salary.

The military was like a mountain. No matter how indignant the nobles were, they did not dare to joke about the army. It had to be known that the most ruthless people in King Li of Zhou’s case were those who had interfered in the army.

The reason why the nobles were safe and sound and were not criticized by the Imperial Court was because they understood the rules of the game and would never tamper with the military or rashly touch the emperor’s interests.

At this point, the noble’s defeat was set.

In that case, would the nobles be willing to die?

Naturally, they were indignant!

Therefore, they used the change in the situation of the Imperial Court to make another stupid move with the consort party. They planned to divert the trouble and attack the royalists to reach a situation where Princess Shaoyi and King Yue Fei would join forces.

They would accuse King Yue Fei of interfering in the battle for the throne. Fighting for the throne was already a crime of conspiracy. Even if they couldn’t “convict” King Yue Fei, it would deepen the Imperial Court’s suspicion of him.

At this moment, the interests of the nobles and the Imperial Court would be compatible again.

The Imperial Court still needed to use the nobles to restrain the vassal lords, and the nobles would no longer be figures who were abandoned by the Imperial Court.

This step-by-step plan was brilliant.

However, the only thing the nobles had underestimated was Yu Youyao's ability to respond at random and scheme. In some ways, the aristocratic family was facing another "Yin Huaixi."

There was one more thing!

What if the change in the court was led by Yin Huaixi? His goal was to further catalyze the internal and external factions of the court and give the King of Liang, who was hiding in Quanzhou, an excuse and a good opportunity to raise his troops to accelerate the destruction of the Great Zhou Dynasty?

Yu Youyao's guess was not without reason.

Behind Liu Dagen's case was a complete struggle for the position of heir.

The royalists, the consort party, and Concubine Lan were all implicated.

The nobles represented by the Han Clan played an important role.

As early as after the Flower Festival at the Marquis of Changxings Residence, Yin Huaixi had exposed the fact that he had a huge palace in the palace to her without hiding anything. These connections could even avoid the emperor,

Concubine Lan, Imperial Concubine Xu, and all the concubines in the palace.

At that time, she was trapped in the backyard and had not seen much. Although she had realized something, she did not think too deeply about it.

However, now that she thought about it, Yin Huaixi definitely couldn't do without the support of the inner palace.

Now, excluding the Empress Dowager, Imperial Concubine Xu, and Concubine Lan, who else in a high position could accurately grasp the situation in the inner palace? Moreover, they could even quietly send the news out of the palace and into Yin Huaixi's hands.

It had to be the Empress.

The Empress had married the current emperor since she was in the palace and began to take charge of the inner courtyard of the Wang Residence. Later, when she took charge of the inner palace, she lost her power and cultivated many loyal connections in the palace.

Of course, perhaps this guess was not sufficient.

However, on deeper thought, the Empress had been sick in the Yi Kun Palace for a long time and had never left. In addition, she had no children in the central palace, and with the arrest of Duke Ning, the Empress's position was useless.

It was impossible for the Empress to seize the opportunity to use the Empress Dowager's power to control the royalists with the connections she had accumulated when she had gained power back then.

Concubine Lan and Imperial Consort Xu were not to be trifled with.

Therefore, there must be someone more brilliant helping to encourage the Empress.

The greatest possibility was were the favorites of the Emperor, who were deeply trusted. These eunuchs often controlled the court and played with people's hearts.

Yu Youyao could only think of Eunuch Zhu.

Yin Huaixi had never said that Eunuch Zhu was his subordinate, but Yu Youyao knew that. However, there was no doubt that Eunuch Zhu was Yin Huaixi's subordinate.

Yin Huaixi had helped the Empress control the royalists, causing the situation in the court to take a turn for the worse. The royalists, who had originally been sitting steadily, were completely in chaos.

Perhaps some people still did not understand what the royalists meant and what they represented.

In fact, most of the royalists were the first to help the royal family conquer the country, establish the dynasty, or establish a country. They were also meritorious officials who had made huge contributions to the Great Zhou Dynasty. From then on, they would be conferred the title of Marquis and become nobles. They would have the backing of the Great Zhou Dynasty and the descendants of the noble families.

In other words, as long as these noble families did not court death, as long as the Great Zhou Dynasty was still around, they could enjoy all the fame and fortune. They could also enjoy endless wealth.

Therefore, by protecting the emperor's interests and achieving the goal of assisting the country, it was also to protect the interests of their descendants.

If even the royalists were involved in the struggle for the throne, in order to protect themselves, everyone would fight. Who would protect the interests of the royal family? Who would assist the country?

Yin Huaixi's step directly accelerated the destruction of the Great Zhou Dynasty!

Yu Youyao took a deep breath and calmed the storm in her heart. Yin Huaixi had schemed a lot. She had known this for a long time. He had never deliberately hidden anything, let alone explained anything. Yu Youyao would naturally know when the situation developed.

This was the tacit understanding between them.

However, there were also conservatives and radicals in the royalist party. Even if the conservatives were implicated in the battle for the throne, they were unwilling to get involved.

For example, in the Yu Residence, because Yu Zongshen was mourning at home, Yu Zongzheng was marginalized by the court. Elder Yu was old, so he would use the excuse that he was sick and couldn't go to court from time to time. No one could say much, so they avoided this.

As for Yu Youyao, she was a woman and had a noble title. In the eyes of the world, she could not control the court. The Yu Clan only needed to watch the developments and pick her out at the right time.

However, for example, the Ye family was undoubtedly divided into the radical faction by the situation in the North.

Yin Huaixi's plan changed from the capital to Liaodong.

Yu Youyao suddenly realized that she had almost forgotten that among the three forces in the North that were keeping one another in check, the third party was the government office controlled by Ye Xiaoci.

During the battle between the nobles and the vassal lords, the government office had been watching from the side.

However, after the first check and balance was broken, King Li of Zhou died, and the Marquis of Changxing guarded Youzhou. The government office was once jointly suppressed by the Marquis of Changxing and the nobles, and their situation was not good..

## Chapter 912 - 912: What a Huge Chessboard

When Ye Hanyuan knocked on the drum, he had once said that the Marquis of Changxing had even sent troops to surround the government office and banned Ye Xiaoci's family to cover up his crimes.

It was very difficult for Ye Hanyuan to escape from the North alone. Ye Xiaoci must have helped him.

Along the way, Ye Hanyuan had suffered many assassination attempts and persecutions. He had only arrived at the capital after narrowly escaping death, so it was impossible for Ye Xiaoci not to know.

All of this was related to the nobles.

It seemed that Ye Xiaoci was already dissatisfied with the nobles.

The fact that the Imperial Court had issued a national policy also gave Ye Xiaoci a headache. The government was the first to bear the brunt of accepting and settling the refugees. The interests of the government and King Yue Fei had unknowingly reached an agreement.

However, in fact, it was not a good thing for Ye Xiaoci to be related to the court officials and vassal lords.

However, Princess Shaoyi, who was a member of the Ye Clan of Linjiang and the royalist party, had become a gentle medicine for the relationship between the two sides. She had become a bridge between the government office of the state capital and the Yue Fei's Residence.

At that time, the Empress Dowager was still in charge of the royalists. In the eyes of outsiders, everything Princess Shaoyi and King Yue Fei did was in line with the interests of the royalists and was to assist the country.

The interests of both sides were the same. The change in the current political situation caused this inevitable outcome. Everything was more logical. However, it did not mean that there was any unspeakable cooperation between the two sides.

All of this was an unspoken mutual understanding between Ye Xiaoci and King Yue Fei.

However, the subsequent changes in the court had indeed caught the royalists off guard. The most shocked was the state government office, which shared King Yue Fei's interests.

The state government office was responsible for taking in and settling the refugees. Without the support of the nobles, this matter would be very difficult to do. However, the nobles were

perfunctory with the “national policy.” More than a million refugees posed an extraordinary pressure and threat to the government. If anything went wrong, the government and the Yue Fei’s Residence would bear the brunt.

How could the nearly 300,000 refugees in Liancheng be properly settled so quickly?

It was because Yu Youyao had settled the noble families led by the four families of Liancheng. In the future, she would take the initiative to develop the silkworm industry in Liao Province, forcing them to fork out money and effort.

This also forced Ye Xiaoci to cut off the balance and walk towards the opposite side of the land-owning class. Under the premise that his interests were the same as King Yue Fei’s, they reached a further cooperation.

Back then, King Li of Zhou’s death had created an inherent illusion for the land-owning class that the government would watch coldly and not interfere in the conflict between the vassal lords and nobles.

In addition to the government, the Han Clan was far away in Xi’an, so the news was delayed.

After Madam Zhangs complaint, Ye Xiaoci immediately placed martial law on Xiangping. Princess Shaoyi was also present. She immediately controlled public opinion in Xiangping and diverted the attention of the Han Clan, making them focus their energy on the Bai Residence and her.

Until now, the aristocratic families had yet to realize that the situation in

Xiangping City had already changed subtly.

Therefore, from the beginning, Ye Xiaoci’s position was exactly the same as hers. From the moment she went to the government office to beat the drum and voice her grievances, the government office had already reached a consensus with her to deal with the Han Clan.

Therefore, in a sense, Ye Xiaoci was the main force to deal with the Han Clan.

That was why the case was progressing so smoothly.

There was no obstruction.

Yu Youyao recalled everything that had happened since she came to Liaodong and connected the suspicious points. Only then did she realize that Yin Huaixi had set up a big game of chess in the North. He had even unknowingly pushed her out to be a chess player, turning the vast North into a chess piece on her fingertips.

As for himself, he had become the most powerful chess piece in her hand, guiding her step by step to achieve her goal of nibbling away the power of the nobles and further controlling the North. Every step he took was guided by the situation.

As a result, no one noticed.

The case of Madam Zhangs complaint lasted for half a month. Ye Xiaoci had delayed the progress of the case to cooperate with her to deal with the public opinion of the Han Clan.

Xiangping City was not made of iron. Martial law could only guard it for a while. It could only cause obstacles and delays on outside information for a period of time. If they could not achieve full martial law like the Quanzhou Prefecture, there would still be leaked news.

It seemed that at this moment, the Han Clan, which was far away in Xi'an, had already sensed that something was amiss through various information channels.

However, it was too late.

Just as public opinion was about to brew, Yin Huaixi's chess game was completed.

When Ye Xiaoci started the trial, it was time to reap the harvest.

Yu Youyao couldn't help but sigh with emotion. "As expected, speed is important in war! "

During the period of time when the news was sealed, they quickly and directly grasped all the relevant witnesses and physical evidence of Liu Dagen's case in their hands, not giving the land-owning class any chance to react.

This was the result of the efforts of the state government office, King Yue Fei, and Princess Shaoyi.

One could imagine the consequences of using a butcher's knife to kill a chicken.

As a "victim", Princess Shaoyi had previously been represented by Ye Xiaoci. The Ye family of Linjiang had charged into the battle for her, and later, there was the silent Yu Clan to protect her.

The next day, Yu Youyao got up at dawn. After washing up and putting on simple makeup, she had breakfast and asked Dong Mei to help her change into her imperial mandate dress. She was not so particular about her usual clothes and could wear them usually. Most of the time, she wore them to attend some banquets to show off her special status.

The usual clothes were also made by the Internal Affairs Department. They were divided into spring and summer outfits, and autumn and winter outfits. According to the seasons, there were long dresses and long jackets. Although there were rules for the materials used, silk, satin, and other materials could be chosen according to the rules.

Therefore, although the crown clothes of the same grade were more or less the same, there were still certain differences due to the difference in the materials used and the different titles.

When the crown clothes were worn out, one could spend money and send it to the Internal Affairs Department for it to be repaired. Every three years, one could also go to the Internal Affairs Department to apply for new clothes again and change their old clothes for new clothes. However, one had to pay for the materials needed to make the clothes.

Every year, some large families would spend a large sum of money just to repair and apply for crown clothes.

She was wearing a long red dress with real purple intertwined branches and patterns. Golden clouds and phoenixes were embroidered on it. Her head accessory was a decorated pearl jade crown. It was lighter than the emerald crown that was paired with her gown, but it still looked magnificent.

After Yu Youyao changed her clothes, she boarded the carriage and went to the government office.

At this moment, the news of Liu Dagen's death being publicly tried in the government office had already spread throughout Xiangping and the surrounding counties, and it was still spreading.

This case was a spectacular case that caused a commotion for half a month. It also involved Princess Shaoyi and received strong public attention. The news also spread to the entire world. There were even many busybodies who had nothing to do. They specially rushed to Liaodong from all over the country to observe the development of the situation further.

When the carriage arrived at the government office, the streets near the government office were already filled with people.

For the first time, Yu Youyao realized that there were actually so many people in Xiangping City..

#### Chapter 913 - 913: Case Trial

Yu Youyao did not appear with much fanfare, and the carriage she was in was also low-key. Old Madam Sun took the princess's business card and quickly got out of the carriage to knock on the door beside her.

A bailiff opened the door. Old Madam Sun quickly handed over her business card and explained why she was here.

The bailiff took it and took a closer look. He quickly said, "So it's the Princess. Our lord has long instructed that after the Princess comes, we'll invite her into the government office."

As he spoke, he opened the door.

Old Madam Sun quickly thanked him and turned around to report to Yu Youyao. Then, she informed Tao Da to continue moving forward.

Someone at the side noticed this scene and saw that the bailiff's attitude was a little strange. Upon closer inspection, although this carriage was low-key, there was the emblem of the Yu Clan hanging on it.

The emblem of a family was often the symbol of a family. After all, the North was not under the emperor's rule, and nobles were everywhere. Not everyone recognized the emblem of the Yu Clan, so no one noticed it for a moment.

It was obvious who was sitting in the carriage.

"Look, that's Princess Shaoyi's carriage. There's even the emblem of the Yu Clan on it. . .

"Is Princess Shaoyi here? Where is she? It's not a lie, right..."

"She doesn't even dare to sit in the princess's carriage? I remember that when she went to the Dragon Phoenix Temple back then, there was a showy display of luxury, and the canopy was luxurious. Hundreds of guards accompanied her, and it was an ostentatious carriage. Liaodong has never had such a lineup."

“What’s this? You didn’t see it. On the day Princess Shaoyi came to Xiangping City, thousands of You soldiers escorted her. Wherever she went, be it humans or animals, they retreated. The commoners along the street really thought that some “living Bodhisattva” had come to save them. They knelt down to welcome her and wished that she lived for a thousand years.”

“Isn’t that revealing her true colors? These women don’t just stay at home obediently to cultivate etiquette, learn the rules of the family, and accept the three virtues. They’re not just filial to their elders and obedient to their parents. Instead, she ran to Liaodong to show her faces. Since ancient times, it’s only right for the men to go out to work and the women to stay at home. Just because of her status, she doesn’t know any better and even interferes in the court matters. She’s like a female chicken crowing in the morning.”

“You can’t say that. Princess Shaoyi was indeed the first to successfully plant sweet potatoes. Moreover, they were promoted in many areas of Liaodong...”

Someone tried to speak up for Princess Shaoyi.

“Forget it.” Before he could finish speaking, someone in the crowd immediately jumped out to refute. “The Imperial Court encourages new seeds to be planted, and new seeds are distributed for free every year. The commoners can use their household registration to collect new seeds from the government office under the rules. According to the number of new seeds they receive, a portion of the farmland tax will be reduced. There are also relevant clear rules. Those who succeed in planting the seeds will receive a reward from the Imperial Court. The level of the reward will be calculated according to the harvest of the new crops.”

As soon as these words were spoken, someone immediately jumped out to join in.

“In that case, everyone understands, right? New seeds are a national policy implemented by the Imperial Court. Those high officials and nobles either have family members or relatives in the court who are officials. They more or less have to follow the national policy to show their loyalty to the Imperial Court. Which of their families doesn’t have thousands of acres of good farmland? They can divide the tens of thousands of acres and choose a few who know farming. If they succeed, they will gain both fame and fortune.

Even if they don’t succeed, it won’t affect anything. It’ll be beneficial.”

“Moreover, I heard that many high-ranking officials and nobles received a large number of new seeds distributed by the Imperial Court. They lied and hid the number of new seeds planted. Then, they colluded with the government to profit



from the money that was supposed to be “a reduced portion of the farmland tax...”

It was an indisputable fact that Princess Shaoyi had tried to plant sweet potatoes. There were indeed many commoners in the Liaodong area who had enjoyed the high yield of sweet potatoes and the many benefits to the stomach.

The commoners were all very honest. They thought that whoever filled their stomachs was good.

It was not advisable to deny Princess Shaoyi’s merit.

These words were extremely sinister. Through the Imperial Court’s implementation of the new seeds, they had “weakened” Princess Shaoyi’s “credit” for trying to plant sweet potatoes. They took away Princess Shaoyi’s actions of trying to plant the sweet potatoes from her “meritorious” actions, and determined that this action that benefited the country and the people was a national policy of the Imperial Court.

Not to mention the various difficulties during the planting process, he deliberately pointed out that Princess Shaoyi was among the “high-ranking officials and nobles” and had ‘good farmland”.

Princess Shaoyi “did not need” to plant the sweet potatoes herself. She was just using “her mouth” to hire a few commoners to “help her” plant them.

If she succeeded in planting the seeds, she would “gain both fame and fortune”. If she did not succeed, she would lose “nothing”.

Who would be happy about such a good thing?

Not only that, but they had even maliciously engaged in some shady matters regarding the distribution of new seeds and the exemption of farmland tax.

Although they did not explicitly criticize Princess Shaoyi, they insinuated that Princess Shaoyi was involved.

They were not afraid to speculate about others with the greatest malice.

However, reality was very cruel. When a person fell into the tide of public opinion, the number of angry people who speculated about others maliciously was much higher than the rational people who stopped rumors.

The outcome was obvious.

Princess Shaoyi was planting sweet potatoes to deal with the country’s policies. The success of planting sweet potatoes was not Princess Shaoyi’s credit. She was just famous and enjoyed the power brought by the aristocratic families. She stepped on the hard work of the commoners, but she obtained both fame and fortune.

These words with ulterior motives caused a commotion in the event location.

The focus of everyone’s discussion immediately shifted from Liu Dagen’s case to Princess Shaoyi. Soon, Princess Shaoyi was in the limelight.

Such public opinion had been spreading in Xiangping City for many days. At first, considering Princess Shaoyi's identity, they did not discuss it openly. However, as public opinion continued to ferment, Yu Youyao seemed to show weakness and did not say anything about it. The Bai Residence's detention seemed to indirectly confirm that the Bai Residence was indeed related to Liu Dagen's death. Public opinion began to intensify.

Princess Shaoyi appeared in a low profile manner, and the tide of public opinion seemed to have reached its peak in an instant.

At this moment, Yu Youyao had already been invited to the main hall of the state government office. She sat at the specially arranged hearing table.

Ye Xiaoci was wearing an official's uniform and sitting in the court.

The two of them chatted politely for a while before the tightly shut door of the government office finally opened. The commoners rushed to the door.

Ye Xiaoci did not waste any time. First, he summoned Madam Zhang, the plaintiff of this case, and the boss of the People's Relief Hall, the Bai couple, to be interrogated in court.

Madam Zhang insisted that her husband had just caught an ordinary cold and had lost his life only after taking the medicine from People's Relief Hall.

After her husband's death, Madam Zhang happened to find out from a hooligan in the same village that two days ago, this hooligan had bumped into a doctor at the entrance of the village and asked for directions.

When the doctor saw the medicinal dregs by the roadside, he casually asked the hooligan, "This medicine is a method to treat ordinary chills entering the body, but there's also ox bezoar in the medicine. However, does the patient have symptoms of fever, dizziness, and convulsions? If there aren't such symptoms, you can't use medicine recklessly. Although ox bezoar can relieve heat, it's not beneficial to treat chills..

## Chapter 914 - 914: Case Trial (2)

The hooligan did not understand this mess and did not take it seriously.

However, after her husband's death, Madam Zhang took these words to heart.

The state government office showed relevant witness evidence and confirmed that they had gone to Madam Zhang's village to collect evidence but had not found any medicinal dregs. Then, they found the doctor who had "asked for directions" and confirmed that there was indeed ox bezoar in the medicinal dregs. Coupled with Liu Dagen's autopsy results, it was confirmed that Liu

Dagen had died from taking ox bezoar.

Madam Zhang's confession was true.

However, the Bai couple insisted, "Although the People's Relief Hall sells inferior medicinal herbs, we're not crazy enough to joke about human lives. Ox bezoar is a precious medicinal herb, and the stock of medicinal herbs in the People's Relief Hall is limited. The doctor who chose the medicinal herbs is an old doctor with more than 30 years of experience. He hasn't made a mistake for many years, so it's impossible for him to make such a mistake. All of this was set up by someone."

These words were not very convincing, but they did make sense.

The state government office summoned more than ten long-term workers, including the doctor, from the People's Relief Hall for interrogation. The confessions of more than ten people were similar to those of the Bai couple.

They were all doctors who were very experienced and rarely made mistakes.

Both sides had their own opinions. Although the Bai Residence was suspected of selling inferior medicinal herbs, they lacked strong physical evidence to prove that People's Relief Hall had "chosen the wrong medicine."

After the confessions of both sides in the hall were reviewed and recorded in the criminal room, it was found that they were basically the same after comparing the confessions from the previous interrogations. There were no mistakes or differences. They were read out in public.

Both sides signed the testimony in the hall.

Ye Xiaoci made a statement. "Both sides have their own opinions. From the looks of it, the People's Relief Hall picked the wrong medicine, or there was a safety hazard in the quality of the ox bezoar because of the sale of inferior medicinal herbs, causing Liu Dagen's death."

This deduction caused an intense reaction from the commoners.

Why were the commoners so sure that Liu Dagen was killed by the Bai couple?

Wasn't it because the People's Relief Hall sold inferior medicinal herbs and couldn't guarantee the quality of the medicinal herbs?

Ye Xiaoci said, "We've already interrogated all the relevant people. Next, the government office investigated this case for a few days. After obtaining evidence, they obtained the relevant material evidence."

As soon as he finished speaking, seven physicians, including Uncle Sun, and two military doctors from the You Army were invited into the hall.

A bailiff brought a box with a seal that represented important evidence from the government office to the hall.

Ye Xiaoci said, "This is the ox bezoar obtained from the People's Relief Hall. It was confirmed by the government office that this ox bezoar is from the same batch as the ox bezoar from the People's Relief Hall when Madam Zhang was collecting the medicine earlier."

The state government office also took out the ox bezoar purchase list from the People's Relief Hall, the number of goods, records of when they issued ox bezoar, the ox bezoar prescriptions in the People's Relief Hall, and so on.

All of this showed that the ox bezoars were indeed from the batch available when Liu Dagen was getting the medicine.

Next, Ye Xiaoci said, "All of you are famous physicians in Xiangping City who save the dead and heal the injured. I'll have to trouble all of you to check carefully if there's any ox bezoar in the People's Relief Hall that will cause the patient's death because of the quality."

The few physicians were quite famous, and most of the commoners were not unfamiliar with them. Only by publicly testing the ox bezoar in the court could the commoners be more convinced.

The few physicians took out a small amount of ox bezoar and tested it on the spot.

About 15 minutes later, everyone present, including Yu Youyao, could tell that a few of the physicians had strange expressions. The atmosphere in the hall was extremely tense.

Seeing this, the commoners at the entrance of the government office had different opinions.

“There must be something wrong with the ox bezoar of the People’s Relief Hall...”

“Liu Dagen was killed by the Bai family...”

“We have to punish the murderer severely and avenge Liu Dagen...”

Someone shouted, “That’s right. A life for a life. It’s only right. We can’t let the murderer off and punish the Bai family severely...”

The Bai couple’s hearts skipped a beat, and they immediately fell to the ground. They looked at Yu Youyao, who was sitting in the hall and drinking tea without saying a word.

This scene was seen by the sharp-eyed commoners. They shouted even louder, “Punish the murderer severely, punish the Bai family severely...” A stone caused a thousand ripples. The commoners present also shouted.

“Punish the Bai family severely!”

“Punish the Bai family severely!”

“Punish the Bai family severely!”

Ye Xiaoci was not in a hurry to stop them. It was not until the commoners had vented for a while that he slammed the wooden stick and shouted, “Silence!” The scene fell silent again.

Ye Xiaoci took the initiative to ask, “Please tell everyone the results of your tests in public. What you’re saying is all evidence in court. Every word and sentence will be recorded in the hall as a confession to determine whether there was wrongful treatment. Please be careful.”

Uncle Sun first explained the results of the examination. He first introduced the effects, characteristics, and production of ox bezoar. He let the commoners present know what ox bezoar was, what its effects were, what illnesses it could treat, what taboos it had, and so on. He also mentioned that ox bezoar was rare and there were many imitations on the market.

After that, he said something shocking. “The ox bezoar sold by the People’s Relief Hall is fake. It’s camel bezoar produced in the Western Region. As it’s similar to ox bezoar, it’s extremely easy to obtain and can be mixed up. An imitation can pass as the real thing. Sometimes, there are people who can’t distinguish them. Furthermore, it doesn’t have medicinal properties.” As soon as these words were spoken, there was silence.

This undoubtedly confirmed that the People's Relief Hall did sell inferior medicinal herbs, but at the same time, the ox bezoar they sold did not have any medicinal properties. It also cleared the suspicion of the Bai Residence being involved in Liu Dagen's death.

If camel bezoar did not have any medicinal properties, then why did Liu Dagen die from taking it?

The commoners instinctively did not believe it.

However, following that, the six physicians gave the same conclusion as Uncle

Sun.

The Bai couple dodged the bullet and collapsed to the ground, looking at Princess Shaoyi in disbelief. They were once again shocked by Princess Shaoyi's shrewdness.

They all remembered that on the day Madam Zhang complained, the government office had summoned Madam Zhang to interrogate her overnight. When Princess Shaoyi found out that the People's Relief Hall was selling low-grade medicinal herbs, she immediately asked Uncle Sun to test the medicinal herbs.

For a moment, they almost thought that in order to help the Bai Residence escape punishment, Princess Shaoyi had replaced the ox bezoar in the

People's Relief Hall in advance.

However, this was clearly impossible. Before Madam Zhang was summoned to the government office, the prefecture's government office had first retrieved the case file from the Xiangping County Office. When Madam Zhang went to the county office to voice her grievances, she saw the case file and found out that it involved the People's Relief Hall. At that time, troops were sent to cordon off the People's Relief Hall.

Uncle Sun's every move was done under the nose of the government office.

What if all of this was really just a coincidence?

In that case, Princess Shaoyi had long known that the ox bezoar was fake. All her subsequent actions were to confuse the Han Clan and further trap them until they were beyond redemption.

The six physicians gave their conclusions in court. The criminal room recorded the contents of the testimony and read it out in public.

The six physicians signed the testimony in the hall..

Chapter 915 - 915: Innocence

After Ye Xiaoci made a speech about the ox bezoar, he said, "It's been investigated that the existing ox bezoar in the People's Relief Hall is camel bezoar from the Western Region and doesn't have all the effects of ox bezoar. In that case, it's not valid for Liu Dagen to die from taking the ox bezoar from the People's Relief Hall."

There was another uproar. No one had expected such a reversal of the case.

There were even people clamoring that the government and Princess Shaoyi were colluding and covering up for the Bai Residence.

However, these words were empty words. Compared to the various witnesses and physical evidence issued by the government office just now, they were too unconvincing. Moreover, the You army was also involved in Liu Dagen's case. The two military doctors in the hall had already explained everything.

After Ye Xiaoci asked everyone to quiet down, he said, "It's an indisputable fact that the ox bezoar in the People's Relief Hall is fake, but it's also the truth that the People's Relief Hall sold low- grade medicinal herbs. Liu Dagen indeed died because he took the medicine from the People's Relief Hall. We can't be sure that the People's Relief Hall has nothing to do with this case."

Next, the state government office ordered someone to show the prescription that Madam Zhang had used to obtain the medicinal herbs back then. They brought over the medicinal herbs used in the prescription from the People's Relief Hall and publicly showed it. They confirmed that the medicinal herbs were from the same batch and ordered a few physicians to test if there was a fatal factor because the quality was not good.

The outcome was as expected.

"The medicinal herbs used in the prescription are all ordinary medicinal herbs. There's no such thing as improper use of the medicinal herbs in the prescription. Moreover, most people have misunderstandings. They think that the inferior medicinal herbs don't have any medicinal effects, but that's not the case. The inferior medicinal herbs aren't as good as the superior medicinal herbs, but they also have a certain amount of medicinal properties. As long as they're used well, they're also good medicine that can save lives. After testing the inferior medicinal herbs in the Hall of the People, they have this effect." At this point, the commoners were completely speechless.

After calming down, Liu Dagen's death had nothing to do with the People's Relief Hall. The commoners no longer hated the Bai Residence so much. After discovering that the inferior medicinal herbs had a certain effect, their anger at the Bai Residence for "using inferior medicinal herbs to make a huge profit" gradually calmed down a lot. No matter what, the medicinal herbs in the North were more expensive, causing many commoners to be unable to afford them.

At this point, the case was once again at a stalemate.

After the criminal room made a judgment, Ye Xiaoci announced, " It's announced that the plaintiff, Madam Zhang, sued Jimin Hall and the owner behind it. Due to improperly taking the medicine, her husband, Liu Dagen, was found dead. This case is not established. The People's Relief Hall and its owner, the Bai Residence, are not guilty."

The Bai couple cried tears of joy. They knelt on the ground and kept kowtowing to thank her.

Madam Zhang collapsed to the ground, tears streaming down her face.

The commoners were puzzled again. Liu Dagen had clearly died because of the ox bezoar. Since the ox bezoar from the People's Relief Hall was fake, who had caused Liu Dagen's death?

Ye Xiaoci also said, “There are still many suspicious points about the cause of Liu Dagen’s death. Our court will continue to investigate and gather evidence until the truth is revealed. We will give Liu Dagen justice and sincerely ask everyone present to actively provide evidence related to the case...”

As soon as he finished speaking, he saw Old Master Bai, who had been crying with joy just now, grit his teeth and make up his mind. “Lord, I have evidence to provide. I want to sue the Han Residence in Xi’an for disregarding human lives and framing the Bai Residence.”

As soon as these words were spoken, there was even more sighing.

Ye Xiaoci also knew that this was not a small matter. His expression immediately changed and he said sternly, “Do you have evidence for your words? If you don’t, those who spout nonsense will be punished with 30 strokes of the cane...”

Old Master Bai was not afraid at all. He raised his voice and said, “Lord, the evidence is at my house. You can come to my house to collect evidence at any time.”

Ye Xiaoci immediately sent guards forward and privately asked where the evidence was. Then, he ordered someone to go to the Bai Residence to collect evidence.

This time, some of the spies sent by the land-owning class, who were mixed in the crowd, sensed that something was amiss and could no longer remain calm.

When they had arranged Liu Dagen’s death earlier, they had also confirmed that there was ox bezoar in the People’s Relief Hall. As long as they did it flawlessly, after the case, with the cooperation of the government office and “iron evidence”, the People’s Relief Hall, which sold inferior medicinal herbs, would not be able to defend themselves.

They had never expected that the ox bezoar sold by the People’s Relief Hall

was actually fake.

It was obvious that the People’s Relief Hall had been framed.

Old Master Bai was still provoking them generously. “The Han Clan is in control of all the medicinal herbs in the North. This is a fact that everyone can see for themselves. I believe everyone present knows very well how King Li of

Zhou died back then.’

At the mention of King Li of Zhou’s death, everyone present felt sad.

“In order to obtain a huge profit, the land-owning class joined forces with the local medicinal herb merchants to raise the price of the medicine, causing the You army to be injured on the battlefield and have no medicine to use. When the commoners are sick, they can’t afford to take medicine. Although the Bai

Residence sells inferior medicinal herbs for illicit wealth, the People’s Relief Hall also allows the poor commoners to afford medicine. Could it be that everyone present can’t afford the herbs and bought the medicine from the

People’s Relief Hall because the medicinal herbs are managed by the nobles?”

Old Master Bai's words had turned his unrighteous actions into benevolence, causing many people present to be in disbelief.

Old Master Bai patted his chest and said, "The inferior medicinal herbs are also divided well. The People's Relief Hall is there. The Bai Residence isn't afraid of anyone's test. It's confirmed and affirmed that all the inferior medicinal herbs sold in the medicine shop have a certain level of medicinal properties. We didn't use those fake and inferior medicinal herbs to fool the commoners."

These words were said in the court and in the government office capital, in front of Lord Ye and many commoners present. They also seemed especially important.

The commoners were a little moved.

There were indeed many people present who had used the medicinal herbs from the People's Relief Hall. It was also a fact that they could treat illnesses.

As for the fake ox bezoar, a few physicians had also expressed that because it was precious and rare, it was difficult to tell if it was real or fake. Even many large pharmacies were often affected. It was considered an exception.

The government had indeed tested it just now. The dozen or so medicinal herbs on the prescription that Liu Dagen had taken indeed had the effect of treatment. The medicines that the commoners usually used were indeed used to treat some minor cold diseases. These medicinal herbs were effective, and to a large extent, it meant that the People's Relief Hall indeed had a conscience.

It had to be said that as a businessman, Old Master Bai really understood the psychology of his customers. He did not avoid the main point and emphasized the minor point, revealing that a businessman should be "responsible" for business.

Old Master Bai continued, "Princess Shaoyi is going to the Dragon Phoenix Temple to offer incense and pray for the refugees. She's praying that the plague won't descend. Who doesn't want to admire the demeanor of a noble lady? The Princess treats others gently and magnanimously. My wife has really received the Princess's guidance. After hearing a lecture from Master Hui Ji, one of the Six Wise Monks of the Precious Peace Temple, she came to an understanding and came back to discuss with me, wanting to be kind.."

Chapter 916 - 916: Justifying the Princess's Name

The commoners agreed deeply. When Princess Shaoyi first came to the North, she was cheered by everyone in the North. Who wouldn't want to admire her?

That day, many commoners ran to the foot of the mountain of the Dragon Phoenix Temple to pay their respects and add incense oil.

Then, they recalled that the Bai Residence had taken the initiative to admit that they were selling inferior medicinal herbs, lowering the price, giving out medicine, and discounting them. Then, they had risked everyone's opinion to imitate the Xie Residence's donation to the You army and the government. This could be considered to match these words.

So, not only did the Bai Residence have nothing to do with Liu Dagen's death, but Princess Shaoyi had really led the Bai Residence to abandon evil and become good!



Then what were the recent unfavorable rumors about Princess Shaoyi?

Why were these rumors already spreading like wildfire before Liu Dagen's case was investigated by the government office?

The commoners felt that there was a problem.

There were even smart people who thought of how after Madam Zhang publicly stopped the princess's carriage and pleaded guilty on behalf of her husband, Princess Shaoyi had captured more than ten people and complained to the government office. She even claimed that someone had used her good reputation to maliciously instigate the commoners to frame her.

Then, the government office accepted this case. A few days ago, the government office had already issued a notice confirming that this case was true.

Some people had already realized that there was something fishy behind this Old Master Bai continued, "Everyone, why don't you think about it? Before Liu Dagen's case was tried by the government office, there were rumors outside that Liu Dagen had died from taking medicine from the People's Relief Hall. When did this news spread? It was the Bai Residence who took the initiative to admit that they were selling inferior medicinal herbs and announced that the prices of the medicinal herbs would be permanently reduced."

Selling low-grade medicinal herbs for profit caused the Bai Residence's reputation to plummet.

Then, Liu Dagen's death by the People's Relief Hall would be even more convincing.

Immediately, someone reacted. "The Bai Residence is a large pharmacist in the Liaodong area. The Bai Residence has received Princess Shaoyi's support, and the prices of their famous medicine shops have been permanently reduced. They're bound to attack the medicinal herb business in Liaodong."

"With the Bai Residence's influence among the medicinal herb merchants in Liaodong and Princess Shaoyi's reputation, the medicinal herb merchants in Liaodong will definitely lower their prices."

"In that case, the price of medicinal herbs in the Liaodong area will be lowered. It will affect the medicinal herb business in the entire North, and it will damage the interests of the nobles who colluded with one another to raise the price of the medicinal herbs."

As soon as these words were spoken, there was another uproar. Everyone spoke at once and figured out the entire matter.

To put it bluntly, it was still Princess Shaoyi who supported it. The medicinal herb merchants in Liaodong, led by the Bai Residence, lowered the price of the medicinal herbs in Liaodong so that the commoners could afford the medicine, but it violated the interests of some nobles.

Those nobles were heartless. They had released the matter of the Bai Residence selling inferior medicinal herbs and causing Liu Dagen's death.

They had even used the notice from the Bai Residence as “evidence” to slander Princess Shaoyi, saying that she had covered up for the Bai Residence.

Old Master Bai said bitterly, “The Bai Residence sold inferior medicinal herbs. As a result, someone took advantage of a loophole, implicating us in a murder case. The Bai Residence deserved it. The Bai family suffered heavy losses and was criticized by thousands. Our family business was almost destroyed in one day. The two of us suddenly suffered a prison sentence and paid a painful price. ”

After the Bai Residence admitted to selling inferior medicinal herbs, the commoners scolded the Bai Residence for being heartless and unrighteous, but they did not hesitate to buy the medicine from the Baiji Medicinal Shop.

The Bai Residence had also donated a large number of medicinal herbs to the government and sponsored a batch of medicinal herbs to make incense medicine for Jade Fragrance Workshop.

Not only were the medicinal herbs from the Baiji Medicinal Shop critical, but they had also transferred a large number of medicinal herbs from their own medicinal herbs cultivation base. In order to ensure that there were enough supplies, they had also bought a large number of medicinal herbs from some medicinal herb merchants they were familiar with. This was to prevent them from not having enough medicinal herbs, causing them to stop the preferential activities halfway. If they could not complete the preferential activities, it would be a thankless task.

The Bai Residence had already emptied all their existing medicinal herbs.

Even if they dodged the bullet this time, they would still face the embarrassing situation of not having enough medicinal herbs.

They had indeed suffered heavy losses.

However, everyone present did not think much of it and felt that the Bai Residence deserved it.

Old Master Bai also knew that it was impossible for the poor commoners who were living in poverty to sympathize with the nobles. It was impossible for the Bai Residence’s credibility to be salvaged just because he pretended to be pitiful.

Princess Shaoyi also knew this.

However, the Bai Residence also had an irreplaceable advantage.

The Bai Residence controlled most of the medicinal herbs business in Liaodong. With Princess Shaoyi’s support, no one would take advantage of the Bai Residence’s danger to replace them.

The foundation of the Bai Residence could be preserved.

If the commoners needed the medicine from the Baiji Medicinal Shop, they would definitely buy it. The You army also needed the medicine from the Baiji Medicinal Shop, so they would definitely cooperate with them.

In the future, the Bai Residence would have Princess Shaoyi’s backing. It could be considered a blessing in disguise.

At the thought of this, Old Master Bai suddenly raised his voice. “However, what crime is Princess Shaoyi guilty of? What’s the benefit of her covering up for the Bai Residence? Can’t she live well in the capital? Why did she travel all the way to Liaodong?!”

This was his goal. If the commoners did not buy it, they would definitely buy it from Princess Shaoyi. He did not just speak about kindness, but he also wanted to show it to others.

The scene was so quiet that one could hear a pin drop.

Princess Shaoyi was a noble lady to begin with, and her maternal family, the Xie family, was the richest family in Quanzhou. With her family background, status, and fame, there was indeed no reason for her to cover up for the Bai family.

The capital was under the emperor’s rule and was the most prosperous place in the Great Zhou Dynasty. Princess Shaoyi had been living a comfortable life, but she had come to Liaodong to promote sweet potato cultivation.

On the surface, it was to relieve the drought.

However, if the sweet potatoes were successfully promoted in the North, all the commoners in the North, whether they were refugees or original residents, would benefit.

Yu Youyao sat at the side, feeling so awkward that her toes hurt. She had never expected that not only was Old Master Bai so eloquent, but he was also so good at acting!

Ye Xiaoci also found it funny. He knew very well that Old Master Bai was flattering Princess Shaoyi on the spot, but he did not stop him.

Old Master Bai continued, “Princess Shaoyi’s act of kindness and benevolence was wantonly distorted and slandered. She became a sinner who ignored the rules of the court and disturbed the rules! How noble and dignified is a first-grade Saint Venerable Princess? How did she become the target of discussion by the merchants on the streets? Have you forgotten that the Imperial Court has rules and ranks? Our dynasty has clear laws. Those who offend their superiors will be punished according to the severity of their crimes.”

Many people were already ashamed of these words.

Old Master Bai looked excited and said firmly, “I, Bai, am a businessman, and my ancestors were also businessmen. It’s often said that businessmen value profits, and I, Bai, am no exception. I’ve talked about the interests of my life, but I’m still treated kindly by the Princess. This is my honor. The Princess doesn’t hold me accountable because she’s kind-hearted. However, the princess has suffered such grievances and injustice because of the Bai Residence. I can’t pretend that this never happened. I definitely won’t let go of those who slandered the Princess. I will clear her name..

Chapter 917 - 917: Common Enemy

His words were dignified and impassioned, making everyone present feel indignant and excited.

As soon as he finished speaking, many people chimed in, “Well said...”

“To clear the Princess’s name!”

“To clear the Princess’s name!”

“To clear the Princess’s name!”

Yu Youyao almost buried her face in her cup when she heard this. If only the cup was big enough. She thought, “I asked you to pretend to be pitiful, but I didn’t ask you to act like this!”

Old Master Bai’s move was really brilliant.

He had used everyone’s shame towards Princess Shaoyi to first divert everyone’s attention to the land-owning class. Then, he had used a “contradictory move” to shift everyone’s anger to the land-owning class who had slandered and framed Princess Shaoyi.

On the other hand, he had gone from being a noble who “helped the evildoer” to a righteous party who shared a common enemy with everyone present in the name of “justifying the Princess’s reputation”. He had obtained the recognition of many people present.

The Bai Residence was cleared of suspicion. Yu Youyao ordered Old Madam Sun to stay for the trial. She greeted Ye Xiaoci and quietly left the court through the side door.

However, when Yu Youyao’s carriage came out of the government office quietly, it still caused a commotion.

After returning to the Yu Garden, Yu Youyao changed her clothes and called Yin Shi over. “Send the spies we caught previously and the clues we interrogated to the government office.”

Yin Shi received her orders.

After April, the temperature in Xiangping City rose, and the sun was warm. It was rare for Yu Youyao to be in peace. She ordered someone to set up an incense table under the corridor and leaned against the chaise lounge to read. Unknowingly, she fell asleep.

Nanny Xu took a thin blanket and gently covered her. She also dismissed the nearby servants and instructed Chun Xiao to take good care of her.

When Yu Youyao woke up, the sun had begun to move west. The curtain in the corridor was lowered, isolating her from the spring cold outside.

“What time is it now?” Yu Youyao leaned lazily against the couch.

“It’s 3-30pm.” Chun Xiao quickly poured a cup of warm water and handed it to Yu Youyao. Then, she turned around and went to the incense table. She changed the calming incense in the incense burner to the calming osmanthus incense.

Yu Youyao held her teacup. “Is Old Madam Sun back?”

Chun Xiao shook her head. “She hasn’t returned yet. She sent someone back early to pass on a message that there had been a breakthrough in Liu Dagen’s case. The government office was closed for an hour at noon and called the court to order again. She hasn’t left yet.”

Yu Youyao was a little surprised.

Chun Xiao asked, “Do you want to send someone to the government office to investigate?”

Yu Youyao shook her head. “There’s no need. When Old Madam Sun returns, everything will be clear.”

Old Madam Sun did not return to the residence until 5pm. She immediately came over to report, “The government office sent someone to the Bai Residence to collect evidence and announced that they would verify the authenticity of the evidence. Court will be open in three days. After that, the government office interrogated Steward Mu, who was involved in Liu Dagen’s case, and He Zhixian and the others. Steward Mu provided a new confession.” Yu Youyao had a guess. “Is it related to the land-owning class?”

Old Madam Sun nodded with a solemn expression. “When he found out that the Bai Residence had been found not guilty, he pointed out in court that all of this was a scheme by the Han Clan to frame the Bai Residence. He even provided evidence to the government. Steward Mu admitted in court that he was an informant planted by the Han Clan and He Zhixian.”

Yu Youyao thought to herself, “As expected.”

He Zhixian pushed everything to Steward Mu. It was Steward Mu who had made the decision to frame the princess. It was also Steward Mu who had colluded with the land-owning families and removed himself completely.

Old Madam Sun continued, “Steward Mu took the initiative to confess that Liu Dagen’s death was planned by him in cooperation with the land-owning class. His goal was to instigate Madam Zhang to complain to Princess Shaoyi. Princess Shaoyi was in public and in front of everyone. Even if it was for her reputation as a saint, she couldn’t stand by and do nothing.”

At this point, Old Madam Sun broke out in a cold sweat.

“As long as Princess Shaoyi is involved in Liu Dagen’s case, they will naturally instigate the county office to report to the Imperial Court that Princess Shaoyi is causing chaos in the law. This will obstruct your promotion of planting sweet potatoes in the Liaodong area to relieve the drought. As a result, riots and epidemics will occur in the refugee camps. They will reach a point where they will frame King Yue Fei for promoting the national strategy. This is killing two birds with one stone.”

Although things did not go as planned and Princess Shaoyi did not fall for it, the land-owning class still used Madam Zhangs complaint to implicate Liu Dagen’s death. It was related to the Bai Residence’s sale of low-grade medicinal herbs. They even released all kinds of rumors to slander and hurt Princess Shaoyi.

The commoners watching at the entrance of the government office were furious. Their curses were endless. Some people couldn’t control their anger and wanted to rush into the hall on the spot to beat up Steward Mu.

The bailiffs had no choice but to step in to maintain order.

Yu Youyao gasped. She knew very well that the main reason why the Han Clan had framed her was to attack the royalists. However, be it Steward Mu, or He Zhixian who was behind him, they were not involved at that level. They might have a little guess, but they definitely wouldn’t know too much.

Old Madam Sun continued, “Lord Ye asked if there was any evidence for his words. Steward Mu immediately said that Sixth Young Master Han, a direct descendant of the Han Clan, had conspired with him to kill Liu Dagen and frame Princess Shaoyi. He’s currently hiding in a manor in the suburbs.

Although that manor isn’t under his name, it’s actually his own business.” This was the so-called major breakthrough in the case.

He Zhixian had a good plan. They did not know what method he had used to make Steward Mu listen to him and even resist all the crimes.

“Lord Ye quickly mobilized a team to the manor that Steward Mu had specified to capture Sixth Young Master Han. Steward Mu simply went all the way and said that he still had a lot in his hands. He even revealed a lot of evidence about the Han Clan’s crimes. The spies that the nobles had planted in

Xiangping City said that the unfavorable rumors about the Bai Residence and Princess Shaoyi in Xiangping City were all spread by them.”

Yu Youyao had an idea. “What happened after that?”

Old Madam Sun said, “As this case is very important and involves too many people, the relevant evidence is very complicated. The state government office will temporarily withdraw from court and will hold a trial in three days.”

The government office needed to interrogate the relevant witnesses and obtain more clues. They also needed to sort out and verify the evidence in their hands. All of this required time.

Yu Youyao asked for more details in detail and felt more confident. “It’s been hard on you. Go back and rest first. You have to pay more attention to the progress of this case.”

After that, Old Madam Sun was rewarded with some money and jewelry, and she left happily.

The next morning, the state government office issued four notices..

Chapter 918 - 918: An Eye for an Eye

“The plantations under Princess Shaoyi’s name verified that through the method of seedling reproduction, the vines of the sweet potatoes that reproduced through seedlings grew faster and were more luxuriant. Every acre of vines was equivalent to planting ten acres of sweet potatoes using the original method. More than 70 acres of vines were planted, resolving the problem of not having enough vines for the large-scale promotion of sweet potato planting. The goal of mass and widespread planting was achieved. Currently, the sweet potatoes have reproduced through two rounds of seedling reproduction. It was discovered that seedling reproduction also greatly increased the survival rate and yield of the sweet potatoes.”

“The best time to cut the sweet potatoes was around the Dragon Boat Festival. However, the Liaodong area was affected by the climate of the grassland in the north. In the second half of the year, the weather was relatively bitter and cold. The sweet potatoes liked the sun, and their growth was affected by the climate. According to inference, late April was the best time to cut them. It took about 20 days for the seedlings to reproduce, and early April was the best time for the seedlings to reproduce. Hereby, the various problems that need to be paid attention to during the reproduction of the sweet potatoes are summarized. Everyone, please take note.”

“The first and second batches of sweet potatoes that were planted through the seedling reproduction method can be inserted into the ground. Princess Shaoyi will join forces with the manors under the Xie family’s name to distribute the first two batches of vines through the government office to the refugees who have already been resettled for free. Thirty percent of the sweet potatoes harvested by the refugees will belong to the government office, the You army, and Princess Shaoyi. The remaining 70% will belong to the refugees. The refugees can go through the household registration to the village chief to register. The household registration reviews, applications, and so on will be sent from the local village to the county government office. The sweet potato vines will be distributed to the various village chiefs in about three days.

“There is also the issue of the locust plague. Due to the drought in the Shanxi and the Shaanxi area, there might be a locust plague crisis in the Liaodong area. The commoners are requested to take precautions as soon as possible and not try to be lucky. Princess Shaoyi has checked a large number of ancient books and found the following ten most common and effective methods to prevent locusts. In addition, Princess Shaoyi and the Xie family’s merchant ships will join forces to buy a large number of adult, young, and incubated ducks and geese from the area of Guangdong. They would be farmed in various farmsteads under her name, and the commoners can buy them through the government.”

Someone stood in front of the notices and read them out loud.

At this moment, there was already a sea of people at the entrance of the government office. It was noisy.

The commoners did not understand great principles, but they were alive. They shouted for Princess Shaoyi and cheered excitedly. Their excitement was simply indescribable.

The actions of the government office were naturally unparalleled.

In just three days, the four notices had already been posted everywhere. All the government offices in the three provinces of Liaodong were busy with sweet potato seedlings, preventing the locust plague, and so on.

At the same time, Princess Shaoyi's reputation as a "living Bodhisattva" was widely spread again.

Regarding the case of the Bai Residence suing the Han Clan, it had been determined by the state government office that the sixth young master of the Han Clan had colluded with Steward Mu to murder Liu Dagen, so that they could frame the Bai Residence and Princess Shaoyi. He had a sufficient motive for committing the crime.

The case was established.

As soon as the news spread, the entire Liaodong was in an uproar. All the nobles felt threatened and imitated the Xie and Bai Residences. They gritted their teeth and generously contributed money and effort to help the refugees settle down.

Large amounts of food, medicinal herbs, and supplies were sent to the refugee camp in Longcheng, alleviating the predicament of not having enough supplies.

In addition, because the matter behind Liu Dagen's case was complicated and serious, Ye Xiaoci had already secretly left for Xi'an to investigate this case thoroughly.

The Han Residence, which was far away in Xi'an, was not to be trifled with after all. Liu Dagen's case lasted for about 20 days. Even though the Han Clan received delayed news, they still sensed the signs in Xiangping City through other channels.

However, before the Han Clan could react, they were surrounded by 3,000 elites of the You army.

King Yue Fei directly issued a military order, and the North was under full martial law.

All the water and land checkpoints were guarded by a large number of troops. No one was allowed to enter or leave.

All the government courier stations were taken over by the You army. All the towers shot when they saw birds. No internal or external news could be sent.

The government office had to cooperate with the You army to seal the city gate and all the checkpoints in the city.

Those who disobeyed were treated as traitors.

The entire North had entered a state of vigilance and preparation for war. King Yue Fei had a good reason. Due to the drought in the north, there were many illegal smugglers at the border, and the conflict at the border was increasing day by day. The war could expand at any time.

In addition, there was a large number of refugees in the east of Liaodong. Due to the poor cooperation of the nobles with the country's policies, the settlement of the refugees was not progressing smoothly. The conflicts in the refugee camps were increasing day by day, causing many casualties. In addition, the temperature in Longcheng area was rising, and there were more than a million refugees. It also brought many causes of instability to the North, so the North had to be on guard early.

The Han Clan knew that something was amiss.



On the surface, the illegal smuggling matter had nothing to do with the Han Clan. However, the Han Clan and the rest of the land-owning class openly and secretly controlled the trade routes in the Shanxi and the Shaanxi area. They had secretly made many deals with the Di people to obtain huge profits.

This was a serious crime of colluding with foreign countries.

Accepting refugees and settling them down was a national policy issued by the Imperial Court, and it needed the full support of the local nobles. Now that more than a million refugees were still in the refugee camps, it was true that the nobles skimmed on the national policy. The direct consequence of the noble's actions was that the conflicts in the refugee camps were increasing, causing huge casualties. The North would even face a terrifying threat of an epidemic.

The entire North was under martial law to minimize the risk and for the sake of the people of the North.

The commoners understood King Yue Fei's actions, but their dissatisfaction was directed at the nobles.

Due to the generous donations of the Xie and Bai Residences, the commoners and even the scholars in the world had to morally kidnap other nobles who did not take any action.

Public opinion, condemnation, and criticism against the nobles were launched in the North.

This was almost unprecedented.

When Yin Huaixi heard the report, he smiled faintly. "I'm a vengeful person, especially when it comes to having an eye for an eye. It's time for the nobles to taste the taste of being criticized."

In the chaotic refugee camp, there was a rare silence today.

Although the refugees were dressed in rags, they were still clean and looked good. All of them stood in the empty space and waited silently.

Not long after, the sound of uniform footsteps sounded. Teams of You soldiers in armor moved carriages of supplies into the empty space.

Soon, small mountains were piled up on the empty ground.

The refugees were extremely excited and couldn't help but whisper to each other.

Immediately after, everyone saw the young King Yue Fei walk into the refugee camp. He was wearing black armor, making him look so tall, majestic, and unshakable.

The refugees knelt on the ground and shouted excitedly, "May King Yue Fei live for a thousand years..."

They did not know much about etiquette. They only heard that in operas, they often shouted, "Long live the emperor," to express their reverence for the ruler of a country. They also wanted to use the same method to express their reverence for King Yue Fei..

Chapter 919 - 919: Refugee Camp

Yin Huaixi raised his hand to stop them and let them get up. “Everyone has heard about what happened in Xiangping City. Princess Shaoyi joined forces with the Xie Residence to attract the Bai Residence to be kind and donate a large number of supplies to the camp. This move led the other scholars in Liaodong to also generously donate to the refugee camp.”

The refugees were extremely excited. They turned around and shouted, “May Princess Shaoyi live for a thousand years!”

During this period of time, the food distributed in the camp was decreasing day by day. The refugees were only given one meal a day. It turned out that everyone could eat at least 70% of their fill every meal. After enduring for a day, it would be over. At least there was still life.

However, now, the food was all clear soup and water. It wouldn’t last the refugees for more than two hours.

The refugees also knew that the local nobles in the North controlled most of the resources, but they were unwilling to donate them. The only food in the camp was donated by Princess Shaoyi and the Xie family. However, the strength of one or two people was limited and they could not control the mouths of more than a million people in the camp.

The refugees complained, and the anxious atmosphere spread silently. Every day, many people fell into anxiety and madness, causing them to fight with others.

King Yue Fei intensified his patrol, but he still could not control the spread of the situation.

Every day, someone lay in a pool of blood and was dragged away by the patrolling soldiers. Immediately after, someone brought a bucket over and wiped the blood off the ground to prevent the spread of the germs.

Those who participated in the fight would also be captured by the soldiers and would never return.

If the situation was light, they would be sent to the mountains to do hard labor.

If the situation was serious, they would be executed on the spot.

The low-leveled officials of the government checked the household registration of the refugees in the camp every day. They screened out those who were in good health and had a clean background to speed up the resettlement of the refugees.

They also tried his best to comfort the refugees.

“Don’t be afraid. King Yue Fei has already reported it to the Imperial Court.

The Imperial Court will gather food from the wealthy families in Hebei,

Jingzhao, Jin County, and other places nearby...”

“Don’t worry. Princess Shaoyi and the Xie Residence are also thinking of ways to raise food. Everyone has heard that the Xie Residence has donated most of their assets, wanting to motivate the other nobles to donate supplies...”

“Everyone, bear with it a little longer. King Yue Fei is already here, and the arrangements for the refugees are being rushed. The places where the refugees are resettled more or less include the businesses of Princess Shaoyi, the Xie Residence, the Yue Fei’s Residence, and the other soldiers of the You army. When you reach the place of resettlement, you can rely on your household registration to ask them for help. They will help you settle down in the North...

“Everyone has experienced countless hardships along the way and fled to Longcheng. We’re about to live a stable life. We can’t give up so easily!”

“The refugees who have already been resettled have already raised silkworms and planted sweet potatoes in the resettlement area. Some have even been arranged to work in the manors of Princess Shaoyi and the Xie family. They’re living well. If you persist, it’ll be your turn soon...”

The refugees relied on the comfort and encouragement of the soldiers guarding them and the officials in charge of settling the refugees. Only then did they grit their teeth and endure it.

Unexpectedly, they had really endured until the food arrived. There was hope.

For a moment, tears welled up in the eyes of the refugees.

Yin Huaixi smiled and stopped them again. “The supplies in front of you are all supplies from the nobles of Liaodong to support the resettlement of the refugees. It’s also because of these supplies that the resettlement of the refugees has begun. Your batch of refugees, who have been waiting in the open area, has been screened in advance to confirm the next batch of refugees.

From now on, queue up and wait to receive the resettlement supplies.”

Hearing that they were about to be settled down, many refugees cried on the spot.

However, there were also some refugees who were terrified.

“Where are we going?”

“We all fled here. We don’t have money or land. How are we going to live in the future?”

“How much supplies can we receive? What should we do from now on?”

Yin Huaixi listened to the refugees’ chatter and was in no hurry to answer. The refugees had been trapped in the camp for so long and needed to vent their emotions.

After a full 15 minutes, Yin Huaixi said, “The rules for the placement of supplies state that each person will receive 2.5 kilograms of food, 250 grams taels of salt, some medicine to prevent illnesses and epidemics, and a foot of cloth...

The refugees gradually calmed down and carefully calculated this in their hearts. They gradually felt a little more at ease. When they arrived at the place of resettlement, they would temporarily build a straw shed. The family would be able to live a peaceful life for more than a month.

“Within three months, you can receive a certain amount of food allowance from the government office every month based on your household registration. The exact amount of food depends on the specific distribution by the government. The government’s food comes from the relief of the Imperial Court and the donations of the nobles. Everything we have will be distributed to everyone, including all of you.”

The refugees also felt much more relaxed. No matter how much food was subsidized, at least King Yue Fei and the government did not throw them to a place of resettlement and did not care about their lives. The temperature in Liaodong had increased, and with some government subsidies, wild vegetables could be dug out from the mountains. At the very least, they would not starve to death.

Everything that needed to be explained had been explained.

The refugees spontaneously began to form seven lines. Relatives and friends stood together. As King Yue Fei was present, the You army was eyeing them covetously, and the refugees were obedient. No one dared to cut the line and

cause trouble.

Then, a few low-level officials in government uniforms began to further verify the household registration of the refugees.

“Name?”

“Ma Dachun.”

“Thirty- six.” “Who else is in the family?”

“My wife...”

“Origin?”

“Baoan Town in Taize County, Hebei...”

“Can you read?”

“I can’t read.”

“What skills are you proficient in?”

“The camp taught us how to raise silkworms.”

After asking, the low-ranking official used green paint to draw a leaf on Ma Dachun’s household registration. He pointed at the green flag not far away and said, “Go to the place with the green flag and wait.”

Ma Dachun saw that not far away, there were five large flags. There were green, yellow, blue, red, and black flags. He couldn’t help but ask, “Hasn’t this batch of refugees been arranged to be together?”

The low-ranking official nodded. “Of course not. Those who know how to raise silkworms will be settled in a place with dense forests and open silkworm farms. When you arrive, you can use your household registration to get a place nearby. The silkworm farms under Princess Shaoyi’s name will

receive a certain amount of silkworm eggs for free to raise silkworms. Seventy percent of the silkworm cocoons you harvest will belong to Princess Shaoyi, and 30% will belong to you. At that time, you will sign a contract. Whether you agree or not is up to you.”

Ma Dachun couldn't help but be stunned.

The low-ranking official hurriedly explained, “Don't think that Princess Shaoyi has accepted many people. You have to know that Princess Shaoyi spent a lot of money to buy the silkworm farms. You're raising silkworms in her silkworm farm. If there's a problem with the silkworms, the silkworm farmers in the silkworm farm can help deal with it.. How can there be such a good thing in the world?!”

## Chapter 920 - 920: Resettlement of the Victims

Ma Dachun nodded repeatedly. Most of the silkworm farmers who taught the refugees to raise silkworms were from the silkworm farms under Princess Shaoyi's name. They had mentioned this long ago.

The low-ranking official said earnestly, “The Princess won't let you down. Silk isn't cheap. If you can recuperate well, even 30% will be enough for your family to live a good life. If you don't believe me, ask around. Which other silkworm farmer in Liaodong has such good treatment?”

Ma Dachun hurriedly said, understand. Recently, I've heard from the silkworm farmers that the nobles are up to no good. The silkworm farmers have worked hard to raise silkworms, but it's not enough to make a living. It was Princess Shaoyi who joined forces with the individual silkworm farmers and external merchants to pressure the nobles to revalue the price of the silkworms. She also signed a price guarantee contract to ensure that no one can maliciously suppress the price of the silkworm cocoons in any way and bully the silkworm farmers.”

“This year, the price of silkworms in the Liaodong area is basically the same as the other areas of the Great Zhou Dynasty. The first batch of silkworm cocoons in the city is almost out. Many silkworm farmers have already signed a contract with Princess Shaoyi's silkworm farms. Everyone can sell them for a good price.”

The silkworm cocoons produced during the process of raising silkworms were good things. Not only could they be eaten, but they could also be used to raise livestock and poultry. All of this belonged to them.

They only needed to spend some effort to get 30%. This was because Princess Shaoyi had taken special care of them.

Not to mention 70%, they were even willing to give 90%.

The low-ranking official's expression softened a little as he nodded.

Ma Dachun quickly continued, “I'm just curious. If I learn how to raise silkworms and get assigned to a place with a silkworm farm, what about the others? How will they be split?”

When the low-ranking official saw that many people behind him were stretching their ears to listen, he did not feel impatient at all. “Those who have learned how to fish will be distributed to the

coastal areas, rivers, and lakes. It's that blue flag over there. Those who don't know anything will be distributed to places with more wasteland to explore and plant sweet potatoes.

Princess Shaoyi has started breeding seedlings in her manor. There are many vines and there are enough. They're even distributing the vines to the refugees for free. When the refugees arrive, they'll directly go to the village to register and receive them. The few batches of refugees that were previously arranged have already explored the area and planted sweet potatoes..."

The government had posted this notice in all the government offices in Liaodong. They had also heard about it in the camp and were completely relieved.

King Yue Fei, the government, and Princess Shaoyi had all made appropriate arrangements and taken care of them. Everyone would last for another month or two before the sweet potato vines came out. They would no longer have to live a precarious life. For a moment, everyone praised Princess Shaoyi for her kindness.

There were even many people who immediately cursed. Those who had once slandered Princess Shaoyi and said bluntly that the people of the North were all fools. Princess Shaoyi had done so many good things, but someone still scolded her. As refugees, they did not believe those slanderous words.

Yin Huaixi only watched for a while before returning to the camp.

There were 200,000 refugees in this batch. According to the different household registration situations, they were divided into different areas. Other than relatives and friends, the rest were scattered as much as possible to prevent them from gathering together.

After the refugees received the resettlement supplies, the You army would escort them to a designated place tomorrow morning.

For the next three years, the refugees were the focus of the government.

The local government would give some help to the local refugees, but once they violated the law, they would also be punished more severely than usual.

Before the refugees settled down, the government had already explained this to them.

If they did not agree to settle down in Liaodong, the government would not force them. They also said that after the disaster, they would be sent back to their place of origin.

Yin Yi came over to report, "The next batch of refugees has passed the initial screening. It's estimated that they will be able to receive the resettlement supplies in three days and be relocated to the designated places. In that case, it's estimated that the refugees can basically be relocated at the beginning of May."

This was just as he had expected. Yin Huaixi frowned. "How's the situation at the casualty camp?"

There were many people who were injured and sick every day in the camp. Once these people were discovered, anyone who came into contact with them would be sent to the casualty camp for isolation treatment. A small epidemic had already formed.

The patients were all suffering from limb pain, head and eye pain, internal troubles from the heat, cough, vomiting, and other symptoms. In serious cases, they would vomit and have diarrhea, and their bodies would even have rotten sores. It was very contagious.

Fortunately, Uncle Sun was quite experienced in dealing with such illnesses. “This kind of epidemic is a type of illness that spreads in spring and is contracted in summer. The weather is hot and humid, and the victims have traveled a long way to escape to this place. Their bodies are too damaged and they don’t have any resistance to injuries and illnesses. The evil in their bodies is more common. It’s not a difficult illness. As long as it’s discovered early, it can be cured. However, such illnesses are all urgent illnesses. If their condition worsens...

Uncle Sun did not finish his sentence.

However, Yin Huaixi understood that it wasn’t that their condition couldn’t be treated if it worsened. It was just that a large number of precious medicinal herbs were needed for treatment, and it would also consume a lot of energy. The gains wouldn’t make up for the losses.

It wasn’t that they didn’t want to save the refugees, but there was no way to save them.

For the time being, the camp did not lack medicinal herbs, but most of them were commonly used. Good medicinal herbs were still scarce, and limited resources were employed where they were needed most. Although it was cruel, it was also a reality.

In addition, most of the physicians in the camp were military doctors from the You army. Although they did not lack manpower, they were still very nervous. There were tens of thousands of injured and sick victims in the camp. If they spent too much energy on one or two people, it was very likely to cause the other patients with mild illnesses to worsen because of neglect.

Yin Yi said, “As we’ve taken precautions in advance, there are also related treatment methods. The epidemic hasn’t expanded and is still manageable. Currently, there are enough medicinal herbs, and the situation in the casualty camp is showing signs of improving.”

However, every day, many people still died.

“Every day, we have to gather the refugees together and burn incense medicine to avoid the plague. Every morning and night, we have to burn mugwort in every tent. We have to sprinkle sulfur mixed with wood ash and medicine to prevent the epidemic. Everyone has a bowl every day. We can’t be negligent...”

Yin Huaixi was a little worried and explained in detail again.

The refugee camp looked messy, but in terms of control, it was semi-military.

Everyone had to implement these measures strictly.

Those who disobeyed were directly thrown into the casualty camp. There was no reasoning.

After explaining, Yin Huaixi changed the topic and asked, “How long will it take until Ye Xiaoci arrives in Xi’an?”

Yin Yi reported, “About three days.”

Yin Huaixi had an idea. He said calmly, “After Ye Xiaoci arrives in Xi’an, hand over evidence that the nobles in the North illegally smuggled tea, salt, food, porcelain, and other trade items to Ye

Xiaoci. In addition, hand over the relevant evidence that the nobles skimmed on the national policy, causing the refugee camps to lack supplies, the refugees to suffer heavy injuries and deaths, and a small epidemic to break out in the refugee camps..”