

Divine 161

Chapter 161: To Punish Gu Chaoyan

Soon dozens of messy-looking and seriously-bruised men were gathered at the guards of the gate of the Gu Mansion. "We are from the stores, we need to meet Mrs. Gu!"

The guards recognized them, since they were the gang that paid tributes to the Gu Mansion every year.

At this time, the guards rushed in to pass on the message.

Mrs. Gu and Gu Ruxue were just in the middle of eating bird drop soup in a good mood. Gu Ruxue could not help but say with a small. "The son of the officer of the Ministry of Revenue is dead. The ugly girl has no one to marry now."

"See, I told you not to be worried. That bitch is always unlucky. See what happens!" Mrs. Gu showed a smile on her face. "Let's see what she is going to do now! Haha!"

Gu Ruxue nodded.

She thought inwardly that she had gotten anxious for no use. Gu Chaoyan was destined to have a worse life than her, no matter what.

Prince was getting better now, and the ugly girl got pay-back.

All had returned to what it was like before, and that made Gu Ruxue extremely pleased.

It seemed that the bird drop soup in her mouth tasted much better than usual.

"Mom, the dowries will all be mine, don't let the ugly girl take them!" Gu Ruxue said. The biggest dream of her life was to marry someone with an extraordinary status, and on their wedding day, she needed to look fantastic with lots of dowries.

"Don't worry." Mrs. Gu said determinatively.

The words had just been spoken, when Chen Fu hurried in. "Something is wrong, Madame!!!"

"Bah, what are you talking about, it is a beautiful day today!" Mrs. Gu snapped.

Chen Fu looked extremely anxious.

Something was wrong!

However, Mrs. Gu was not anxious, only he was.

A while later, Mrs. Gu finished the snack and asked slowly, "What is it, what happened?"

Chen Fu said, "The managers and salesboys of those stores are all here at the Gu Mansion, saying that Miss has driven them out! They need to get justice from you!"

"What?!" Mrs. Gu sprang up, smashing the bowl directly. "What didn't you say earlier?!"

She hurried off without hesitation.

Chen Fu looked helpless. He told them that something bad had happened, but she stopped him from saying anything.

Gu Ruxue now realized that something bad had happened.

She followed and glared at Chen Fu. "You old slave, you are going to be punished, if something goes wrong!"

Chen Fu felt his heart sink. Why was this his fault?

He sighed. Feeling helpless, he followed them out.

It was extremely chaotic at the front yard. Those managers got increasingly angry. They thought that Mrs. Gu would be able to help them get justice, so they became increasingly excited.

They hoped that Mrs. Gu would be able to punish the arrogant Miss so their anger could be vented.

They did not believe that a Miss from a mansion would dare counter Madame Gu and Mrs. Gu!

As Mrs. Gu came to them they shouted as if they saw the savior. "Miss, you have to help us!"

Chapter 162: To Punish Gu Chaoyan 2

"What is going on?!" Mrs. Gu looked furious. "Didn't I tell you to show her the accounts if she needs it. Work with her!"

She did stress this point before. She had no intention of being caught for doing anything. After all, Madame Gu was paying a lot of attention to that bitch these days.

She had some knowledge of those managers. They had become quite wild as the managers for those stores for such a long time, but didn't they learn anything from Gu Lin?

As she was speaking, those managers felt even more stricken.

Gu Hua, who was slightly more experienced than the other managers and who had a closer relationship with the Gu Family, stepped forward. "Mrs. Gu, that's not our fault. We did follow your advice and show her the accounts. But Miss. Gu's men did not even check the accounts and just got us thrown out directly. Look at our faces!" Gu Hua said with a wronged tone as he pointed at the swollen face of a salesboy.

Mrs. Gu hesitated.

They did look extremely messy. They had never been so messy before!

It must have been that bitch's fault, totally!

Bah! If that bitch was behaving over the top, she was definitely going to teach her a lesson. She turned to Chen Fu who had just arrived. "Chen Fu, go to the Pear Yard and ask Madame Gu to come here. Tell her that we need her to give us justice!"

Having said the words, Mrs. Gu became slightly cheerful. She had been holding her temper these days, but that bitch started to behave extremely arrogantly and dared to hit her men and drive them out.

How dare she conduct such a ferocious matter!

She looked forward to seeing if Madame Gu was going to defend that bitch on this occasion.

Mrs. Gu looked twisted.

Hearing that Mrs. Gu was asking Madame Gu to join them, Gu Hua was not pleased and reminded her. "Mrs. Gu, where is Miss? She has to explain something clearly to us!"

Mrs. Gu threw a look at Gu Hua and said, "Don't worry. Madame Gu is going to ask for her to come here later. Don't worry, if she dares to be so ruthless, she is going to suffer tremendously. I will make her pay double the wounds that you are suffering from."

Hearing these words Gu Hua felt assured.

Madame Gu rushed in and looked surprised at seeing those familiar faces in the yard. "What happened!"

"Your granddaughter's job!" Mrs. Gu snapped. "She got her men to drive out all of those managers from the stores. What do you think she is planning!"

"..."

"And she did not even inform us! She just went and drove out the staff. Some of them are even injured!"

"..."

"Those people are just assiduous people working at the stores. They are sparing no efforts helping us run the stores. They have even contributed a lot of revenue for us every year." Mrs. Gu put focus upon the money.

Madame Gu's face sank.

True... She did promise to give the dowries back to that girl, but that did not necessarily mean that she had the right to mess up the stores.

The Gu Mansion was depending on the stores. What would the whole mansion do if Gu Chaoyan touched them. Her son married a businessman's daughter years back just because they needed money! And now Gu Chaoyan was planning to remove them?

Madame Gu was never going to agree with it!

"Someone, get the girl from the Qiong Pavilion. I would very much like to see what this girl is planning to do!" Madame Gu's face sank. "Get Zhenkang here too. He is the master of the family, and he needs to make a decision!"

Chapter 163: Go To Lord Huai

Seeing Madam Gu's furious expression, Mrs. Gu chuckled inwardly and nodded at Gu Ruxue, who had her head lowered and showed a smile on her face.

Madame Gu was going to punish that hideous girl now!

How stupid that girl must have been to touch the Gu Family's stores, just because she had some knowledge of medicine and befriended Lord Huai!

The same old images started to emerge inside Gu Ruxue's head – Gu Chaoyan was punished and cried loudly, yet no one was begging for mercy for her sake. She expected that this time, she could be beaten to death directly, so she would never need to see this trouble any more. Gu Ruxue was the real owner of those stores. She was totally qualified to get those dowries!

As she was thinking about these, Gu Ruxue had her fist clenched.

A quarter of an hour later Chaoyan was brought by Chen Fu, followed by Sword One who had just returned from outside.

They had just arrived at the front yard, when Gu Chaoyan saw the yard full of people as well as Mrs. Gu and Gu Ruxue who had weird smiles on their faces. Madame Gu no longer looked affable but extremely angry.

"It is she who drove us out and hit the salesboys!" Gu Hua pointed at Sword One and said excitedly. He hoped so much to hit that woman back. A man like him had never been insulted like this before. "Madame Gu, you have to help us!"

Faced Gu Hua's excited accusation, Mrs. Gu stepped forward. She was trying to assure those people and leave the rest to Madame Gu. "Don't worry, we are definitely going to help you today."

Having said these words Mrs. Gu returned to the side of Madame Gu, chin up and said with a commanding and disdainful tone. "Chaoyan, you know what mistake you have conducted?"

"What mistake?" Gu Chaoyan stood calmly and countered Mrs. Gu who was causing her trouble.

She knew something about this woman after spending some days with her.

She was not a very smart person. It was just that the old Gu Chaoyan was too stupid to be out of her control.

Seeing Gu Chaoyan's sharp look, Mrs. Gu felt slightly frightened, but it was a momentary thing before she regained her state. She told herself not to be afraid of this ugly woman and continued to interrogate her. "What mistake?! You threw out those managers and hit them!"

"..."

"Do you know how much work they have done for the Gu Mansion? How dare you treat them like this!"

"..."

"You are totally ruthless!"

"..."

"I will punish you today, even if Madame Gu begs for mercy for you. Otherwise you will get even wilder in the future! We don't care if you are ruined, but we need to keep the Gu Mansion well! I will never forgive you for that!"

Gu Chaoyan looked at Mrs. Gu coldly. She smiled ironically and asked. "Auntie Gu, you are trying to help these people with justice?"

"Yes!" Mrs. Gu replied firmly.

Those managers who had been thrown out also looked at Gu Chaoyan with an ironic look, hoping to see how badly she was going to be hit.

"If that is the case, go to Lord Huai's Mansion please. It was Lord Huai's guards who drove them out."

Chapter 164: Ugly and Stupid

Mrs. Gu was about to say something when she heard the name of Lord Huai. Her face changed and she had to swallow down whatever she was about to say.

She was about to interrogate Gu Chaoyan as she glared at Gu Chaoyan fiercely with her small pairs of eyes, but Madame Gu's aged voice arose. "What is going on? Why are the Gu Family's stores related to Lord Huai?"

Those managers suddenly got silenced when they heard the word Lord Huai. They cringed subconsciously.

They would not even dare to accept the justice, even if Mrs. Gu wanted to seek it from Lord Huai. Lord Huai was famous for being cruel. He even cut off the arm of the daughter of the minister! They needed to live. They were just ordinary people who would never irritate Lord Huai.

Some managers exchanged a look with each other. They even started to think about sneaking away.

However, no one cared what they were thinking at the moment.

Madame Gu was thinking about Lord Huai as she gazed at Gu Chaoyan fixedly.

If Lord Huai was willing to accept some bribes and then offer a good job to Zhenkang, Yunxuan or Yunhe, she could leave this matter.

Money was never as important as an official position for the Gu Family.

With hands tightly clenched, Madame Gu was waiting for Gu Chaoyan to spill out whatever Lord Huai had promised.

"The stores were sold to Lord Huai!" Gu Chaoyan said calmly.

"What?!" Madame Gu shouted. "They were sold?!"

Just sold?!

Madame Gu clicked her cane. "What a terrible deed!"

"What are you messing around!" Gu Zhenkang's furious voice arose not far away.

He just got the message from Chen Fu and hurried in, fearing that something terrible would happen, but what greeted his ears was such a terrible thing.

Gu Zhenkang got so angry that his face turned red!

Those stores were the most valuable things among Mrs. Lin's dowries.

Those stores on Chang'an streets were able to guarantee the whole Gu Family would be able to splurge throughout their entire life, even if they achieved nothing in their career. But this goddamn girl sold them all. It made him extremely angry!

In the past, the reason why he, a literati would marry a daughter of a business family... was because of these stores! Only because of these stores! And now they were sold!

No wonder she was the daughter born by the bitch, a totally stupid girl! She was causing her father trouble!

He was so humiliated in front of his peers because of whom he had married. Everyone laughed at him for marrying the daughter of a business family, but now, her little bitch was causing him trouble again, and the Gu Mansion's properties!

Gu Zhenkang was extremely furious! He took a few steps forward and raised his hand.

With a loud slapping sound... the whole front yard fell silent.

Redness arose on Gu Chaoyan's left cheek. She did not move, but straightened her back. With her eyes upon Gu Zhenkang, she said coldly, "Hopefully, you won't regret what you have done today."

Sword One looked at Gu Chaoyan with a worried look on her face. She had tried to stop the move, but her Miss pulled her away.

"Regret?" Gu Zhenkang sneered. He was never going to regret a thing. "You are the daughter of a business family. You are never going to achieve anything that makes me regret."

"Oh well, I don't have a stupid and ugly daughter like you. Ruxue is my daughter, not you!"

Chapter 165: Gu Zhenkang's Plan

As Gu Ruxue was mentioned, Gu Zhenkang instantly became happy. His anger was no longer apparent.

His mother told him that Gu Chaoyan was hanging out with Lord Huai these days, so he should treat her better if he expected to get something good out of her.

He also thought about demeaning himself by treating this ugly girl better, but now...

The son of the officer of the Ministry of Revenue was dead, and her marital arrangement was gone. What was more, she ruined the stores! That was why he got rather furious!

Also...

Even if Lord Huai needed her medical skills. So what? She was just going to be nothing more than a doctor! And she was going to be ignored when she was not needed.

Ruxue was different.

Thinking of what the ambassador of Lord Ling said, Gu Zhenkang was sure that Ruxue was going to have a more promising future!

With Ruxue standing by his side he was not going to flatter that ugly girl born by the daughter of a business family. Never!

Gu Ruxue had been watching the show happily when she suddenly heard what her father said about her. She got confused. Could it have been because of Prince who just woke up? What was her father thinking about her?

Anyway, Gu Ruxue found herself back in her original position again.

She threw a look of pride to Gu Chaoyan.

Seeing the situation getting worse, Madame Gu could not sit still any more, but stood up and came to Gu Chaoyan with her cane supporting her. "Don't blame your father. He is just too anxious."

"..."

"But you should learn from this lesson too. The Gu Family have been running the stores for so many years and you sold them without telling us! I am not helping you this time, receive the punishment." Madame Gu was very displeased. "You better get those stores back!"

Gu Chaoyan was just in the middle of thinking about Gu Zhenkang's suddenly changed attitude, when she brought herself back. Hearing what Madam Gu said, she turned cold.

How shameless these people are! They really think that they are the owner of the dowries!

Getting the stores back? Never!

Since the Gu Family cared so much about the money, she could instill some hope into them. With her eyes upon Madame Gu, Gu Chaoyan said with a serious tone. "I am never getting anything back from Lord Huai."

"..."

"But Lord Huai would not treat us badly. We sold the stores to him, so he offered something profitable back. Lord Huai is going to use the stores to open a restaurant, and half of the revenue will belong to us."

"..."

"Just think about it, Madame Gu. Those stores were running a bleak business before..."

"..."

"Now we are working with Lord Huai. Do you think that he will earn less money than us?"

"..."

Gu Chaoyan said those tempting words.

That moved Madam Gu as well.

When the Lin Family lost the position as the imperial business family, the Gu Mansion lost its supporters. Those stores could not be developed well without supporters... so Lord Huai's involvement was definitely going to boost up the revenue!

"He is really offering half of the income?" Madame Gu asked.

"Yes."

"That sounds good." Madame Gu became expectant again. If the Gu Family could get enough money, they could use the money to help Zhenkang to get some promotion in career.

Then she glared at Gu Zhenkang, suggesting that he should not lecture Gu Chaoyan any more.

Gu Zhenkang snorted, leaving Gu Chaoyan alone.

Since the issue of the stores was solved, Madame Gu asked Gu Chaoyan to go back to her pavilion first and leave Mrs. Gu to deal with the rest.

Then she asked Gu Zhenkang to join her in the room.

The moment they stepped into the room, she asked her son seriously, "What is wrong with you? I told you to treat the girl nicely, otherwise she would not help you in the future!"

Chapter 166: Some Words

Facing the serious-looking Madame Gu, Gu Zhenkang did not show weakness or uneasiness. Instead, he smiled. "Mom, don't worry. Lord Huai is just favoring the ugly girl because of her medical skills, not for her looks or intelligence. So she is not going to become anyone extraordinary in the future either. If she wants to run a business, just let her. The money ends up being ours, anyway, right?"

"..."

"We need to pay attention to Ruxue!"

"..."

"Guess who came to me today?"

"..."

"The ambassador of Lord Ling! He was here asking us about Ruxue's marital arrangement!" Gu Zhenkang said with an expression of satisfaction. Ruxue was doing so well for him. They had never met Lord Ling before, but now Lord Ling was asking the family about her marriage. That basically meant that they had the intention of establishing one with them!

Who was Lord Ling!

He was the son of the King, one of the most likely people to inherit the throne! He was far better than a minor Prince!

If only Ruxue could marry him....

Gu Zhenkang just could not believe how much glory the Gu Mansion was going to get.

“Really? How did Lord Ling get to know about Ruxue?” Madame Gu was confused yet joyful. If that was the case...

Madame Gu smiled brightly.

“That sounds wonderful. We do need to pay attention to Ruxue! I will get her some more ornaments and make her some more dresses, and...” Madame Gu was thinking for the long term. “Get an educated aunt to teach Ruxue some manners. It would be great!”

“...”

“Saint College is recruiting again in a few days. Get Ruxue to try the entrance examination. We never thought about her getting enrolled there, but with Saint College as part of her background, Ruxue is going to have an even more promising future.” Madame Gu started to take everything into consideration.

Gu Zhenkang agreed with all of these suggestions. They had to get ready for those things as soon as possible.

The more he thought about this, the more excited he became. “I will go and get that done!”

Madame Gu nodded with satisfaction. “Just do that.”

Hearing what Madam Gu said, Gu Zhenkang just could not be seated any more. He rushed towards the Begonia Yard and ran into Gu Ruxue who was about to go out.

“Where are you going?” Gu Zhenkang asked in confusion.

“I am visiting the Prince.” Gu Ruxue confessed. She had noticed how father was treating her a minute ago, so she thought that it must have been Prince who had woken up from the coma. So she had to spare some time to visit Prince.

Hearing these words Gu Zhenkang did not get angry.

The two were still in a marital affair, although the date was not yet set and the formal exchange process had not been done.

It was proper of Ruxue to visit the Prince, but...

It should not work in this way now.

Gu Zhenkang waved at Gu Ruxue. “Ruxue, come, I have a few words to share with you.”

Gu Ruxue looked confused, but she still followed him in.

Mrs. Gu was there too. “What is going on?”

The first thing Gu Zhenkang said the moment he sat down was – “Ruxue, don’t visit Prince any more.”

“Why!” Gu Ruxue was confused. “Me and Prince are arranged to get married. Why am I forbidden to meet him?”

Gu Zhenkang showed a smile and waved his hand at Gu Ruxue's confused face. He calmed her down and said, "Because you are getting a better arrangement in the future."

A better arrangement?

Hearing this, Gu Ruxue was overjoyed and asked. "With whom?"

Chapter 167: Gu Ruxue's Happiness

She had not been happy to see Officer Zhao making a proposal to Gu Chaoyan. She was the prettiest girl, with both looks and intelligence, in the whole city – why was Gu Chaoyan the ugly girl able to marry the son of an officer of the Ministry of Revenue whilst she was marrying the Prince of Duke Changning who had no actual power?!

Now, hearing that someone better was making a proposal, Gu Ruxue got excited and then turned to her father.

Mrs. Gu was pleased too, to hear that a better marriage arrangement was around the corner. "Old Master, is it a son of some important ministers?"

Mrs. Gu started to consider which young masters of those families were at a proper age.

Seeing Mrs. Gu's inquiring look as well as his daughter's... Gu Zhenkang felt that for the first time in his life, he was considered great in the whole mansion. He could not help but feel proud. He shook his head and said, "No."

"No?" Mrs. Gu looked surprised and mumbled confusedly. "What else could it be?"

Gu Ruxue's expectant face sank.

Seeing his daughter's disappointment, Gu Zhenkang gave up his intention of keeping the matter concealed. He said proudly, "It is Lord Ling!"

Flop... a teacup was dropped to the ground.

Gu Ruxue took a step forward over the broken teacup and grabbed Gu Zhenkang's sleeves, asking excitedly, "Is that true, dad? You are not lying to me, are you?!"

Lord Ling! Lord Ling was the King's son! He was a lord!

Oh god, Gu Ruxue was having such great luck!

Lord Ling was falling for her?! So she was going to the Princess, or even the potential Queen?!

Gu Ruxue's hands were shaking as she thought about the promising future awaiting for her.

Mrs. Gu's eyes were open wide. She still could not believe what happened. She asked after a long while, "Is that true?!"

"Of course." Gu Zhenkang appeared calm, even though he was excited too. "Madame Gu said that we are hiring some mentors to teach you zither, chess, calligraphy and painting as well as the imperial manners."

“...”

“You are also taking the Saint College examination too.”

“...”

“It would look good if you are studying at Saint College. We did not think it was necessary, but now we think it is a step to take.”

As he was speaking... Gu Zhenkang suddenly thought of something.

Ruxue and Prince had been hanging out these days, and he was worried that Ruxue would not understand the importance because of the affection they had developed.

Therefore, he reminded her. “Ruxue, you are never to meet Prince, got it?”

“Of course.” Gu Ruxue said with a firm tone, “Dad, I am not stupid. If I can marry Lord Ling, I will never ever see Prince again.”

Hearing these words, Gu Zhenkang was quite assured.

That was what his daughter should be like, someone who thought thoroughly and discreetly, and who could tell the good from the bad.

He let out a sigh of relief.

Gu Zhenkang looked at Mrs. Gu and Gu Ruxue with satisfaction on his face.

It had been a good choice to marry Mrs. Gu.

If his wife had been the unimportant Mrs. Lin, Lord Ling would never marry Gu Zhenkang’s daughter. After all, Lord Ling was never going to like a girl born in a business family.

At this time, he showed a joyful look at Mrs. Gu. Her father might have a minor position in the court, but at least it was a position in the court! He said to Mrs. Gu with a gentle tone, “I will join you in the yard tonight.”

Chapter 168: Into the Mountains

When the store errands were done Gu Chaoyan could not wait, but went into the mountains to seek some herbs. She had realized that her space was rapidly getting wider these days. She had to plant some herbs to avoid wasting the space.

Therefore, the following day, she together with Sword One and Sword Two decided to go into the mountains.

Qing was asked to stay in the Qiong Pavilion. She did not want to bring Qing alongside with her, because she was afraid that the trip into the mountains would be very exhausting. If some monsters appeared, the weak Qing could not even defend herself. So she let her stay.

She had been thinking about letting Sword One teach her some martial arts, so that she would not put herself in danger by being next to her.

If Qing was not willing to learn kungfu, she was going to advise her to learn some business management. She decided to let her take care of the restaurant.

However, for now, Qing had nowhere else to go apart from the Qiong Pavilion.

Qing was an obedient, so she was not against that order at all.

Gu Chaoyan left together with Sword One and Sword Two.

They had just walked a few steps when Sword One noticed something wrong. "Miss, did you notice that many more people are coming in and out of the mansion these days?"

Gu Chaoyan nodded. She found it curious too.

Chen Fu was just passing by so Gu Chaoyan stopped him. "Housekeeper Chen Fu, excuse me."

Hearing her voice, Chen Fu asked with courtesy. "What can I do for you, Miss?"

Gu Chaoyan looked about and asked in confusion. "Who are these people?"

When asked Chen Fu replied honestly. "These are all teachers hired by the Old Master. They are going to teach the Second Lady. She is going to take the entrance examination for Saint College this year."

Taking the examination of Saint College? What was Gu Ruxue thinking about? Wasn't she going to marry the Prince? Why did she have to take the examination?

Gu Chaoyan shook her head, not understanding the point of it.

"Alright. You can continue with your business now." Gu Chaoyan said instead of digging into this matter.

Chen Fu on the other hand, opened his mouth and was about to say something yet could not.

In the end, he let out a light sigh. Then he left.

Gu Chaoyan looked at Chen Fu's back figure. During the past few days, she found Chen Fu to be a nice man. She was thinking about getting him to her side, so he could become one of her team members instead.

However, she would think about this matter later. Right now, going into the mountains was the most important thing.

They got a wagon from the Gu Mansion. Sword Two was working as the horseman, so no one else tagged along.

At this time, no one was paying attention to Gu Chaoyan. The whole Gu Family was in the middle of ecstasy.

Mount Maiji was the highest peak in the capital city, located in the outskirts. The reason why Gu Chaoyan chose this as the destination was because she would like to see what was growing on the mountains of the Saint Divine Land.

The wagon had just left the capital city when it stopped.

Gu Chaoyan had no idea what had just happened, so she lifted the curtain and checked out of the window.

A purple silhouette sneaked into the wagon, exchanging seats with Sword One.

When Gu Chaoyan realized what happened, only she and Zhou Huaijin were left inside.

“What are you doing here?” Gu Chaoyan asked calmly. Someone from the four guards must have sneaked the information to him. Otherwise he would not have known about it from anywhere else.

“I am worried about the danger you might run into in the mountains. So I am keeping you company.”

Chapter 169: The Poisonous Herbs

Gu Chaoyan’s eyes fell upon Zhou Huaijin’s. He looked very sincere as he said to Gu Chaoyan. “The mountains are located in the capital city, but the deeper we go, the more dangerous it would get. There are beasts and monsters appearing here and there too. Actually, many people got bitten to death by the beasts a couple of months ago.”

Gu Chaoyan flushed, but hearing what Zhou Huaijin said, Gu Chaoyan stopped being shy and said, “Really?”

Zhou Huaijin nodded.

The deceased were just ordinary people. No officers in the government cared about who they were specifically, but he found the whole thing peculiar.

So when Yan decided to get into the mountains, he hurried to catch up to her, hoping to keep her safe.

“No one except hunters dare to go into the mountains these years. So I was really worried about you,” Zhou Huaijin said.

Gu Chaoyan wanted very much to tell him that she was not afraid of beasts, since she herself was quite skilled in kung fu, but she swallowed the words at the sight of Zhou Huaijin’s sincere expression.

She stretched out her hands and gripped his. “We are going to be fine.”

Zhou Huaijin put his other hand upon hers and then kissed the chubby, fair-skinned hand of hers.

That warm touch made Gu Chaoyan withdraw her hand directly. She protested with a small voice. “Please don’t be like this.”

Now, she was not willing to place her hand into his any more.

With his eyes upon her, Zhou Huaijin chuckled.

Finally they arrived at Mount Maiji.

Gu Chaoyan felt that being with Zhou Huaijin alone in the wagon, the temperature inside was extremely high. Yet as they got off the wagon and faced the mountain in front of them, the air cooled down.

The next second, a hand wrapped around her waist and held Gu Chaoyan, as he said, “Let’s go and check it out while it is still bright outside.”

Gu Chaoyan froze. Feeling bashful... she removed Zhou Huaijin's hand. "Sword One and everyone are here."

"They are not watching us." Zhou Huaijin said seriously.

Gu Chaoyan looked at them... Sure enough, Sword One and Sword Two had their heads lowered.

Gu Chaoyan rolled her eyes. "Who are you working for anyway? You are not defending me at all! I miss Qing so much. She always treats me nicely!"

Unfortunately, Qing was not martially skilled.

Zhou Huaijin was busy thinking which one of his friends was the same age as Qing, so that he could arrange a marriage between that person and Qing.

As he was thinking Gu Chaoyan already started to walk into the mountains.

Zhou Huaijin caught up with them directly.

Those people were highly skilled. They walked really fast in the mountains.

Gu Chaoyan had been used to picking these herbs in her previous life, so she wasted no time in getting whatever she needed. Apart from some ordinary herbs with no effects, Gu Chaoyan harvested most of the herbs she had seen.

Even Zhou Huaijin asked with disbelief as he looked at a stream. "Yan, how did you know there are things you need there!"

As he was asking her, Gu Chaoyan was digging up the herbs discreetly and passed them to Sword Two.

"It is a stream covered by tall grass. So the animals in the mountains never come to this place. The reason why they don't come near to this place, is probably because the grass is poisonous. That's how I found them."

Hearing the word "poisonous", Sword One shivered and almost dropped the herbs.

Chapter 170: Gu Ruxue's Irony

Gu Chaoyan was fast enough to catch the dropping herbs. Then she looked at Sword One with an amused look. "Are you so scared of death? Don't worry, you won't get sick as long as you don't eat them."

Sword One accepted the herbs after hearing what she said, but still threw a scared look at that herb.

Sword Two stayed far away from the herbs.

Seeing Sword Two's expression, Gu Chaoyan wanted very much to tell him that he had numerous poisonous herbs in his hands too, and those herbs were even more scary than those in Sword One's hands, but seeing Sword Two's scared expression, Gu Chaoyan decided to keep that a secret.

Otherwise she would have to carry everything by herself as they walked down.

She had harvested a great deal on this trip. The mountain was legendary and many things were growing there, much more than what she could find in her previous life.

Gu Chaoyan was just about to suggest going downhill, when a shadow came rushing towards them.

Zhou Huaijin instantly picked Gu Chaoyan up and flew up into the top of the tree next to them.

Sword One and Sword Two grabbed the swords and rushed towards the shadow. Standing at such a high point, Gu Chaoyan saw what the shadow was clearly – a wild boar.

Gu Chaoyan gasped at the sight of the boar.

It was such a... Such a big boar!

No wonder some people were bitten to death by beasts.

This wild boar was exactly such a beast.

However, it was not normal to see such a strange-looking wild boar. Something bad must be going on.

However Gu Chaoyan just could not figure out what had gone wrong.

As she was gazing at the beast, she felt something hitting her head.

The moment her head was hit, she caught the thing that hit her head and observed it carefully – it was an egg.

???

“This is indeed a strange mountain. The wild boar is so big, so is the bird’s egg.” Gu Chaoyan said emotionally at the sight of the extremely huge egg in her hands.

Haha.

Zhou Huaijin could not help but laugh. Yan looked serious in daily life, but she was actually so funny.

He touched her head. “You are destined to have this egg, I think. Keep it.”

Gu Chaoyan nodded. She wondered what was going to come out of this huge egg. She was not leaving it in the mountain, whether it was destiny’s call or not.

She put the egg into the bag she had brought with her.

A while later Sword One and Sword Two finished the wild boar.

Worried that something else was coming behind it, Zhou Huaijin suggested directly. “Let’s go home.”

Gu Chaoyan agreed, seeing that she was almost done with the herb harvesting.

She was also worried that the egg inside her bag would be smashed by accident.

Zhou Huaijin left as he saw her arriving at the gate of the Gu Mansion.

Gu Chaoyan entered the Gu Mansion with Sword One and Sword Two and found that it was quite lively inside. Gu Chaoyan was in a hurry to see Qing so she ignored the liveliness and headed directly to her residence.

She had just walked a few steps when Gu Chaoyan saw Gu Ruxue and Huo Wei coming towards her.

As far as she could remember... after the banquet held at the Huo Family, Huo Wei stopped hanging out with Gu Ruxue. What was she doing here?

However, she did not really care about what these two people were doing here.

She was about to turn and leave, when Gu Ruxue stopped her. "I heard from Weiwei that you are taking the examination to Saint College too?"

"And that you have a bet with County Princess Anxi?"

"Sister, I have to tell you the truth. There is no need for you to take the examination. What is more, what are you capable of? Don't humiliate yourself and our family in front of the public!"

"You better find a chance to apologize to County Princess Anxi so that she can forgive you. Otherwise I won't be able to save you at all when the time comes."