

## Divine 1721

### Chapter 1721 Young Head's Idea 2

He even stationed a few guards outside, ensuring that no one could eavesdrop on their conversations. Living in such close proximity to Piaomiao Pavilion, they remained uncertain if the eyes of Piaomiao Pavilion were constantly monitoring them. Although they had reached an agreement with Piaomiao Pavilion previously, their values and affiliations were distinct. Thus, caution was essential when dealing with them. Snow Territory, on the other hand, had no interest in resorting to such tactics.

With everything settled, the Elder Man from the Cangyan Door entered the room, exuding a sense of reassurance.

Spotting Mu Ning, he inquired, "Young Head, please enlighten us with your plan."

Mu Ning nodded.

This was not a plan he had meticulously devised over an extended period.

A few days ago, Piaomiao Pavilion approached them with a proposal for collaboration. Believing that Piaomiao Pavilion had devised a flawless plan to extract Golden Rolls from Phoenix Girl, they agreed to join forces. The Cangyan Door had maintained a low profile, but secretly cooperated with Piaomiao Pavilion.

However...

Now that Piaomiao Pavilion, the Cangyan Door, and Snow Territory were all gathered at the hostel...

He delved deep into the matter, contemplating the dynamics between the new King, Phoenix Girl, and Piaomiao Pavilion's expulsion. It became evident that Phoenix Girl held no respect for Piaomiao Pavilion and was unaffected by their attempts to intimidate her. On the contrary, her disdain for Piaomiao Pavilion grew stronger.

In light of this realization, he began to question whether or not he had made the right decision.

Evidently, he had made a grave mistake.

Collaborating with Piaomiao Pavilion had been a wrong decision.

Now, he needed to find a way to rectify the situation.

He must sever ties with Piaomiao Pavilion entirely.

Fortunately, the Cangyan Door hadn't directly involved themselves, so there might still be hope in their relationship with Phoenix Girl.

"Do you recall when Piaomiao Pavilion stirred up chaos in the capital by unleashing their captive monsters? We had anticipated that Phoenix Girl would offer the Golden Rolls to seek our assistance, didn't we?"

"...."I think you should take a look at

"However, Snow Territory chose to publicly support Phoenix Girl."

"...."

"Snow Territory and Piaomiao Pavilion have a totally different standing point."

"...."

"Piaomiao Pavilion is the top school, but it is falling. What about standing by Phoenix Girl's side, just like Snow Territory."

"...."

"Phoenix Girl appears impervious to threats. So why not establish a friendship with her? Even if we don't acquire the Golden Rolls in the end, there's a chance that Phoenix Girl might lend us assistance in the future. She is unlike anyone else."

Mu Ning spoke.

That was precisely why, despite Piaomiao Pavilion's disdain for Phoenix Girl, they refrained from causing her harm.

The Elder Men exchanged glances, understanding the intention behind their Young Head's words. They were inclined to extend goodwill towards Phoenix Girl.

That sounded like a promising idea.

Despite their numerous strategic calculations, they had yet to obtain the coveted Golden Rolls.

Considering their recent relocation from the court to the hostel, it was likely that Phoenix Girl had influenced this decision as well.

In light of the circumstances, why not display their friendly attitudes towards Phoenix Girl? This way, Phoenix Girl would owe the Cangyan Door a favor that could be leveraged in the future.

After all, that was precisely the approach taken by Snow Territory.

Chapter 1722 Young Head's Idea 3

"Young Head, I believe that is a splendid idea," the Elder Man declared, receiving unanimous nods of agreement from the others.

However, in the midst of their discussion, a sudden realization struck the Elder Man.

"Oh, I just recalled something," he interjected. "My messenger informed me that the Saint Divine Land intends to establish a Shiling Palace. They plan to gather all the civilians and encourage them to train and practice. Those who exhibit talent will be allowed to stay, while those who lack aptitude will be directed to the Shadow Door to pursue martial arts."

"...."

"Maybe we can offer some help to Phoenix Girl about Shilling Palace!"

"...."

"That timing couldn't be more perfect," Mu Ning remarked, looking at the Elder Man and nodding in agreement.

It seemed like a fitting opportunity for the Cangyan Door to lend their expertise. With centuries of practice and experience, they could offer valuable guidance to the people of the Saint Divine Land. By doing so, they would earn the gratitude of both the Saint Divine Land and Phoenix Girl.

Truly, it was an exceptional chance.

"Elder Man, be vigilant. We must express our willingness the moment this opportunity arises," Mu Ning stated firmly.

The Elder Man nodded.

He got that totally.

Only a select few ministers within the court were privy to the existence of the Shiling Palace, and they were preparing to enter the court for an official visit once the news became public.

They eagerly awaited its unveiling, hoping that it would occur soon. Having been away from home for an extended period, they were eager to fulfill their mission promptly.

With the arrangements in place, the Cangyan Door experienced a mixture of anxiety and reassurance. Consequently, they began making necessary preparations within the hostel.

In the northern courtyard, members of Snow Territory had gathered, their expressions reflecting embarrassment and unease. I think you should take a look at

Their presence near the borders of the Saint Divine Land necessitated a heightened level of security.

Ouyang Mingjing skillfully arranged the guards and guided them back to the room, ensuring their safety.

As he settled into the room, he retrieved a small box that he had carried with him. Inside rested a pristine snow lotus flower, a relic from the icy realms of Snow Territory that had been preserved for thousands of years. Ouyang Mingjing had intended to present it to Phoenix Girl as an engagement gift. Yet, despite the passage of time, the flower remained untouched, nestled carefully within the confines of the box, cradled in his hands.

As Longqing observed Ouyang Mingjing's distracted gaze fixated on the snow lotus flower, a sigh escaped his lips.

"Mr. Head, what course of action should we take?" he inquired, with a tone tinged with concern.

Ouyang Mingjing carefully closed the box, placing it on the table. He then walked toward the window, gazing into the distance.

"We must exercise patience for just a while longer. The time has come for our plans to unfold. Phoenix Girl will have no choice but to accompany us to Snow Territory," Ouyang Mingjing declared, his tone notably cold. "Longqing, return to Snow Territory and bring additional guards. We will ensure that Phoenix Girl is brought back to Snow Territory."

"Yes"

Within a mere day, tranquility settled over both the capital and the court of the Saint Divine Land.

Guests found residence in the hostels, while the court underwent thorough cleaning. Lord Huai efficiently managed all affairs, ensuring everything was in proper order. Military officers and covert guards from the Shadow Door patrolled the streets, instilling a sense of security that emboldened even the most apprehensive individuals to venture outside.

Simultaneously, Lord Huai's ascension to the position of King was widely accepted.

Amidst uncertain times, the populace yearned for a protector who hailed from the imperial lineage, someone capable of safeguarding them and upholding the royal legacy.

At Xunyang's Palace.

Chapter 1723 - Threat Again 1

Wuxing strained his neck, attempting to catch a glimpse of Lingyun within the enclosed walls of Xunyang's Palace. When Lingyun resided at Xinlin Mansion with Phoenix Girl, Wuxing had a good understanding of the layout there. However, with Lord Huai assuming the throne, Phoenix Girl had chosen to remain within the court instead.

While he was unfamiliar with this particular palace, Wuxing possessed a comprehensive knowledge of the court's layout. He knew the areas where he could evade the watchful eyes of the concealed Shadow Door guards.

Although the court of the Saint Divine Land was heavily guarded, Wuxing, with his extensive training, found it relatively easy to become acquainted with the surroundings. He held great confidence in his ability to move about unnoticed. Therefore, as he traversed Xunyang's Palace, he was certain that no one was aware of his presence.

Although not a grand palace, it had once belonged to Princess Xunyang.

Observing Lingyun emerging from one of the rooms, Wuxing took note of her whereabouts.

Wuxing's eyes gleamed with anticipation as he swiftly descended and swept up Lingyun, finding shelter beneath a nearby pavilion.

Surprisingly, Lingyun remained remarkably composed, her demeanor calm and collected. She turned to Wuxing, speaking softly but with a clear understanding of his intentions.

She was well aware of the purpose behind his presence here.



Although Wuxing had been confident in his ability to move stealthily, believing he had gone unnoticed, the truth was that hidden guards had been diligently observing his every move since he entered the court.

These covert guards had been monitoring him all along.

This knowledge was not lost on Lingyun. She had anticipated Wuxing's arrival precisely because of their vigilant surveillance. As a result, she displayed no signs of anxiety or distress.

"What do you want from me?" Lingyun asked calmly.

"Lingyun, what is happening?" Wuxing's voice cracked with frustration as he confronted her. "You didn't lift a finger to assist us during our confrontation with Phoenix Girl yesterday. It was humiliating! Now, Piaomiao Pavilion has taken up residence in the hostel, making it incredibly challenging for us to achieve anything. You've single-handedly ruined my plan!" Wuxing's anger seethed within him, and he couldn't contain his disappointment in Lingyun's lack of support.

Wuxing's frustration only intensified upon witnessing Lingyun's unwavering composure. Though he no longer displayed the same disdain as before, a sense of discontent lingered within him. However, he had an overwhelming sensation that if he didn't take immediate action, he would face significant hardships.

"Qianji Elderly Man has already blamed me!" Wuxing's voice trembled with anxiety and desperation. "If this continues, Qianji Elderly Man will become even more dissatisfied with me. If he loses faith in me, Liuxing will replace me, and I'll lose my standing at Piaomiao Pavilion. Lingyun, have you ever truly cared about me?"

” “...”

Wuxing’s voice quivered with a hint of despair as he expressed his concerns to Lingyun. “I can’t even present myself to the Head. If things continue to go awry, I won’t be able to arrange a proper wedding for you. You know that this is something women care about deeply, and I’m sure you don’t want to have any regrets in that regard, do you?”

“...”

“Lingyun, our well-being is interlinked. If I am not doing well, it will affect both of us. Can’t you understand that?” Wuxing’s words carried a forceful tone.

However, as he spoke, he became aware of his own intensity.

He recognized her vulnerability and understood that she was not as resilient as she once was.

Chapter 1724 Threat Again 2

He would not want this to happen with opposite effects. As he noticed that, he tried to console her by saying with a softer tone.

"Lingyun, I apologize for my impatience. It's my fault for being so anxious. I know you've been gone for three years, and I've been worried that you might leave me. That's why I've been pushing so hard to gain trust from the Head and to expedite our marriage. I want nothing more than to start a family together with you as soon as possible."

"..."

"When we get married, I promise things will be different. I'll prioritize our time together and turn down some tasks from the Head. You've always wished for me to have more free time, and I'm determined to make that happen. And with Golden Rolls, everything will be possible,"

Wuxing's gaze filled with adoration as he spoke.

His words carried a genuine and sincere tone.

Lingyun, in her calm and composed demeanor, listened attentively to Wuxing's speech.

She would have cheered for this and even got herself ready to do whatever it took for their future together.

He had not been this sincere when he needed something of her before.

But...

Hearing him saying this...

Lingyun had no stir in heart.

Lingyun's heart was filled with skepticism as she pondered Wuxing's words. She couldn't bring herself to trust his contradictory statements.

Deep down, she understood that he was a man driven by his own ambitions, and his true intention might not be solely focused on their happiness as a couple.

It appeared that his primary goal was to prevent Liuxing from surpassing him, and he seemed willing to go to great lengths, even causing harm, to achieve this objective.

Lingyun was sneering inside his heart.

"I got it. I will try my best. I am new to Phoenix Girl, and I can't just do anything like this in public. Just wait a little longer." Lingyun said, expressionlessly.

But hearing this, Wuxing felt as if he had got a promise. His eyes were sparkling.

"Are you sure?" Wuxing asked.

"Yeah." I think you should take a look at

Lingyun looked at him, answering.

He was really aware of she had always been like, so even if he heard a cold and casual answer, he still believed that it was true.

Very good.

That was indeed good.

In this case...

She believed that she was going to watch his heart broken and falling into utter misery.

Lingyun looked at Wuxing in satisfaction.

But Wuxing was too elated to notice any of this.

He and Lingyun had reached an agreement, but he still remembered Qianji's words. He had to find a way to bring Lingyun to Qianji.

Despite their extensive conversations, Wuxing couldn't reveal everything to Lingyun. Therefore, he relied on Qianji to handle the task.

With this in mind, Wuxing suggested, "Qianji, the Elderly Man, wishes to meet you. I'll discreetly escort you to him, and you can return afterward."

"..."

"Don't worry, Qianji, the Elderly Man, is a trustworthy individual. Despite his imposing demeanor, he has no intention of causing you harm. He simply wishes to ask you a few questions, that's all."

"...."

"Follow me closely, and we'll avoid the concealed guards," Wuxing whispered, gesturing towards the path he had taken to arrive.

Lingyun nodded, acknowledging the invitation. She was curious about what Qianji, the Elderly Man, had to say to her.

Piaomiao Pavilion had been cunning all along, and without the protection of the Golden Rolls, they were capable of many devious deeds. Lingyun was determined not to let them harm Elder Miss.

Wuxing led her out of the courtyard, ensuring their swift departure.

Chapter 1725 Threat Again 3

Instead of heading directly to the hostel in the Saint Divine Land, they veered off their path and found themselves in a narrow alleyway adjacent to the hostel. Qianji Elderly Man awaited them beneath a tree, unaccompanied by any visible guards.

Qianji had faithfully served Piaomiao Pavilion for countless centuries, yet his appearance defied his age, resembling that of an ordinary elderly man who appeared surprisingly youthful.

Lingyun, not naturally inclined towards cultivation, possessed limited knowledge about the practice.

However, her extensive time spent alongside Wuxing at Piaomiao Pavilion had granted her some insights. Qianji's youthful appearance despite his advanced age implied an exceptional level of cultivation, undoubtedly placing him in a prestigious position within their ranks.

Individuals like Qianji, holding such status, would seldom engage in personal conversations with someone like Lingyun, even though she had aided them indirectly in the past.

Yet, today seemed to be an exception to the norm.

It seemed that Elder Miss had successfully taken control of Piaomiao Pavilion, as Lingyun found herself in an unexpectedly cheerful mood.

The fact that even someone like Qianji appeared uncertain indicated that Piaomiao Pavilion must be in a state of turmoil and despair.

Wuxing accompanied Lingyun as they approached Qianji. With a request, Qianji said to Wuxing, "There is a delightful pastry shop at the end of the street. Please go there and purchase some pastries for Lingyun to take home."

Wuxing nodded and departed, following Qianji's instructions.

Before long, only Qianji and Lingyun remained in the alley.

Lingyun wasn't foolish enough to overlook the fact that an agreement had likely been reached between the two of them long before this meeting took place.

If Wuxing genuinely cared about her, he wouldn't have turned and left her alone to face Qianji. After all, Wuxing was the one person who understood Qianji's true nature.

Because of these, Lingyun had seen through Wuxing.

Those were something she failed to see in the past.

Qianji sank his face. "Wuxing told me that when you go back to Piaomiao Pavilion, you will get married, and the wedding will be huge?"

" "..."

"Normally, you did spend a lot of time together, and a huge wedding should be arranged."I think you should take a look at

" "..."

"But Wuxing has no parents, and I am now speaking with you on behalf of his parents. I am sure you know who Wuxing is, the most excellent disciple in Piaomiao Pavilion. But you can't even practice."

" ...."



"But for he who insists, I don't expect that he would marry you by demeaning himself."

" "..."

"Marrying you only gives him trouble." Qianji said with a serious look.

" "..."

"But he promised to me that you can help us get Golden Rolls. After this is done, he will go to the Head and beg him for your alliance."

" "..."

"In this way, I will have a way to stop him."

" "..."

"I am asking for a meeting with you, because I want to tell you about what is going on here with Wuxing, so you won't push the burden or blame on him alone."

" "..."

"Perform well with Golden Rolls, or I will truly stop you from getting married. I never fail at anything once I set out to do it at Piaomiao Pavilion. I think you know that well."

" "..."

"Wuxing adores you. But I won't let you do whatever you want!"

"Oh yeah? In that case..."

Chapter 1726 Threat Again 4

"After careful contemplation, I have come to the realization that I am unworthy of Wuxing. My perceived inadequacy and the belief that I would only hinder his progress once we are married have led me to reconsider our union. It would be more appropriate for Wuxing to seek a partner who truly complements him, someone whom you, Qianji Elderly Man, believe would be a suitable match. I have full confidence in your ability to arrange such a connection for him. In fact, if you undertake this task, I am prepared to step aside willingly".

Lingyun spoke with remarkable candor, devoid of any lingering emotions. Her resolute tone conveyed a sense of unwavering determination.

Anticipating Lingyun's reaction, Qianji had prepared a string of words to unsettle her, hoping to instigate a sense of urgency and prompt her to take action swiftly.

But...

To his dismay, Qianji realized that his attempt at intimidation had backfired, causing Lingyun to contemplate quitting altogether.

Had he made a grave mistake?

No, he couldn't have!

Lingyun possessed a spirited nature and a profound desire to reunite with Wuxing, which had persisted for years. She was willing to heed Wuxing's guidance unconditionally.

How could she abandon her aspirations after spending just a few days with Phoenix Girl?

Qianji felt a surge of panic. He feared that his actions might jeopardize the entire situation, observing the unfolding events before him.

He knew he couldn't afford to employ harsh words.

Approaching Lingyun, he looked at her intently and softened his tone. "I never meant to imply that you should give up on marrying Wuxing. On the contrary, if you assist us in obtaining Phoenix Girl's Golden Rolls, you would contribute greatly to our cause. Once accomplished, you will have proven yourself worthy of marrying him. In fact, you would be the most deserving individual to become his life partner. Your wedding will be a magnificent and grand affair, befitting of your exceptional journey together!"

"..."

"There is little you need to do. Simply engage in a conversation with Phoenix Girl regarding Piaomiao Pavilion and speak favorably of our organization. Afterwards, Wuxing will guide you on

what to say to effectively influence Phoenix Girl's thoughts," Qianji explained, emphasizing the simplicity of the task.

"...."I think you should take a look at

"It's quite straightforward, isn't it? If you perform well, marrying Wuxing becomes a viable possibility. Sounds appealing, doesn't it?" Qianji tempted Lingyun with a persuasive tone.

"What if Phoenix Girl doesn't appreciate me expressing these sentiments?" Lingyun countered, expressing her concerns.

"No, she won't. And even if she does, it's inconsequential. Phoenix Girl may choose to distance herself, but rest assured, Piaomiao Pavilion will offer you protection," Qianji responded impatiently, determined to convince Lingyun of her importance.

If she couldn't be utilized for this purpose, she would be deemed entirely useless.

"I need some time to consider," Lingyun replied, her uncertainty evident.

Qianji massaged his temples, feeling a sharp headache coming on.

Lingyun seemed to be spiraling out of control, deviating from their intended plan.

After making a promise to Wuxing, Lingyun felt a sense of urgency to fulfill her commitment.

Impatiently, Wuxing approached Qianji and Lingyun, inquiring, "What's going on?"

Lingyun, sounding distressed and appearing deeply troubled, responded, "It's nothing. I need to go home now. I've been away for too long."

Wuxing found her sudden distress puzzling.

Glancing at Qianji, he received a subtle gesture indicating that he should accompany Lingyun home first.

Wuxing escorted Lingyun all the way back to Xunyang's Palace, but she didn't even glance at him or engage in any conversation, seemingly devoid of any lingering emotions.

Wuxing found her behavior exceedingly peculiar. Thus, after returning to the hostel, he sought out Qianji directly, seeking clarification on the situation.

Chapter 1727 New Queen 1

"What on earth happened?" Wuxing asked anxiously, his concern evident. "We were on good terms earlier, and she even agreed. But why did she become so saddened after your conversation with her, Qianji Elderly Man? What did you say to her?"

"Nothing! Just about the Golden Rolls. I urged her not to jeopardize the mission," Qianji responded angrily.

Everything had gone awry!

Qianji had lowered himself to engage in conversation with Lingyun, but it seemed to have backfired.

Lingyun was now at a loss, uncertain of what course of action to take.

"Wuxing, you must keep a close eye on her. You claimed she would do anything for you, but I am not so sure," Qianji advised with a touch of skepticism.

"..."

"She actually mentioned that you could marry someone else if things didn't work out between you," Qianji revealed.

"What? That can't be true! Did she really say that?" Wuxing asked, his eyes widening in disbelief.

Qianji Elderly Man was cunning and manipulative, but he never lied about trivial matters.

Lingyun no longer wanted to marry him?

In the past, no matter what challenges they faced or what others said about their compatibility, Lingyun had remained resolute in her decision.

What had changed?

Wuxing suddenly felt a deep sense of unease in his heart.

It wasn't about the Golden Rolls anymore; it was a feeling of emptiness. He sensed that something was amiss.

Lingyun shouldn't be behaving like this.

"I'll go to her," Wuxing declared, turning to leave and confront Lingyun directly.

But Qianji stopped him. "Not now. Women need time to calm down. Go to her when she realizes she is no longer indispensable."

Wuxing nodded.

His mind was still in disarray, spinning with confusion. I think you should take a look at

He had never imagined a scenario where Lingyun would no longer desire to marry him.

But how could that be?

Could she truly have abandoned the idea of marrying him? If that were the case, he would never see Lingyun again in his life, and he doubted he would ever find someone as devoted to him as she had been.

Wuxing's thoughts raced, his head throbbing with intensity.

He made the decision to heed Qianji's advice and allow Lingyun to calm down.

Several days passed, and momentous changes unfolded within the capital.

The time for the coronation ceremony of the new King and Queen had arrived.

It was an unprecedented event for the Saint Divine Land, as both a King and Queen were being crowned simultaneously.

Prime Minister Chu was tasked with overseeing the proceedings. Although he was not particularly skilled in such matters, he understood the importance of ensuring everything went smoothly, especially with a couple as esteemed as the King and the Queen in attendance.

The news of the upcoming crowning ceremony spread rapidly throughout the capital, reaching even the secluded Duke Changning's Mansion.

"What's all the celebration about?" Lu Jiming inquired, curious about the cause for the commotion.



"The crowning ceremony for the new King and the new Queen is in two days," the housekeeper casually replied, although his dislike for his master was evident in his tone.

The crowning ceremony?

The new King must be the Crown Prince or another prominent nobleman.

But who was the Queen?

Could it be Gu Ruxue?

She possessed both beauty and talent, albeit with a hint of ruthlessness that suited the role well.

"The new Queen must be the Second Lady of the Gu Family, am I correct?" Lu Jiming asked, a smile forming on his lips.

Chapter 1728 - New Queen 2

Indeed, that was the case...

Gu Ruxue had cast him aside, turning him into a laughingstock among the noble families. For the past two years, he had been confined within the walls of Duke Changning's Mansion, living like a timid coward. He lacked the courage to venture outside, living a life worse than that of animals.

But...

None of that mattered.

Once upon a time, Gu Ruxue had fawned over him, attempting to secure a marriage alliance.

His father's lack of prestige had led him down this path.

But none of that mattered.

She had once been the woman he admired, the one who had tried to win his favor.

If she were to become the new Queen, it meant that he had once possessed a glorious past, having caught the attention of the woman he had once admired.

And she had even tried to win his favor!

That was enough for him.

With unwavering confidence, Lu Jiming asked in an arrogant manner.

The housekeeper snorted.

The Second Lady of the Gu Family?

This prince had clearly been confined indoors for far too long to grasp the realities unfolding in the capital.

“The Second Lady of the Gu Family has nearly lost her mind after being divorced by the Crown Prince. She is throwing tantrums in the abandoned Gu Mansion! She is in no way qualified to become the new Queen,” the disdainful housekeeper remarked, clearly harboring a dislike for the Second Lady of the Gu Family.

“Impossible!” Lu Jiming exclaimed, his confident expression fading as skepticism crept in.

He began to question the validity of his assumptions.

Soon enough, he realized that the housekeeper had no reason to deceive him.

He could simply inquire with others and receive the correct information.

Had Gu Ruxue truly fallen into such a pitiable state?

Who could the new Queen be, then?

Lu Jiming contemplated the noble ladies, running through the possibilities in his mind.

“Could it be the Elder Miss of the Chu Family? General Liu’s only daughter, married to Lord Ling... Perhaps it is one of them?” he asked, his voice tinged with uncertainty.

Observing his bewildered expression, the housekeeper understood his confusion.

Then, a smile spread across the housekeeper’s face.

He was well aware of the tumultuous history surrounding Duke Changning’s Mansion, much like the rest of the capital’s inhabitants.

With confidence, he proclaimed, “The new Queen is none other than the Elder Miss of the Gu Family. She is our beloved Phoenix Girl, betrothed to Lord Huai. There’s no need for further speculation!”

The housekeeper’s voice rang out with pride as he made the announcement.

Phoenix Girl was truly an exceptional young woman!

Even when Lord Huai faced adversity, she never once entertained the thought of breaking off their engagement. Her unwavering loyalty was a rare quality admired by many.

The Second Lady of the Gu Family, on the other hand, was a different story. She only pursued those with wealth and power, which ultimately led to her current predicament.

Phoenix Girl deserved a partner who would truly cherish her.

The Elder Miss of the Gu Family?

Gu Chaoyan?

That peculiar and unattractive individual?

“Impossible! That repulsive woman could never become the Queen!” Lu Jiming vehemently dismissed the notion.

In his mind, anyone in the capital could have ascended to the position of Queen, except for her.

“Prince, Phoenix Girl is not repulsive. She is beautiful and possesses a kind heart,” the housekeeper countered.

“Hahahaha!” Lu Jiming burst into laughter, tears streaming down his face.

Madame of Duke Changning’s Mansion happened to pass by.

Lu Jiming grabbed her arm, exclaiming, “Mother, this servant claims that the new Queen is Gu Chaoyan, that hideous woman! Hahahaha!”

Chapter 1729 Crowning Ceremony 1

Gu Chaoyan...

Madame of Duke Changning's Mansion hadn't heard that name in years. She remembered her well as the woman they despised the most.

Duke Changning's Mansion, despite its low status, received many marriage proposals for their son. They had initially been betrothed to Gu Chaoyan.

But Gu Chaoyan was far from suitable.

Her mother was a businesswoman, and her father held no influence in the Gu Mansion. Gu Chaoyan herself was considered unintelligent and unattractive, with a tarnished reputation. If Duke Changning's Mansion had proceeded with that marriage, they would have become the laughingstock of the entire capital.

Eventually, they called off the engagement and arranged a marriage with the Second Lady of the Gu Family instead. Gu Ruxue was renowned for her beauty and talent, making it a promising and advantageous alliance for both families.

However, the Second Lady ended up marrying the Crown Prince instead, leaving Duke Changning's Mansion to become the perpetual target of mockery in the capital.

And her son's marriage remained unsettled.

No family was willing to offer their daughters as potential matches for him. The ordinary girls they encountered were seen as unworthy of his stature. Everywhere they went, they faced mockery and ridicule. I think you should take a look at

As a result, Duke Changning's Mansion had been confined within its walls for over a year. They paid little attention to the outside world, waiting for the moment when they would be forgotten and could start anew. It was acceptable for Lu Jiming to delay his marriage; he deserved a suitable match.

During this time, Duke Changning's Mansion continued to lead a relatively ordinary life, detached from the affairs of the outside world. They remained content, even though they were oblivious to the recent events.

Madame Duke Changning's expression twisted upon hearing Lu Jiming mention the supposed rise of the hideous Gu Chaoyan as the new Queen. Although Gu Chaoyan had become more attractive over time, she could never ascend to the position of Queen, even if she had married someone of higher status.

"New Queen? It's more likely for me to become the new Queen," Madame Duke Changning retorted sharply, unable to conceal her deep-rooted animosity towards Gu Chaoyan.

She believed that Duke Changning's Mansion had ended up in its current state precisely because of Gu Chaoyan's involvement. If it weren't for that ill-fated engagement, the mansion would have prospered and avoided such a catastrophic downfall.

"This hideous woman will never ascend to the position of Queen! Housekeeper, if you're unhappy working for us, say so openly. I will report your insolence to the Ministry of Rites and have them replace you with someone more suitable. Why would you come up with such a repugnant claim?" Her gaze bore into the housekeeper, filled with displeasure.

The number of servants working for Duke Changning's Mansion was limited. These servants were provided by the court due to the mansion's low social status.

Madame Duke Changning regarded them as mere employees and doubted their true loyalty. She suspected that they, like many others, mocked Duke Changning's Mansion behind their backs. Despite the mansion's decline, the housekeeper remained a minor figure in their eyes.

## Chapter 1730 Crowning Ceremony 2

The housekeeper found himself unable to counter their arguments. Duke Changning's Mansion was already in a state of decline, yet they continued to speak so highly of themselves, disregarding the reality.

"If you doubt my words, you are welcome to attend the crowning ceremony on the avenue in two days and witness it for yourselves. I am a mere servant who answers Young Master's questions honestly. If you still insist on reporting to the Ministry of Rites, I won't stop you either," the housekeeper replied unhappily.

He had no personal stake in Duke Changning's Mansion. He was merely fulfilling his duties as a servant. When Young Master asked about the happenings outside, he relayed the information he knew. He never expected to be accused and framed in this manner.

He was replaceable.

Furthermore, Phoenix Girl had come to their aid when monsters invaded the city. She had selflessly assisted them while the previous King turned a blind eye. It was disrespectful to humiliate Phoenix Girl in such a manner.

Since they placed more trust in their own words than in his, they were free to seek the truth firsthand and verify the facts for themselves.



With determination in her eyes, Madame Duke Changning accepted the housekeeper's suggestion.

"Very well! Make the necessary arrangements. We will personally attend the crowning ceremony and witness the truth," Madame Duke Changning declared.

The title of the new Queen held immense honor and commanded respect from the entire nation. It was inconceivable for such a hideous woman to assume that position. The notion seemed utterly absurd to Madame Duke Changning.

She was determined to see it with her own eyes, and if it turned out to be false, she would not hesitate to approach the Ministry of Rites and demand a replacement.

However, deep down, Madame Duke Changning harbored other motivations as well. I think you should take a look at

Duke Changning's Mansion had been in seclusion for several years, and rumors might have been long forgotten by now. Madame Duke Changning understood the importance of staying informed and making strategic plans for their future. She had to consider the well-being of Lu Jiming and ensure that he had a promising path ahead.

"Very well," the housekeeper said, hearing Madame Duke Changning's order to leave.

Madame Duke Changning's expression softened as she looked at her son. "Jiming, let us seek blessings from the new King and the new Queen. We shall venture into the capital and observe the current situation. And it is crucial for us to rebuild our relationships with the noble families that were once our allies."

"..."

"If we can arrange a good marriage alliance for you, then we can do that. If not, we can move to a smaller town for the time being and find a better lady to get married to. Your marriage is very important."

"I won't go! I won't stoop so low as to suck up to those people. I want a lady from the capital, not some small-town girl!" Lu Jiming's voice carried frustration and defiance as he held firm to his own desires.

Madame Duke Changning let out a heavy sigh.

What was happening here!

"What have we done? Breaking off the engagement with that 'hideous' woman was a mistake. Yes, she may not possess conventional beauty or intelligence, but she is the Elder Miss of the Gu Family. If you had married her, we would have had the Gu Family as our in-laws. Gu Ruxue ended up marrying the Crown Prince, and they would have taken care of us. You could have had concubines if you desired. Our lives would have been far better than this,"

"Mom, how can you say that?" Lu Jiming retorted, his voice tinged with anger.