

## Divine 681

### Chapter 681: For Me

“Don’t you know me well?” The Queen laughed bitterly. “I came to the court only because I loved him. I never cared about the power and the position.”

“...”

“But he has changed, which I am totally aware of. What I need to know is what has made him change? When I get the answer, I will not need to stay in the court any more. So the token and the palace are nothing I need to care about. What I need is just an answer,” the Queen said calmly.

She was a woman who cared, but that did not necessarily mean that she needed to depend on someone to live.

If that man’s heart went somewhere else, then she would not try to get him back. What she needed was to understand what made him change.

Aunt Nan nodded. She was like the deceased General, who could tell right from wrong, but she was truly worried for her Miss.

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The following day.

It was time for the King and Xuan Lin to visit the mounts. He asked his Eunuch to bring Zhou Huailing to the court as well.

Zhou Huailing was very surprised the moment he walked into the Qianqing Palace.

“Father, what makes you look so pale? Didn’t you have a good sleep last night?” Zhou Huailing asked concernedly.

His father was in his prime. His father should not have become so pale even after staying up for too long.

It was the first time for Zhou Huailing to see his father looking so pale. He was not very worried, and instead felt slightly glad. He had already reached adulthood, and his father was still in his prime and he would have to wait until his father passed before being able to get the throne, but that would take a long time.

However, if his father was not doing well... then that day would arrive faster than expected and his way towards the throne would be even easier. However, he had to conceal his true thoughts and show care on the surface.

The King was indeed in a bad state. Otherwise he would not have asked Zhou Huailing to meet him in the court.

Hearing that his son was caring about him, the King felt quite satisfied. It pleased him a great deal.

"I just had a bad sleep, so you will have to do the business for me. When the Prince is here, do remember to be modest. We have to get what we need first, that is the key to success. We can leave the rest for later.

"Also, your mother will be granted the title of Honored Princess, and the token will be given to her too. You don't have to be restricted to any rules in the future, any more," the King said seriously.

Hearing these words, Zhou Huailing became quite enlightened. So his mother was going to become the Honored Princess, in charge of the princess' affairs? That was almost like the Queen!

It was just one final step for her to take the title of the Queen, and he believed that it would happen very soon. He was going to have his head raised high up in the air from this moment on.

Zhou Huailing bowed happily, "Thank you, father!"

The King felt better, waved his hands and asked Zhou Huailing to get up.

Xuan Lin had just arrived as well. The moment he arrived, he saw Zhou Huailing and felt quite displeased. He frowned and asked, "King, what is he doing here?"

"I am not feeling well these days, so I won't be viewing the mounts. Lord Ling will do that on my behalf," the King said with a reasonable tone.

Xuan Lin heard the words..

Chapter 682: The Magical Monsters

He glanced at Zhou Huailing.

Xuan Lin was a wild and arrogant man, but he became the heir of the North Qi Land and that meant that he was not stupid.

Even though there were magical monsters in the North Qi Land, it was a very powerful country too, the Saint Divine Land was a country with a long history and foundation, and he should not offend them directly. Otherwise they would end up in trouble.

There was still no heir to the Saint Divine Land established. Yet each country had their rules, like the Queen's eldest son would become the heir, normally speaking.

He had not thought that Lord Ling would have got the opportunity, but after meeting the King twice and witnessing how he treated Lord Ling... he understood everything.

Lord Ling was the King's favorite son. So if he was the King's favorite son, then he had the biggest possibility of becoming the heir. And now, he was already running business for the King...

Xuan Lin realized that Lord Ling was not to be looked down upon.

Since he understood this, Xuan Lin would naturally not cause any trouble between him and Lord Ling.

"If you are not in a good state, then Lord Ling can join me," Xuan Lin said nonchalantly.

Xuan Lin did not have the intention of showing that he was in a disadvantageous status.

Seeing that he was behaving in a better way, Zhou Huailing said nothing more. He nodded and said, "Please, Prince of the North Qi."

Xuan Lin and Zhou Huailing left the Qianqing Palace together.

Like the other princes from other countries, Xuan Lin was also living in the specially-prepared hotel.

So the mount Xuan Lin came with was also resting there.

The hotel was not far from the court. So it only took them a while to arrive at the hotel.

As they came to the hotel, the best guards of the North Qi Land were all there. The mount was in a yard that was well guarded. When the guards heard the sound of arrival, they became alert. They held their swords tightly as if ready for any potential attack.

Xuan Lin was very satisfied by his well-trained men.

He threw Zhou Huailing a proud look and waved his hands nonchalantly, "Don't panic, this is Lord Ling from the Saint Divine Land. He has no guards with him, and is very safe."

Despite these words, those guards were still quite alert.

Xuan Lin did not say anything more about them. Instead, he opened the door to the mount, and Zhou Huailing saw an enormous monster inside. That monster looked like a tiger, but not exactly a tiger. It was much bigger than a tiger and had a head resembling a lion. It resembled everything, but nothing at the same time.

He was pacing back and forth in the room.

Due to Xuan Lin's presence, it came to Xuan Lin obediently and then lowered its head in front of Xuan Lin. Xuan Lin touched the head and the monster looked quite happy.

Zhou Huailing frowned – what was this mount? It was a huge pet!

As he was thinking, he also reached his hand and was about to touch the head, when the mount became wild and roared at Zhou Huailing. It opened its mouth and struck hard at Zhou Huailing's body.

Zhou Huailing's eyes were widened as a huge paw came towards him..

Chapter 683: The Exaggerated Condition

He got so startled that he could not move because of the fright.

Xuan Lin shouted. "Bi Fang!"

The magical monster, which had almost stomped on Zhou Huailing, stopped being angry after hearing Xuan Lin's words. The magical monster withdrew his paws and walked to Xuan Lin's feet, then sat down in silence. It was no longer as docile as before. Instead, it was staring at Zhou Huailing with eyes transfixed.

Zhou Huailing gasped, breathing heavily. He was totally paralyzed on the ground.

That was way too frightening!

That was the first time for him to feel that he was close to death. If not for Xuan Lin's order, he would have gotten his inner organs smashed in an instant. He had thought that the big thing was just a docile pet, but he was totally wrong.

Seeing Zhou Huailing's paralyzed look, Xuan Lin felt quite delighted inwardly. He looked at the man next to him and said, "Mu Rong, help Lord Ling up!"

The man called Mu Rong went to help Lord Ling up.

Zhou Huailing's legs were still shivering. He just could not stand still.

Xuan Lin was still wearing a smiling look on his face as he said quietly, "Lord Ling, it was my fault to not have reminded you that Bi Fang should never be touched. Only I am able to touch him, anyone else will be killed!"

Zhou Huailing was still panting. He did not get angry at all hearing what Xuan Lin said.

He tried to bring himself back, while thinking that this big animal was ferocious, flexible and yet docile. It was totally worth the while getting five of these with just one princess.

He wished to tell his father that he needed Xuan Lin to bring the pets to him as soon as possible, so that he could have one for the Spring Hunt to look influential.

Ruxue was the Phoenix Girl, so she could get one too. In this way, Lord Ling's Mansion would have two, so that excited him a great deal.

As he was thinking about those magical monsters, Zhou Huailing felt very pleased. He was too busy to blame Xuan Lin for anything. He said with a smile. "You are not to be blamed. It is just me who acted too rashly."

"These magical monsters are great. We have a deal." Zhou Huailing made the deal without any intention of discussion with the King.

Xuan Lin smiled evilly.

True...

It was just as he had anticipated.

The King favored this Lord Ling among all of his sons. This Lord Ling was able to make the decision directly.

Xuan Lin nodded.

"I will ask Mu Rong to write a letter back to my country and my men will come with the magical monsters. When the magical monsters are here, I have something that can tame them. As long as the King passes on the real order of marriage, I will give you the tool that can tame them, sounds good?"

"Sounds good," Zhou Huailing said without hesitation.

“One more thing you have to be clear about is that I get the princess because of the magical monsters, so I will have the say about what position the princess will have after marriage.” Xuan Lin continued. He was not going to make the princess of the Saint Divine Land his Princess Consort.

In other words, he was just trying to save his face through this deal. He did not have to conduct any marriage alliance with the Saint Divine Land. So he was not going to help the Saint Divine Land in any way.

Zhou Huailing was startled.

So according to Xuan Lin... they were not going to give the princess any title or position.. The whole deal just meant that they got a woman!

Chapter 684: Tribe Chief Here Again

The princess of the Saint Divine Land was also the representative of the Saint Divine Land. Normally, they would never approve of such a deal – that was a humiliation for themselves!

However, things were different.

Zhou Huailing looked at the fierce and agile animal next to Xuan Lin... they were going to get five of them for just one princess, that would not be a big deal at all! Xuan Lin was not going to be too harsh about it either, right? What he needed was just to save his own face.

After a moment of hesitation Zhou Huailing nodded. “Okay, that is the deal.”

Xuan Lin smiled brightly, and wildly. He showed a very unfathomable look in Zhou Huailing’s eyes.

“Mu Rong, go and write the letter. Lord Ling is so fast about the decision, then we should be fast too.” Xuan Lin said.

Mu Rong nodded, but showed no other expression. He left for his business directly.

Zhou Huailing felt slightly assured. He was wearing a smile as he looked at Xuan Lin’s mount.

He could not help but ask, “Prince, how much longer do we need to wait until they arrive?”

“If we work fast, they can arrive before the New Year, or you can get it before the Spring Hunt at the latest,” Xuan Lin said.

Zhou Huailing’s smile was even brighter. He was full of expectation.

When Xuan Lin finished writing the letter, Zhou Huailing hurried back to the court.

He was still wearing a smile as he returned to the Qianqing Palace.

The King, who had been feeling distressed, felt glad seeing Zhou Huailing’s expression. He asked, “Ling, how did it go?”

Zhou Huailing smiled. He drank a cup of tea and said, “I saw the magical monster. It is a wonderful thing! It can be ridden and behave ferociously, it is fast too. It is a mighty figure too and it only obeys the

master's order. With such things with us, we do not even need to have any guards with us. The monster can kill many people! That is a great deal we have made!"

The King's eyes sparkled.

If that was true... Five of such things were indeed enough.

"But father, what Xuan Lin means is that our princess will not become the Princess Consort, and he will have the say of what position she will have. I said yes, because for the five magical monsters, we can definitely say yes," Zhou Huailing said directly.

What?! Not the Princess Consort?

The King was startled, not looking well.

Only Xunyang was old enough to marry the Prince, since he was already in the capital and it was impossible to get another princess to replace the real one. In that case, Xunyang was going to be totally humiliated.

The King was feeling quite dissatisfied. "How could you have said yes so easily?"

Zhou Huailing was baffled. What was that reaction?

He thought for a while, "Father, we have to say yes. The mount is really excellent. Just think about it, we have a huge plan for our future, and we should not be limited just for the sake of one princess! We have to give up something for the whole land!"

Only then did the King calm down.

True... He had his ambitions, so he had to give up something.

When Xunyang was married, he could get her plenty of dowries. Xuan Lin was the prince, and he was going to become the King, so Xunyang was going to have a position after all.

The King thought about the idea and spoke a few more words with Zhou Huailing before letting him leave the court.

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When Princess Jing was granted the title of Honored Princess, the rank for Duke North was granted too.. The Tribe Chief of the Zheng Family came to the mansion on the day when Zheng Chenyi got granted.

Chapter 685: Marriage

Hearing that the Tribe Chief was here, Zheng Chenyi frowned.

That man was indeed cheeky. He brought Zheng Yunfan here to steal the rank, and he had been so arrogant. Chenyi had thought that he was already driven out of this territory and would never dare to step into this place ever again, but now he was here just on time.

He had just gotten the rank and now the man was here.

Hearing that the Tribe Chief was here, Mrs. Duke North was still worried. She could not help, but say to Zheng Chenyi. "Chenyi, don't worry, you have gotten the rank and the Tribe Chief will not bully us like before. You can say something nice to the Tribe Chief when you meet, so that we can all get on well from now on."

Mrs. Duke North was really worried.

Zheng Chenyi got the rank, but the Zheng Family was huge and as one of the members, Chenyi had to be careful.

Hearing what his mother said... Zheng Chenyi had a strange feeling. He would have blamed his mother for being a coward in the past, but now he would not.

Instead, he said seriously, "Mom, I have gotten the rank so I will be Duke North from today on. We don't have to do everything just to please others.

"Don't worry about the Tribe Chief. He is a man with no justice. I have gotten plenty of evidence and I will pass them to Dali Temple. We need a new Tribe Chief!

"I have wanted to visit General Liu, but since the Tribe Chief is here, let's see what he wants."

Having said these words, he looked at the housekeeper. He asked the housekeeper to show the man in.

Mrs. Duke North's face changed. "For real?"

Zheng Chenyi nodded and patted mother's hands, telling her to feel assured.

Mrs. Duke North smiled. She had just been reminded that from tomorrow on, Chenyi would be Duke North and the servants in the mansion would call her Mrs. Duke North.

Finally, there was a Duke North in the mansion! That made her really happy!

The Tribe Chief was there.

He looked at Mrs. Duke North directly. He was very aware of the mother and the son's personalities. Zheng Chenyi was tough, but Mrs. Duke North was an easy target. She could be persuaded easily.

"Madame Duke North, I am here in regards to the family tree. Chenyi treated me terribly in the past, so I removed him from the family tree, but now Chenyi has inherited the rank, so his name should be added to the family tree, so..." The Tribe Chief showed an awkward smile.

Mrs. Duke North looked at him.

The Tribe Chief was waiting for Mrs. Duke North to become anxious and beg them instead, but... she did not intend to do so.

Mrs. Duke North asked. "Tribe Chief, you said that Chenyi disrespected you before, what was that referred to? I know Chenyi well, he is a well-disciplined man so what did he do that you removed him from the family tree?"

The Tribe Chief's face changed.

That was quite unexpected... Since when did Mrs. Duke North become so clear-minded?

“He drove me and Yunfan out of the mansion!” The Tribe Chief said, “I am going to report this to Dali Temple. I believe that Chenyi will not be able to sit steadily in his rank, because he gets the rank from his family name!”

“Then do that! You know pretty well why I drove you out!” Zheng Chenyi said coldly and asked his guards to remove the man.

A moment later, the Tribe Chief was driven out of the mansion.

Mrs.. Duke North asked seriously, “Chenyi, since you have inherited the rank, it is time for you to get married.”

Chapter 686: Xiao Jin

Zheng Chenyi almost spilled the teacup in his hands, as he heard her words.

Getting married and fathering children?

He smiled bitterly. True, he was already in his adulthood and it was time to get married. The girl he liked was already engaged and he was never going to be able to marry her in his life. That was the reality.

Mother had become better the day she heard that he got the rank. She was no longer worried and anxious or unable to live a peaceful life.

Currently, what his mother wanted was that he could get married and father children.

He was definitely going to do that, sooner or later. So if that could make his mother happy... He did not have to turn her down right now.

He just hoped that what Lady Chaoyan gave his mother would not come into use.

Zheng Chenyi forced a smile. “Okay, I already became an adult at the beginning of the year and I should get married, but the rank was not granted yet. I always worried that you would not be able to get a girl for me since they were not willing to marry me. However, now the rank has been granted to me and it is the right time to get married. Someone will keep you company after the marriage. I don’t have much demand, as long as she is someone you like and is able to get on well with you.”

When Mrs. Duke North heard Zheng Chenyi’s words, she was extremely pleased. She had been planning to find a suitor the moment Zheng Chenyi became an adult, but he kept turning her down. She was worried that it would be long before she was able to meet her grandchildren, but now Chenyi had nodded.

That was great! It was happiness that returned! How wonderful!

After more than a decade, Duke North’s Mansion was finally living up to its name.

Zheng Chenyi felt his heart stinging with pain at the sight of his mother’s sincere smile. He took a sip of tea, then he got up.



He said with a smile, "Mom, just look through the ladies. I will visit Dali Temple to deal with the tribe matter. Since the Tribe Chief has no justice, I will take this opportunity to remove us from the family tree and establish one ourselves."

"Duke North's Mansion is no longer like before, and we will have military achievements. If we are still connected with the Zheng Family, they would ruin us! I remember clearly how they treated us in the past few years, so we should no longer be tied to the family for so long. We will never be able to stand out by sticking to them. I have to get it done fast and cleanly this time," Zheng Chenyi said carefully.

That was what had been baffling his mother in the past, something mother was so worried about. He would make it clear so that his mother would understand that they were not to be bullied again, and no one had the right to do so.

If they were away from the family.. If something happens to him in the future... The rank would not fall into the hands of the Zheng Family. And they would not plan some terrible trick to get the rank!

Mrs. Duke North felt really happy and said with a smile, "Just do that, I will get down to finding the girl for you!"

Zheng Chenyi nodded.

Mrs. Duke North was smiling sincerely, but he just could not utter a real laugh as he turned around.

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At the mansion.

Sword Three was back. He had been assigned to do the business in the Feather Mulberry Land, so now that he was home... it basically meant that the business was done..

Chapter 687: The Imperial Order

Xiao Jin did not show up. Xiao Jin had once made the vow that as long as Zhou Huailing was still in the capital and in charge of civil affairs, he would never step into the city. And he was keeping his own words. So when he was done with his business, he asked Sword Three to pass on the report to Gu Chaoyan.

When Gu Chaoyan saw Sword Three, she was slightly surprised.

Had they finished checking the 15 towns of the Feather Mulberry Land within such a short period?

She had thought that they would not return until the New Year and after Spring Hunt, but she had not expected that they would return so fast. In this way, they were able to celebrate the New Year at home.

"I will go and visit Xiao Jin now," Gu Chaoyan said.

"No need, Elder Miss," Sword Three said with a smile. "Xiao Jin said that you can probably read what he has gotten for you and if you have any more questions, you can go to him. If what he has gotten for you is enough, you don't have to travel around in winter! That is too painstaking!"

That was exactly what Xiao Jin said, Sword Three just passed on the message.

Sword Three was a calm person who barely smiled, but when Xiao Jin was mentioned, he smiled very brightly. That meant that he was very satisfied by what Xiao Jin had done.

So Gu Chaoyan got quite interested as she asked. "What has he gotten?"

Sword Three took the things out.

There were 15 booklets.

Gu Chaoyan opened the booklets and found that it was a brief map of the town, simple but noted with important positions.

The map showcased the restaurants of all sizes, government offices, important families as well as folk and customs.

She turned to the other booklets.

The contents were the same. Those simple yet important things were all noted.

Gu Chaoyan's eyes brightened. Xiao Jin was a very smart person, and when she told Xiao Jin about the mission, what she said was that she was going to open restaurants. And she said nothing about what exactly he should do, but he had accomplished the mission so greatly!

Xiao Jin grew up in the village and despite the small business he had run before, he was totally strange to running businesses and restaurants.

If he only worked upon the locations in the towns, then he would not have accomplished the mission so well, but the results were different.

He had almost presented a complete and thorough image of the town in front of her.

Gu Chaoyan could accurately and rapidly get to know the information of these towns in the Feather Mulberry Land. She could pick any position she liked and even got to know about the towns.

"Xiao Jin has done a great job." Gu Chaoyan said happily, "Tell him that he has done it well, and he is free to go anywhere, but he must return before the Spring Hunt. Give him some money from the storage and tell him not to be too frugal. He works for me and he should be treated well."

Sword Three answered happily, "I am on it, Elder Miss!"

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

After Sword Three left, she continued to read the booklets. She could not help feeling satisfied.

In the following ten days, Gu Chaoyan kept on reading the booklets.

It was not until the biggest snow that fell in the Saint Divine Land. It was the day when Xuan Lin's magical monsters were transported to the land and the King and Zhou Huailing took a look at them together.

After the King looked at the magical monsters, he returned to the Qianqing Palace and wrote down the imperial order of marriage.

When he was done writing the imperial order, the King did not visit the Weiyang Palace, but went to Princess Xunyang's palace instead..

#### Chapter 688: Sacrifices

Princess Xunyang's palace was a very small one located next to the Weiyang Palace.

The palace was built when Xunyang was three years old and the way it was built had been discussed by the King and the Queen together. Xunyang was a princess, so unlike the other princes, she needed to stay here until she became an adult. If the princess was married off to some other land, she might not have any opportunity to visit their own home again in the future, but if the princess was just marrying a local, she would still be able to spend a few days in the palace after getting married.

The King had once promised the Queen that their Xunyang would not be married off to some other land. So they spent a lot of energy on building the palace and Xunyang did not move until she was five. It took almost two years to build the palace.

Xunyang was 14 years old and it was still one year before she became an adult, but...

The King sighed as well.

They had to keep the balance, and some people had to be sacrificed.

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Xunyang had been living as a princess for more than a decade, and as a princess of the country, she needed to sacrifice herself for the country as well. The King always thought that she should give as much as she had been given, so he did not think that what he had promised the Queen earlier was anything unreasonable.

The King walked in.

The maids were very surprised at the sight of the King. They went to greet the King happily.

The King took off his coat, then he sat down in front of Xunyang.

Xunyang greeted him.

The King said with a smile, "Just get up, now you know that you should greet me."

Xunyang also smiled. She was very happy to see her father visiting her, but Xunyang did not dare to behave unruly as before. Living in the court, Xunyang noticed that her father had changed and she was very aware of how to behave properly.

"Father, it is cold outside, drink some warm tea." Xunyang smiled and served her father the tea personally.

The King smiled with satisfaction. She was indeed his daughter.

He sipped the tea before putting down the teacup as he said while looking at Xunyang. "Xunyang, you are not young any more, you are becoming an adult next year and you should be prepared to get married."

When Xunyang heard what he said, she felt as if her heart skipped a beat.

She had already had the experience.

That so-called Elder Brother of the Phoenix Girl somehow had obtained father's preference. He asked her to marry them and they did not drop it until her own brother fixed it. It happened not too long ago. And now father was again starting to make plans again.

Xunyang had a very complicated look on her face. She wanted to marry someone she liked, not someone her father married her to. She forced a smile and said, "Father, I would like to spend two more years with mother, so we don't have to think about marriage so quickly. Also, I am your daughter and I will always have a great suitor!"

The King looked at Xunyang. He stayed silent for a long while.

The Eunuch gave a light cough and brought the King back. He had been hesitating at this moment. He should not have done that, because he had already made the decision. He even wrote the imperial order! It was not time to make a choice, it was time for him to pass on the message.

The King brought himself back and said straightforwardly. "Xunyang, I would like you to stay with us for two more years, but things are different now.. I am marrying you to the Prince of the North Qi Land, and he can't wait for two more years."

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Chapter 689: With the Queen

"Father!" Xunyang suddenly got agitated. "You are making me establish a marriage alliance! But there is no such tradition among us four countries! How can you marry me off to the North Qi Land!"

The King saw the agitated look on Xunyang's face.

That was what he had expected, but it was already a fixed decision that could not be altered. Xunyang might not be able to accept it yet, but gradually, she would.

He waved his hands, telling Xunyang to listen to him obediently.

"Xunyang, you are not young any more, and you should learn to listen." The King sounded very serious as he was speaking these words. "You were born as a princess, and you have enjoyed the supreme honor of the Saint Divine Land. You are used to being kowtowed to and flattered, and all of this has been given to you by the Saint Divine Land! You received all of that, and now it is time for you to pay back!"

"..."

“We have made a deal with the Prince of the North Qi Land, and we will be in a very advantageous situation because we have gotten something even more important! We will become an even more powerful land in the future!” the King said, unable to help getting excited, especially after he was reminded of the five powerful creatures.

Xunyang looked at her own father with tears in her eyes. This man who used to pamper her so deeply was now trading her with someone else as if she were a commodity.

When father almost made Mr. Gu marry her, she even thought that it was because her father cared about her and thought about the whole thing from a different perspective to make such a rude decision.

Now she knew everything. It was not true. Father was not considering her; he only cared for his own interest!

“Impossible, I am not marrying him!” Princess Xunyang insisted.

“Xunyang!” The King already started to get angry. “I only needed to write one imperial order to make you marry, but I am here to talk with you patiently, but you have listened to none of my words! You are one of the imperial members, and you should consider the country as the most important thing in your life. You should not be so selfish as to not think about the people of the Saint Divine Land!”

“...”

“There is no negotiation about this, you have to get married!” The King flung his sleeves and left angrily.

Xunyang was left standing right on the spot, crying.

When the Aunt saw the scene, she embraced Princess Xunyang and said, “Princess, don’t worry, I will go to the Queen. She will know what to do!”

Princess Xunyang stopped Aunt. She did not want her to get the Queen. The Queen was not doing well and she had lost her authority. The situation would get worse if she was told. Maybe what her father said was true. She was the Princess of the Saint Divine Land, so she had to make sacrifices for the Saint Divine Land.

Hearing what Princess Xunyang said, Aunt had to drop the argument and asked Princess Xunyang to take a rest inside the room.

Aunt claimed that she was going to fetch some food when she walked out of the palace. She even forgot to use an umbrella, and went directly to the Weiyang Palace.

It was snowing very heavily, but Aunt felt nothing. She was in such a hurry as she headed towards the Weiyang Palace, so when she arrived, she had snowflakes all over her.

Aunt Nan helped her sweep away the snowflakes, served her a cup of hot tea, but Aunt shook her head and said hurriedly, “No time for this, I need to see the Queen, I have to speak with her!”

Chapter 690: Plan

Aunt Nan heard what Aunt said, and felt her heart skip a beat. She realized that something must have gone wrong.

It was the biggest snow of the winter of the year, but Aunt hurried here without even using an umbrella. It was the first time for such a calm woman to do so. The reason why Aunt was assigned to take care of Princess Xunyang was because she was calm and reasonable.

So instead of making any delays, Aunt Nan took Aunt to the inner chamber.

The Queen had been doing better today. Aunt Nan fed the Queen the pill Gu Chaoyan gave to them a couple of days ago, and the pill, which Gu Chaoyan said could be eaten at any time for anything, was really working well. So Aunt Nan had been in a good mood earlier today, but... She had not had enough happiness when something else happened.

Aunt Nan showed a very complicated look on her face.

The Queen looked at Aunt and asked, "What are you doing here, Aunt, what happened to Xunyang?"

Aunt nodded. She, who had been calm and steady, almost burst out into tears. She knew clearly that the Queen had no idea what had happened.

She was going to get really sad when she heard the truth a moment later.

Aunt whispered and said, "The King just came to Princess' palace and said..."

"..."

"He said that he wanted the Princess to marry to the North Qi Land!"

"..."

"Princess doesn't want me to tell you about this, but it is very important! I have to tell you, my Queen," Aunt said, her voice trembling.

The moment the Queen heard that, she felt that her head had gone blank.

Then she suddenly remembered how the King promised her that Xunyang was going to marry someone from the capital and that he would seek justice for anyone who dared to bully the princess. He told her that even in the palace, no one would dare to bully Xunyang, because she was protected by the imperial parents and her brother Huaijin.

At that time the Queen felt that her heart was filled with sweetness. She made a wish that it would be a princess that was born, but now... More than a decade has passed, and the vows of the past had been forsaken!

The Queen felt her heart suffocate, then she let out a cough.

Aunt Nan was very startled. "Queen!"

The Queen then saw that she had coughed blood. She gripped Aunt Nan's hands, helping herself up.

Aunt Nan cleaned the mess up, then the Queen said, "Aunt, I know about this, please take care of Xunyang."

Aunt was about to say something but stopped, then she nodded and left.

Aunt Nan could not see Aunt off as she was busy taking care of the Queen.

“What should we do?” Aunt Nan asked. It was a different case now. Another country was involved and it was not that easy to deal with them as they dealt with the Gu Family.

The Queen felt distracted. She was startled and then said, “Aunt Nan, don’t worry, close the window. We should talk about this tomorrow. It is too cold today.”

Aunt Nan saw that the window was already closed.

Only now did she realize that the Queen was very anxious to say things like that.

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The following day...

The Queen got up early in the morning. She asked Aunt Nan to put on a coat for her and decided to visit the Qianqing Palace amidst the snowstorm.

It had been a few months since the Queen visited the Qianqing Palace..