

MEDICAL PRINCESS

Chapter 1221 - Chapter 1221 Finally Entered the House

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Qing'er stepped forward to stand in front of Shao Wanru and asked, "Who are you?"

The prince had specially instructed her to protect the princess. There had been a lot of trouble recently, and she was afraid that her master would get into trouble.

The old maid panicked and said hurriedly, "Madam... Madam Wen fainted from the fall." She held her legs and couldn't get up for a while.

"Madam Wen?" Shao Wanru rolled her watery eyes slightly. The old maid seemed to be standing behind Madam Wen just now.

"She tripped when she walked just now. I need to go down the mountain to get a doctor for her." The old maid finally came to her senses and stood up with the help of the tree beside her. She recognized that the person in front of her was Princess Chen just now, so she turned around. Unexpectedly, her legs went limp and she fell.

Shao Wanru glanced at the old maid and asked, "How... did Madam Wen feel after falling?"

"She fainted because of the fall... Cousin Miss is serving her." The old maid was so anxious that she was sweating.

Shao Wanru pondered for a moment and said, "It's too late to go down the mountain now. I'll call an imperial physician to treat Madam Wen later."

If she hadn't seen Madam Wen, Shao Wanru wouldn't have intervened. Since she had seen her, she had to help her, even if it was just for Wen Xichi's sake. The Empress Dowager had two imperial physicians serve her.

After sending Yujie to the courtyard of the Empress Dowager to get an imperial physician with the old maid, Shao Wanru stood still and did not go forward.

Seeing that Shao Wanru had been standing there and looking at a peak in the distance in silence, Qing'er asked with concern, "My Lady, are you all right?"

"I'm fine. Let's go!" Shao Wanru said with a slight smile. She started walking slowly.

Just now, she suddenly recalled what happened to Madam Wen and her in her last life.

The Empress Dowager had already gotten up, but the Empress was not there. When Empress Dowager heard that Madam Wen had fainted because of the fall, she asked Shao Wanru to go and check on her. Prime Minister Wen had an unusual identity, and Empress Dowager had always thought highly of his madam.

Since Empress Dowager had ordered, Shao Wanru did not stay any longer. It was still a little early for lunch. Moreover, she was not hungry at this time, so she went to the courtyard of Madam Wen.

Coincidentally, the two places were not far from each other.

Yujie had come back and reported to Shao Wanru as she walked. Shao Wanru said, "E'niang is also here?"

Yujie curled her lip and said, "Yes, she's busy. If I didn't know her, I would really think that she's from the Mansion of the Prime Minister."

"Then let's walk slowly!" Shao Wanru stopped.

Qing'er, who was sensitive, asked subconsciously, "My Lady, what's the matter?"

Shao Wanru blinked and said disapprovingly, "It's nothing. We're not doctors. The imperial physician has gone over, and he must be treating Madam Wen now. It doesn't matter if we go earlier or later." Of course, the two servant girls would listen to their master.

The group of people walked very slowly. When they arrived at the door of Madam Wen, Shao Wanru happened to see the imperial physician come out and stopped.

"Greetings, Your Highness!" The imperial physician stepped forward and bowed.

"How is Madam Wen?" Shao Wanru asked. A servant girl sent the imperial physician out. When she saw Shao Wanru, she hurriedly bowed and went back to the yard to report.

"Madam Wen failed to stand still and fell to the ground. She's still unconscious. Fortunately, someone gave her a treatment with 100-year-old ginseng. Otherwise, she would've been in great danger," the imperial physician said.

"She almost got into great danger?" Shao Wanru raised her eyebrows.

"Yes." The imperial physician nodded. Madam Wen almost got into great danger. That was to say, she almost died.

Shao Wanru's long eyelashes fluttered twice, like two fluttering butterflies.

"It's just a fall. How could it be so serious?" Shao Wanru said.

"Maybe it was a coincidence, but she's fine now. She just needs to recuperate," the imperial physician said.

Shao Wanru nodded and walked to the door of the courtyard. Gu Xishu had come out to welcome her in a hurry. When she saw Shao Wanru, she hurried forward to bow and said, "Greetings, Your Highness."

"How is Madam Wen?" Shao Wanru asked again.

"Aunt Wen is fine now. Fortunately, the imperial physician is here." Gu Xishu looked scared and pale. It could be seen that she was frightened.

"It's good that she's fine!" Shao Wanru said gently, "Can I go to see Madam Wen now?"

Gu Xishu hesitated for a moment and said, "My apologies, Your Highness... In my aunt's current situation... I'm afraid she can't see you."

She made an excuse, which meant that she certainly didn't want Shao Wanru to go in.

"Alright then!" Shao Wanru didn't insist on going in. She nodded and said, "I'll go back first. If you need the imperial physician, just come to me."

"Thank you, Your Highness." Gu Xishu didn't expect Shao Wanru to be so easy to get rid of. She breathed a sigh of relief and answered with a smile.

Seeing Shao Wanru leave, she hurried back to the main room.

In the main room, E'niang was serving Madam Wen. When she heard the sound at the door and looked over, she saw that only Gu Xishu was there, so she was relieved.

"She's not coming in?"

Gu Xishu smiled casually and said in a low voice, "No. Aunt Wen is still unconscious at this time. Princess Chen can't help even if she comes in." She was very proud that she got rid of Shao Wanru so easily.

“That’s great!” E’niang nodded. Since she heard that Princess Chen was around, she had been on tenterhooks. She wanted to stay, but she was unwilling to bump into Princess Chen. The best thing she could do was to ask Gu Xishu to block Princess Chen in front of the gate of the courtyard. But now Princess Chen happened to leave on her own accord.

Gu Xishu looked at Madam Wen, who was lying on the bed. Madam Wen’s forehead was wrapped with a heavy bandage, and her face looked terribly pale. There were faint bloodstains on the white bandage. She couldn’t help but worry. “Is my aunt really okay?”

“Don’t worry. She will recover!” E’niang comforted her, but she found it hilarious. It was Gu Xishu herself who took action. She was extremely cruel, but she showed such a panicked look. Why was she pretending?

Gu Xishu was raised by Madam Wen. E’niang had thought that she had to talk Gu Xishu into her plan again before Gu Xishu took action. Today was her first day on the mountain, and she still had a few days left to wear Gu Xishu down. Unexpectedly, not long after her arrival, she got the news that Gu Xishu had taken action, which spared her the effort of wearing Gu Xishu down.

Gu Xishu was a ruthless person, but she showed such a weak and helpless expression, which made E’niang feel sick of her.

“Will she really be fine? My aunt... my aunt is so old...” Gu Xishu cried and wiped her tears with a handkerchief.

“She will, she will. Madam Wen will be fine.” E’niang comforted her in a soft voice. Gu Xishu looked worried, and E’niang was trying to comfort her. It was as if they were really worried.

When Madam Wen’s servants came in and saw their expressions, they felt that the two were really worried.

When Madam Wen woke up in the afternoon, both E'niang and Gu Xishu were by her bed. Both of them looked very tired. Before they could speak, the servant girls and the old maids had told Madam Wen everything that had happened, especially about the critical situation at that time. It was E'niang who offered the ginseng to save Madam Wen, which saved her from danger.

Later, when Gu Xishu was at a loss, it was also E'niang who helped to get an imperial physician over.

Madam Wen looked at E'niang with much gentler eyes and said reluctantly, "Thank you for your help!"

"Aunt, I will thank Aunt Lu properly. Have a good rest. Just now, you fell... I... I was almost scared to death. If you got into danger for real, I don't know what will happen to me. How... how will I explain it to my cousin? I might as well die with you!"

Gu Xishu came over with a bowl of medicine, and her eyes were red. When she saw Madam Wen's expression, she couldn't help crying again.

"Good girl, I'm sorry that I got you worried!" Madam Wen said slowly in a low voice and reached out to hold Gu Xishu's hand. She felt touched. After all, she had raised Gu Xishu. Although this girl had a bad character, she was sincere and filial to her.

"Aunt!" Gu Xishu took Madam Wen's hand, sat down on the edge of the bed, wiped her tears with a handkerchief, and said with a smile, which looked more and more pitiful at this time. "Take the medicine first. Anything else should be set aside for now. As long as you get better, I can do anything."

As Gu Xishu said, she tried the medicine for Madam Wen. The taste of the medicine was very bitter and strong, but she took it with a smile, which moved Madam Wen. Gu Xishu had never liked to take medicine since she was a child. Every time Madam Wen had her take medicine, she would have to

comfort her and coax her into taking it. Madam Wen didn't expect Gu Xishu to be so filial that she would try the medicine for her.

"Aunt, it's not hot. You can have it first. I'll ask someone to prepare the honey for you." Gu Xishu offered a spoonful of medicine to Madam Wen.

Madam Wen nodded and took it.

Gu Xishu helped Madam Wen with the medicine slowly and carefully. After that, she handed the bowl to the servant girl beside her and gently wiped the medicine on Madam Wen's lips with a handkerchief.

Her careful and considerate look made Madam Wen feel sorry for her. "I wronged this child before. She's kind and would never have bad intentions. After all, Xichi is a man and doesn't know much about girls, so he misunderstood Xishu."

"Since you're fine, I'll go back first, Madam Wen. I originally asked Miss Gu to burn incense with me." E'niang took two steps forward and said goodbye to Madam Wen.

At this time, how could Madam Wen let her go back like this? She hadn't thanked E'niang properly yet, she stopped her with a smile and said, "Since you're here, you should go for a walk with Xishu. I... I'm in poor health and need to have a good rest. I can't have Xishu alone."

"Aunt, I'm not going anywhere. I'll stay here with you. I'll go wherever you go!" Gu Xishu said eagerly.

Seeing her anxious look with a hint of care, Madam Wen felt more and more pleased and didn't want to wrong her. She took her hand with a low smile and patted it, saying, "Good girl, I'm fine. I just need to recuperate. You will go out to burn incense, worship the Buddha, and redeem a vow to the Buddha for me. Coincidentally... E'niang is around, so she can go with you!"

It was a big deal to offer incense to Buddha. Even many patients would force themselves to do that.

Since Madam Wen had said so, Gu Xishu couldn't refuse. Then, she asked E'niang to stay in the courtyard as Madam Wen expected.

Chapter 1222 I Must Thank Her

After getting the news, Wen Xichi rushed to Huaguang Temple while send a letter to Prime Minister Wen.

He came here on a horse at a high speed, but someone was faster than him. Especially when he saw that the road in front of him was jammed by someone's carriage, Wen Xichi had to pull the reins.

Prince Chen's carriage was almost twice as wide as an ordinary carriage. He was now lying sideways in the carriage leisurely, and the speed of the carriage was not slow.

But even so, Wen Xichi was still anxious. Being stuck at the back, he couldn't wait, so he had to take a few steps forward to catch up with the guard behind the carriage. He cupped his hands to salute the guard and said, "Please report to His Highness Prince Chen that Wen Xichi asks to see him."

Wen Xichi had extraordinary strength, and his father was the Prime Minister. The guard didn't dare to neglect him and immediately went to report.

After a while, he came out and said to Wen Xichi with cupped fists, "Your Excellency, His Highness invites you to come in."

Wen Xichi jumped off the horse, threw the reins to the servant, strode to the front of the carriage, and made an obeisance by cupping one hand in the other before his chest to Chu Liuchen in the carriage.

The curtain was lifted. Chu Liuchen narrowed his eyes and asked lazily, "What's the matter, Third Young Master Wen?"

"Something happened to my mother in the temple on the mountain. I want to go up the mountain as soon as possible to see her," Wen Xichi said seriously.

"Something happened to Madam Wen?" Chu Liuchen frowned slightly and said, "Do you need an imperial physician? I happen to have one with me."

"Thank you, Your Highness. I don't need it for the time being. Could you make way for me so that I can hurry?" Wen Xichi said.

"Of course. Lord Wen, please go ahead!" Chu Liuchen was very easygoing. After he gave the order, the fleet stopped for a while. After thanking Chu Liuchen again, Wen Xichi mounted the horse and went up the mountain.

"Is Prince Chen really different from what my father said?"

Wen Xichi didn't expect Chu Liuchen to be so easygoing. He pursed his lips to hide the gloom in his eyes, took a deep breath, and suppressed the unwillingness in his heart.

After Wen Xichi left, Chu Liuchen ordered the carriage to go up the mountain and speed up.

Wen Xichi rode the horse up the mountain and hurried to Madam Wen. As soon as he entered the courtyard, he saw Gu Xishu coming out to him crying. He dodged to the side.

Gu Xishu lost her balance and almost fell. The servant girl standing behind her was smart and hurried forward to support her. The two shook, but fortunately, they stood firm.

"Third Cousin... it's my fault. I wanted to come up the mountain to offer incense. I didn't intend to get Aunt into such big danger. Third Cousin, please punish me!"

Gu Xishu cried with tears, and her clothes seemed to be a little messy with a few strands of hair falling down. Somehow, this kind of mess made her appear more delicate and pitiful than before.

"Where is my mother?" Wen Xichi didn't look at Gu Xishu at all, so he certainly wouldn't see her carefully made pitiful look.

He strode in.

"Third Cousin!" Gu Xishu hurriedly chased after him and almost fell in a hurry. Finally, she followed Wen Xichi in and saw E'niang bowing to Wen Xichi.

"Third Cousin, this is..." Gu Xishu wanted to introduce E'niang to Wen Xichi, but she saw Wen Xichi rushing in and ignoring E'niang, who was standing at the door.

E'niang raised her head and gestured to Gu Xishu, who hurriedly followed Wen Xichi in.

Seeing Madam Wen lying on the bed, Wen Xichi was so worried that his face changed greatly. He took two steps forward and reached out to hold Madam Wen's arm.

Hearing the voice, Madam Wen opened her eyes and said softly, "Xichi, you're here. I'm fine!"

"Mother, let me feel your pulse." Wen Xichi stretched out his hand. Although his medical skills were not amazing, he still knew how to feel someone's pulse.

"I'm really fine. Fortunately, Xishu and E'niang are here today. You have to thank them later," Madam Wen said weakly.

Wen Xichi took his hand off Madam Wen's wrist and slightly relaxed his handsome eyebrows. His mother's injury had basically stabilized.

"Third Cousin, it's all thanks to the ginseng sent by Aunt Lu. Otherwise, Aunt Wen would've been in great danger. The imperial physician said she was lucky!" Gu Xishu had already come in. At this time, she spoke softly. She pinched the handkerchief in her hand, lowered her head, and blamed herself. "It's all my fault that I didn't take good care of Aunt Wen. Otherwise, such a thing wouldn't have happened to her."

"How can it be your fault? I didn't expect that I would miss my step. I was careless. It's not your fault!" Madam Wen comforted her.

"Aunt!" The eyes of Gu Xishu turned red again. "It's my fault..."

"What happened exactly?" Wen Xichi interrupted Gu Xishu impatiently, and his eyes fell on the woman who followed Gu Xishu in.

"She bowed to me at the door of the outer room just now. Is she the mistress of Shao Jing, who is said to be the lost legitimate daughter of the former imperial censor?"

Gu Xishu was interrupted by Wen Xichi and panicked. She looked at Madam Wen pitifully and said, "Aunt, Third Cousin..."

"Xichi, it's all thanks to what Xishu and E'niang did today. Don't shout at them. They're both timid." Madam Wen protected Gu Xishu right away.

Wen Xichi looked at E'niang without blinking. After looking her up and down for a long time, he suddenly asked, "Where did you get the ginseng?"

"It's mine." E'niang had to answer.

"Third Cousin..." Gu Xishu wanted to continue but was interrupted by Wen Xichi rudely. "Cousin, I have to figure out the cause and effect of this matter. Why do you stop me from asking questions again and again?"

What he said rendered Gu Xishu speechless. She could only lower her head and clench the handkerchief in her hand with a guilty conscience.

“Third Cousin is so smart. Will he tell that something’s wrong? Why isn’t Second Cousin the one who came over today? If it were my Second Cousin, he would believe whatever I say. With him around, Aunt Wen would definitely believe that E’niang is her savior. After this, Aunt Wen will introduce her to a Madam from an aristocratic family, and she will do much better than me.

“Moreover, the most important thing is that even if E’niang leaves, it will have nothing to do with me. After all, it will be Aunt Wen who introduces her to some Madam.

“Since Aunt Wen is injured, I can show my filial piety. Of course, Third Cousin will not be in the mood to get married. If his marriage gets delayed, again and again, I will definitely have Aunt Wen agree to let me marry Third Cousin. This is killing two birds with one stone.”

Gu Xishu had thought it through when she took action back then.

But now she was really flustered. She kept twisting the handkerchief in her hand and subconsciously paying attention to the conversation between Wen Xichi and E’niang. “E’niang should be more experienced than me, so she can’t possibly have what we did expose, right?”

“Excuse me, why did you bring ginseng with you when you went up the mountain? I heard that it’s 100-year-old ginseng.” Wen Xichi pressed E’niang rudely, his eyes falling on Gu Xishu’s hand. Gu Xishu had a habit. Maybe she didn’t notice it. Every time she panicked, she would pinch her handkerchief hard.

“I bought the ginseng by chance to nurse my health. I brought it up the mountain because I wanted to have some peace and quiet days on the mountain before I nurse my health.” E’niang lowered her head. Although there was still a smile on her face, it was very bitter. It was obvious that she had something in her mind that she found it hard to disclose.

Wen Xichi raised his eyebrows and asked, “You need to nurse your health? Why?”

E’niang lowered her head more and more. “I’m not in good health. I need to nurse my health, so...”

Speaking of this, E’niang seemed to have come to her senses. She raised her head in astonishment, looked at Wen Xichi, and then looked at Madam Wen, who was lying on the bed. She stretched out her fingers and suddenly realized

something. "Your Excellency, do you suspect me? I'm not familiar with Madam Wen. How could I want to plot against her? What's more, I don't have the chance to get close to Madam Wen."

At this point, she was so angry that her face turned pale. She bowed sideways to Madam Wen, who was lying on the bed, and said, "Madam Wen, if that's what you think, I'll go back first. It was just a coincidence. I'm sorry if Lord Wen doesn't appreciate this coincidence!"

She said that Wen Xichi didn't appreciate that coincidence. That was to say, he didn't believe that she had saved Madam Wen so coincidentally.

Her words sounded a little guilty. Madam Wen was lying in bed and was in poor health. Hearing what E'niang said, she flew into a rage. She sat up with the help of an old maid, patted the edge of the bed hard with the other hand, and said angrily, "Xichi, what do you mean? Do you think she shouldn't have saved me? Or do you think I shouldn't have survived the disaster?"

Thinking that she had almost died, Madam Wen felt sad and burst into tears at once. "Xichi, I thought that you came up the mountain in such a hurry because you cared about me, but you suspected her intention while she had saved me. Why did E'niang save me? Did she try to hurt me?"

At this point, the more she thought about it, the more aggrieved she felt, and she burst into tears.

Wen Xichi didn't expect that things would turn out to be like this. He glanced at the faces of Gu Xishu and E'niang coldly. He was sure that there must be something fishy about this matter. However, when his mother cried like this, he couldn't leave her alone. His mother's body couldn't stand any torture at the moment. If this fuss got her into real danger, he would regret it.

"Don't cry, Mother. I'm just asking. I'm not really suspecting anyone." Wen Xichi comforted Madam Wen while pulling his clothes. He had gone up the mountain in a hurry, and his clothes were still wet. "Mother, if I didn't care about you, why would I ride a horse up the mountain? I was afraid that Father would be worried, so I sent a message to him before."

Seeing that his attitude softened, Madam Wen felt a little better. She didn't really want to make a scene. She knew that her son was also concerned about her. Seeing that he looked tired and he was still wearing the official uniform of the Ministry of Justice, she knew that he came directly from the Ministry of Justice and felt sorry for him.

Among her three sons, Wen Xichi was the most promising and the one she liked the most.

“Son, it’s all thanks to E’niang this time. It’s not an exaggeration to say that she saved my life. You can’t interrogate her like you do in the Ministry of Justice. You should thank her instead!” Madam Wen wiped her tears and stopped making a fuss.

“Don’t worry, Mother. I will definitely thank her.” Wen Xichi promised without hesitation with deep eyes.

He knew that there was something wrong with Gu Xishu and E’niang.

Chapter 1223 The Misfortune Doctor Qiu

Doctor Qiu had always been the busiest doctor. He worked from the Mansion of the Prime Minister to Marquis Xing’s Mansion, and then to Prince Zhou’s Mansion before he finally entered the Imperial Palace. However, he didn’t do well in the Palace.

On the one hand, there were too many rules in the Palace, which made him very uncomfortable. On the other hand, the imperial physicians in the Palace did not like him very much.

The imperial physicians had their own systems, and the doctors who newly entered the Palace would also become imperial physicians. Only Doctor Qiu was different. He was sent by Prince Zhou to help nurse the Empress. He was different from those doctors who had entered the Palace in the past. No matter why those doctors entered the Palace, they would inevitably be included in the branch of imperial physicians.

When Prince Zhou sent Doctor Qiu to the Palace, the former once said that Doctor Qiu would only stay there for a period, which meant that he would eventually go back. Originally, it would be a few days, so the imperial physicians in the Palace did not care about it.

But Doctor Qiu’s stay had been prolonged infinitely because of the Empress.

This made the imperial physicians increasingly displeased with Doctor Qiu, who seemed to be an outsider, and his behavior made people feel that he was a sneaky person. Previously, he was protected by the Empress, so no one dared to say anything ill about him. Now the Empress could barely keep herself safe, so how could she protect him?

Doctor Qiu had a hard time in the Palace. Not only did the imperial physicians dislike him, but even the imperial concubines wanted to target him because of the Empress.

Doctor Qiu was very smart. He made a mistake and was sent back to Prince Zhou’s Mansion after being beaten.

Since he got what he was asked to do done, it was unwise for him to stay in the Palace. Compared with the Palace, Prince Zhou's Mansion was the safest place for him. A small beating would not kill him.

Doctor Qiu knew things very well. The Empress couldn't keep herself safe, and she was very low-key now. Even if something happened to him, she would not help him. It was better for him to save himself.

Moreover, he succeeded in doing that.

A small palace sedan sent him out of the Palace. Doctor Qiu was half-lying in the sedan. Although he couldn't turn around at will, he was very proud and in a good mood.

The sedan suddenly stopped, and Doctor Qiu was slightly surprised. "We shouldn't have arrived at Prince Zhou's Mansion by now."

He frowned and was about to speak when the door of the sedan was suddenly lifted. The light from the outside came in, making it impossible for Doctor Qiu to see the person's face clearly for a moment. He only felt that it was a man, and then everything went black, and his whole body was covered with a black bag.

"Who... who are you?" Doctor Qiu was shocked and struggled desperately.

The bag was very big, and the man was very agile. After getting Doctor Qiu in the bag, the man pulled the bag down and wrapped Doctor Qiu in it, who then was hit heavily on the head and fainted.

When Doctor Qiu woke up, he moved his hands and feet with difficulty, which were tied up, and he couldn't move at all. He was even injured, and the pain became more and more intense.

He gritted his teeth and looked up at this place. It was an ordinary room, but he couldn't tell where it was.

Who was it that wanted to target him? Did that person work for the Palace?

In fact, there were not many people who dared to hurt Doctor Qiu after knowing that he worked for Prince Zhou, but he couldn't afford to offend any of them. Doctor Qiu was in a panic.

"You're awake?" A voice came from behind a screen in front of Doctor Qiu. Footsteps came from behind the screen. A guard came out and looked him up and down with cold eyes.

This kind of coldness didn't just emit from the guard's face. Doctor Qiu was experienced. This coldness came from evil Qi. Since that guard had such

strong evil Qi, it meant that he was surely not ordinary. The guards with such evil Qi were all unusual. At least, Doctor Qiu had never seen a guard with such strong evil Qi around Prince Zhou.

Doctor Qiu shivered and asked with a pale face, "Who... who are you?"

The guard looked down at him and asked, "Tell me who you are."

"I... I'm an imperial physician from the Palace. No... no, I'm a doctor sent by Prince Zhou to the Palace to treat the Empress." Doctor Qiu did not understand what the guard meant and answered in a trembling voice.

"You work for Prince Yue, don't you?" The guard sneered, took out a soft whip from his waist, and whipped it on the ground.

"No... No. I work for Prince Zhou." Doctor Qiu was very scared, but he didn't dare to say anything inappropriate.

Some inappropriate words would kill him. Although he had got several people killed, it did not mean that he was not afraid of death. In fact, he was more afraid of death than anyone else, so he got a powerful backer. Otherwise, if he was discovered that he got someone killed because of his treatment, he would be beaten to death.

"I heard that you are a relative of the cousin Miss of the Mansion of the Prime Minister. Was she who recommended you to Marquis Xing's Mansion?" The guard ignored him and stood with his back to the light, with an unclear meaning in his eyes.

"Yes... yes..." Doctor Qiu stammered. He was not afraid of being investigated for that matter.

"You killed Miss Wang of Marquis Xing's Mansion, didn't you? Who asked you to do that?" The guard changed the topic, which seemed to have nothing to do with the previous topic.

Doctor Qiu felt his heart beat faster. "Someone is investigating Wang Yishu's incident again? Since Wang Shengxue is dead, why would someone investigate the matter of Wang Yishu again?"

"About this..." Doctor Qiu said.

The guard said slowly, "If you want to lie, I'll break one of your hands. This whip has killed a lot of people, but I'll just use it to smash your hand!"

There was even a hint of a smile on his face, but it made people feel cold from the bottom of their hearts.

"It was... it was Madam Jiang's order." Doctor Qiu gritted his teeth and rattled Madam Jiang out. Anyway, Madam Jiang was dead now, so it didn't matter if the truth was revealed.

The guard fiddled with the whip in his hand and said, "What's the use of Madam Jiang having Wang Yishu killed?"

"She tried to frame Princess Chen and have her bear the responsibility of killing Miss Wang." Since Doctor Qiu had started talking, it was not so difficult for him to say the rest of what happened.

"Even if the truth is found out, so what? The victim and the criminal are both dead. I'm just a doctor. Even if I've made some minor mistakes, Prince Zhou will protect him. And at this time, I have to tell the truth. Those who know the situation are wise. At present, it's better for me to be obedient in order to keep myself safe!"

Doctor Qiu felt a little relieved when the guard merely asked that question.

"I heard that you have been studying some strange medicine many years ago. When did you develop the Fake Dead Medicine?" The guard suddenly changed the topic.

The topic changed too fast. When Doctor Qiu relaxed a little, he subconsciously felt that the next question would not be too hard to answer, so he hurriedly said, "More than a decade ago..."

At this point, Doctor Qiu stopped in astonishment, and he was so scared that his eyes widened.

"It has been developed more than ten years ago, hasn't it?" The guard suddenly squatted down and looked at Doctor Qiu with a pair of cold eyes, which made him feel like being targeted by a poisonous snake.

"No... no, what do you mean by Fake Dead Medicine? I... I don't understand what you're talking about!" Doctor Qiu said. His pupils dilated, and he struggled unconsciously and tried hard to defend himself.

"You don't understand?" The guard suddenly smiled and stood up. The whip in his hand fell hard on Doctor Qiu's back. He screamed in pain and almost fainted.

When the whip fell on his wound, his heart-wrenching pain made him only scream for a while, and then he couldn't even make a sound.

It hurt to the extreme.

“Tell me, what’s up with Shao Yanru? Why hasn’t she died yet? Why did she secretly go to see Marquis Xing?” The guard sneered and raised the whip in his hand high again, as if he didn’t want Doctor Qiu to say anything more and just wanted to find a random topic to kill the doctor once. The whip fell heavily on him.

It was another heart-wrenching pain.

Doctor Qiu was in so much pain that he almost couldn’t think straight, but his mind was extremely clear. “What does he want? Did he see Shao Yanru appear? Does he have the evidence?”

“What did I say back then? I promised that she would never appear again. Shao Jing has promised me, and that woman has never shown up in public again for so many years.

“I thought that Shao Jing was trustworthy, so I helped Shao Yanru. Unexpectedly, I got discovered as soon as I left the Palace.

“Shao Yanru is really a good-for-nothing and is good at spoiling things.

“I shouldn’t have helped her at that time. This woman has a pair of ambitious eyes, and she is promiscuous. It’s obvious that she is not a good person.”

After the sharp pain subsided a little, Doctor Qiu endured the great pain and said loudly, “I... I’ll tell you...” “Since they all knew it, why should I hide the fact?”

He had said everything he could so that he could stall for time to get reinforcements.

The following things were much simpler. Doctor Qiu told the guard everything about Shao Yanru in detail, saying that someone in the Palace was helping Shao Yanru, but he didn’t know who it was. It should be someone with some power. Otherwise, they wouldn’t have come to him without letting him know while helping Shao Yanru plan.

The guard put down what Doctor Qiu knew on several sheets in total. By the time Doctor Qiu finished speaking, he was in so much pain that he fainted.

The guard took a look at the sheets and was quite satisfied. He asked someone to untie Doctor Qiu and give him something to eat. For the time being, he could not kill him.

The information disclosed by Doctor Qiu appeared on the desk of Chu Liuchen. Looking at the statements on these pieces of paper, Chu Liuchen slightly showed a faint smile. The Fake Dead Medicine, this medicine was

developed by Mingqiu Nun and Qi Jue together. It was actually the Fake Dead Medicine, by which one could fake one's death to escape. Shao Yanru was really not simple. She could even escape after entering the Palace.

Of course, Shao Yanru was not capable enough to make that happen alone. There were also Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou, as well as Prince Cheng and another group of people.

When Chu Liuchen thought of that, his slender fingers tapped lightly on the table, and his beautiful eyes were filled with coldness.

"Did you ask about what happened more than a decade ago?"

"Your Highness, he didn't talk about that. He only said that he just developed the medicine. He didn't know what happened more than a decade ago, and he didn't come to the capital at that time!" Xiao Xuanzi reported, "He passed out before I asked him more!"

"You'll ask him after he recuperates for a period. He'd better recover from his injuries as soon as possible. After that, you'll beat him up like this again. If he still refuses to talk, repeat this process," Chu Liuchen said coldly.

If Doctor Qiu kept being beaten alone, he might be able to handle it. But if he was beaten again and again after repeated recuperation, he would not be able to take it.

By doing this, Chu Liuchen meant that he would not stop until he got the answer. Xiao Xuanzi secretly prayed for Doctor Qiu because he had offended Chu Liuchen. "Doctor Qiu is truly unlucky..."



Chapter 1224 Guilt! Wen Xichi Chose His Side

After visiting the Empress Dowager, Chu Liuchen took Shao Wanru to the back mountain.

The scenery in the back mountain was good, especially in the purple bamboo forest where there were not many people. Not everyone could come here.

Chu Liuchen held Shao Wanru's hand, and the two of them rolled down their wide sleeves. Even so, Shao Wanru still felt a little embarrassed, and her watery eyes looked a little shy.

Xiao Xuanzi and Yujie stayed far away from them and did not disturb their peace.

The sound of falling leaves came from under one's feet. It was not loud, but it was peaceful.

After a long while, Shao Wanru said softly, "Gu Xishu made such a scene today, and Madam Wen is more and more obedient to her now. E'niang should be a favorite in front of her now."

Chu Liuchen nodded and said sarcastically, "Madam Wen trusts her niece very much."

Did she trust her niece too much? Shao Wanru inexplicably recalled that she had been driven out. Because her lips were naturally red, Gu Xishu said that she was dissolute and wore makeup at a funeral. Madam Wen actually believed those words, which showed that she listened to whatever Guxishu said.

What had happened in Shao Wanru's last life seemed to be getting farther and farther away from her. Since she married Chu Liuchen, she felt that what happened in the past was like dreams that were not so real.

"In the end, Madam Wen will suffer losses because of this niece," Shao Wanru said lightly.

"Since she trusts this niece so much, let's help her." Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows. He had always been ruthless to irrelevant people. But since Madam Wen was so stupid that she liked a girl who targeted Zhuozhuo, he thought that there was no need to sympathize with her.

"Many noble madams will come to the royal temple in Huaguang Temple. Since the Madam of Prime Minister has fallen and it is inconvenient for her to go down the mountain, she will probably stay here for some days." Shao Wanru vaguely guessed the plan of E'niang and Gu Xishu.

Based on the fact that E'niang had saved the Madam of Prime Minister and that Gu Xishu had accompanied her to put in a good word for her, it was very easy for E'niang to get Madam Wen's favor. Madam Wen would probably take E'niang out every time she met her guests.

Shao Wanru's long eyelashes fluttered twice. She had deliberately slowed down before because she wanted Gu Xishu to stop her. E'niang would definitely not want to see her at this time, for fear that she would find out something.

It just so happened that she just went over to show her care and did not intend to intervene in the matter of the Madam of Prime Minister.

The Madam of the Prime Minister had a poor judgment of people. In Shao Wanru's last life, Madam Wen clearly knew that Shao Wanru had nowhere to go, but she still drove her out. If it weren't for the help of Chu Liuchen, Shao Wanru would probably have been dead by then.

If Shao Wanru didn't have the protection of the Mansion of the Prime Minister, it would be very easy for Madam Jiang and Shao Yanru to kill her.

Now she could just stand by and watch without interfering directly, which could be regarded as her repaying the tenderness and protection that Wen Xichi had given her at that time.

"Greetings, Your Highness Prince Chen and Princess Chen!" Wen Xichi suddenly came out of the roadside. When he saw them, he was stunned for a moment. He was also very surprised to see them here, but then he stepped forward and saluted.

"Lord Wen, please don't stand on ceremony!" Chu Liuchen waved his hand and said with a faint smile, "How is your mother's injury?"

"Thank you for your care, Your Highness Prince Chen. My mother has recovered from her injury. She should be fine now!" Wen Xichi said. He

glanced at Shao Wanru beside him and asked, "Your Highness Princess Chen, can I have a word with His Highness?"

"Please go ahead, Lord Wen!" Although Shao Wanru was surprised that Wen Xichi asked for Chu Liuchen, she still nodded with a smile and went to the path on the side with Yujie.

"What's the matter, Lord Wen?" Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows and looked at Wen Xichi with interest.

"I wish to talk to you about something, Your Highness," Wen Xichi said.

"Go ahead!" Chu Liuchen nodded indifferently and continued walking forward, followed by Wen Xichi.

"Do you know about Marquis Xing's mistress, Your Highness?" Wen Xichi came straight to the point. "I heard that this mistress is the daughter of the former imperial censor, and she was lost in the capital city. Now she is in my mother's place!"

Chu Liuchen squinted at him and said, "Zhuozhuo once told me that someone saved your mother. It turns out that she is the mistress of Marquis Xing. They happened to meet each other. It's not a big deal!"

"Your Highness, this woman is not simple, and neither is Marquis Xing!" Wen Xichi said slowly.

He was neither fast nor slow while speaking, and he seemed to be in a calm mood.

"Is there anything unusual about what he said in the Ministry of Justice?" Chu Liuchen said lazily with a slight smile.

Wen Xichi said, "There was nothing unusual when Marquis Xing made his statement in the Ministry of Justice. There wasn't any error. When the former Duke Xing was killed before, several people saw Marquis Xing in the capital

city, so it's impossible for him to have anything to do with the death of the former Duke Xing. As for the death of Infanta Qinghua, it was because she was in poor spirits. She died because she gave birth to the young heir not long ago at that time, and she was overly worried. It's said that Rui'an Great Elder Princess went to check her body in person, so it's not his fault."

"Everything has nothing to do with Marquis Xing, so he appears very innocent, isn't it?" Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows.

"That's what appears to be, so I let him go back to Marquis Xing's Mansion first," Wen Xichi said. The higher-ups found that there was nothing unusual about this matter. It had happened too long ago. Shao Jing said that he had not left the capital city. When Wen Xichi asked others about it, they also said that Shao Jing should be in the capital city by then.

"Do you think that he is innocent, Lord Wen?" Chu Liuchen suddenly smiled and rolled his eyes. There was an inexplicable emotion in his deep eyes, which made it hard for others to tell whether he was happy or angry at this time.

Wen Xichi didn't answer immediately. After a long while, he stepped on the fallen leaves and said, "I think he lied."

"Why?" Chu Liuchen stopped and looked at Wen Xichi in surprise.

"What he said is too perfect, as if it had been prepared a long time ago. In fact, he was the one who benefited from Madam Jiang's death. There is another flaw, which is E'niang. She's not a simple woman and knows martial arts!"

"She knows martial arts?" Chu Liuchen didn't know about it and raised his eyebrows.

"Yes, she knows martial arts. My mother was in danger today, and it is said that she was a little far away from my mother. Even if the servant girls and old

maids serving my mother reacted slowly, she couldn't have been so fast. For so many years, she has been Shao Jing's mistress and rarely appeared in public. How could she be so agile? What's more, my mother said that no one was very close to her at that time. She suddenly tripped and fell. If she wasn't tripped by someone deliberately, it must be someone who knew martial arts and threw something at her. That was why she tripped..."

Wen Xichi analyzed it in detail.

This matter was really strange. He had specially asked his mother and always felt that it was Gu Xishu who had done this to his mother. However, Gu Xishu was very innocent. At that time, she was still some distance away from his mother. Gu Xishu appeared to be just a weak well-behaved girl. It was impossible for her to do this from so far away and hurt Madam Wen.

"But if it's not her, who else could it be?"

"E'niang is the most suspicious one!"

Unlike Madam Wen, Wen Xichi was smart, decisive, and shrewd. It was easy for him to see through the changes in the matter.

In order to prove his guess, he went to ask Gu Xishu later. Gu Xishu was very flustered. The more he asked her, the more flustered she became. Later, she simply cried and said that she was also frightened at that time and couldn't tell what was going on. The more he asked, the more she cried, and she was unwilling to talk about it. It was obvious that she was guilty.

After listening to Wen Xichi's detailed analysis, Chu Liuchen looked at him with a faint smile and said, "Are you going to do nothing while your mother is deceived?"

"Since she can't judge people well, she should be taught a lesson!" Wen Xichi said with a cold face and slightly lowered his head, as if he wasn't talking about his biological mother.

His expression surprised Chu Liuchen. He had thought that Wen Xichi would tell his mother about this immediately and expose Gu Xishu.

“I heard that Madam Wen likes you, her youngest son,” Chu Liuchen said curiously.

Madam Wen adored her youngest son the most, but he didn’t seem to care much about her being bullied. It was really surprising.

“My mother dotes on Gu Xishu too much.” Wen Xichi was silent for a moment. His heart was torn apart and he was very upset.

In his dream, the girl he cared about was thrown out with a pale face. Being despised by so many people, she was weak, embarrassed, and pitiful in front of his tomb. He saw it, but he could only watch her being humiliated and driven away while he could do nothing about it. That deep hatred had always been a heart-wrenching pain for him.

He could forgive his mother for her preference for his second brother and Gu Xishu, but he would not allow the woman he cared about to suffer so much grievance and harm after his death.

There was a flash of gloom in his gentle eyes. “Some things have indeed happened. So what if they happened in my past life? So what if it’s in this life?”

“The Ministry of Justice will pay attention to Marquis Xing. If there is any progress, I will send a letter to Prince Chen’s Mansion,” Wen Xichi said and looked at Chu Liuchen without dodging his eyes.

He didn’t mean to just deliver a letter. He was taking sides.

He chose to take the same side as Chu Liuchen without hesitation. He was not as dispensable as he used to be with Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuchen suddenly smiled, which made people feel that he was as handsome as jade and unparalleled in the world. After smiling for a while, he raised his handsome eyebrows and then stopped smiling. He immediately showed a cold murderous look and said, "Third Young Master Wen, do you know what you are doing?"

Sensing the sharp gaze of Chu Liuchen, Wen Xichi nodded and said seriously, "I do!"

Of course, he knew what he was doing. He chose to take Prince Chen's side, which was what he must do. Only in this way could he protect the girl he cared about and prevent her from being as miserable and sad as she was in her last life.

Wen Xichu thought it was true that Chu Liuchen was more suitable for her than he was.

"Don't worry, Your Highness. Since I've expressed my intention here, I'll follow your lead from now on," Wen Xichi said without any hesitation.

In fact, he had been looking for an opportunity to tell Prince Chen about it. During his observation these days, he could sense some of Prince Chen's little tricks. He clearly knew what kind of man Prince Chen in front of him was. Only Prince Chen could protect Shao Wanru with all his heart.

In this case, what else could Wen Xichi ask for? In his last life, he owed Shao Wanru. In this life, he only hoped that she could be safe and happy.

Chapter 1225 Send a Message for Her

E'niang didn't expect her plan to go so smoothly. It was so smooth that she couldn't believe it.

The news that Madam Wen had fallen somehow got out. When the madams from aristocratic families, who had come up the mountain to offer incense, heard the news, they all came to visit Madam Wen.

The two Prime Ministers in the imperial court, whether Prime Minister Wen or Prime Minister Zhang, were both the people those madams wanted to curry favor with. In the past, when they were in Prime Minister's Mansions, they might not get the chance to see the Prime Ministers or their madams. Now it was such a coincidence. Any madam who had a rather powerful background wanted to take the opportunity of visiting Madam Wen to get herself known. Maybe it would be a great chance for her husband or son to get promoted.

For a time, Madam Wen's incense room was particularly lively.

Many madams, who had only met Madam Wen once, also came over. They had thought that Madam Wen would definitely not see them, but they didn't expect that Madam Wen was particularly easygoing this time. Whoever came over got to meet Madam Wen.

Therefore, those madams saw Gu Xishu, the cousin Miss of the Mansion of the Prime Minister, and E'niang, the lost daughter of the former imperial censor.

In fact, what had happened to E'niang had already been spread out in private. It was said that she was not only the mistress of Marquis Xing but also the daughter of the former imperial censor. Everyone was in the mood to watch the show and didn't take it seriously.

People doubted if she was the daughter of the former imperial censor. If she was really Imperial Censor Lu's mistress's daughter, he would be utterly disgraced even if he died, not to mention that he was still alive.

He had been demoted before, but he might have a chance to work in the imperial court again. If he came back and knew about this incident, he would surely be furious.

Unexpectedly, E'niang really dared to appear in public. Seeing that she was very proud in front of Madam Wen, and Madam Wen introduced her to the madams one by one, they were very sensible. They all greeted E'niang with a smile and were very kind. They let Lu E'niang in without Madam Wen saying anything.

All the madams who stayed overnight in Huaguang Temple knew E'niang.

And they were very optimistic about her.

E'niang had the support of Madam Wen, and Marquis Xing had no First Madam now. In addition, E'niang had an extraordinary family background. According to these points, she would be the future Madam of Marquis Xing.

Thinking of this, everyone pretended that they didn't know that it was bad of E'niang to be a mistress and talked to her with a smile. Many people gave gifts to E'niang and held her intimately.

Every time this happened, Madam Wen would smile and express her satisfaction with E'niang. She would say that it was all thanks to E'niang that she was saved. Otherwise, she would have been in real danger this time.

Gu Xishu called E'niang Aunt Lu again and again, and they were very intimate. The outsiders would believe that they were mother and daughter.

E'niang was very satisfied with becoming close with the madams of aristocratic families so quickly. After living on the mountain for two days, she accompanied Madam Wen down the mountain. They appeared so affectionate as if they were a family.

When the carriages of the Mansion of the Prime Minister left the Huaguang Temple, Shao Wanru was standing on a small mountain. When she saw that E'niang had taken Madam Wen's carriage, she smiled silently. She was not surprised by what she saw now.

E'niang had been looking for an opportunity to enter Marquis Xing's Mansion. Because of the favor of Madam Wen, she could appear in public openly and be recognized as the daughter of the imperial censor. It was no longer just a rumor.

Since it wasn't a rumor, then it was true.

"Has she arrived in the capital city?" Shao Wanru asked calmly. The wind blew up the hem of her dress, making her waist look thin and slim.

She stood on a pavilion on the top of the hill, which was facing the mountain gate. She could clearly see the mountain gate from there.

"She's about to arrive in the capital city!" Qing'er stood beside her and reported. She knew who her master was asking about.

"After she arrives, arrange for her to stay in the courtyard outside and tell her not to go out unless necessary," Shao Wanru ordered.

"Yes, My Lady!" Qing'er knew Shao Wanru's plan and answered straightforwardly. Then, she followed Shao Wanru to look down the mountain. The carriages of the Madam of Prime Minister had begun to go down the mountain one by one. Madam Wen was in the carriage in the front, as well as Gu Xishu and E'niang.

The two of them entered the carriage of the Madam of Prime Minister together just now. It seemed that they were with Madam Wen to help relieve her boredom.

“My Lady, the Madam of Prime Minister doesn’t seem to be stupid!” Qing’er said in confusion. She thought that Madam Wen seemed to be very good at talking, so how could she fall into Gu Xishu’s trap so easily?

“She trusts Gu Xishu very much. She believes everything that Gu Xishu says and does. She thinks that since she has raised Gu Xishu up, she knows her best, she thinks Gu Xishu is much better than other girls outside.” Shao Wanru sneered sarcastically. It wasn’t hard to guess Madam Wen’s thinking, who doted on Gu Xishu to the extreme.

It was to the extent that Madam Wen could even disregard other people’s lives merely because of what Gu Xishu said.

Shao Wanru thought that Madam Wen was not a nice person.

However, it had nothing to do with her. She looked away indifferently and sat down in the pavilion again. She picked up the tea made by Qing’er, took a sip, and smelled the faint fragrance of the tea.

“Help her pass on the message. It will be better if the whole capital city knows the current identity of the mistress’s daughter of Shao Jing,” Shao Wanru said lightly.

E’niang now had higher status and had come into contact with Madam Wen. It seemed that Madam Wen also liked her very much. Someone would naturally go up to flatter her and bring up the matter between E’niang and Shao Jing.

With Madam Jiang gone, it didn’t matter even if it had only been a few days. A lot of people in the world enjoyed polishing the apple.

“I’ll ask someone to spread the news about E’niang soon, especially about how she saved Madam Wen and won her favor.” Qing’er knew Shao Wanru’s intention. In this respect, she was much smarter than other servant girls, but there was one thing she didn’t quite understand. “My Lady, are you really going to let her marry into Marquis Xing’s Mansion?”

“Why not?” Shao Wanru smiled, and her eyes became meaningful in the vapor.

“Why not? She will do that!”

Especially at this time, the funeral of Madam Jiang would be held tomorrow. At the time of her inexplicable death, Madam Jiang had been found to be

disreputable. She had been grounded and lost her reputation. Then, she made such a big scene in front of the gate of Marquis Xing's Mansion, which almost became a joke in the entire capital city. Shao Jing was so angry that he planned to bury her hastily. The funeral would be held tomorrow, and the day after tomorrow, Madam Jiang would be buried.

Even the bodies of dead madams from ordinary families would be viewed for three days. Only the once arrogant Madam of Marquis Xing had come to such a miserable end.

However, she brought this upon herself.

Her death was planned by Shao Jing, and her son was also involved. Although her son didn't kill her himself, at that time, her death was the consequence of her son laundering what Marquis Xing's Mansion had done.

Shao Hua'an went to visit Madam Jiang and made Madam Jiang say that what she said before was nonsense. He comforted her and acted like he wanted to take her back and support her well. In fact, it was all an illusion. Both Shao Hua'an and Shao Jing knew what kind of place the Ministry of Justice was.

It was common for the officials of the Ministry of Justice to monitor the detainees in the room on the side when they had visitors over.

Madam Jiang was killed by Shao Jing and Shao Hua'an.

Shao Jing took action, and Shao Hua'an not only refused to save Madam Jiang but also helped with the plan. When Shao Hua'an went to see Madam Jiang, he already knew that she was doomed.

Shao Hua'an watched his biological mother fall into a desperate situation and did nothing in order to get some uncertain power. Also, he had helped with her death, which showed his cruelty.

In Shao Wanru's last life, Shao Hua'an had been an outsider.

"Let Nanny Yu talk. There is no lady in charge of Marquis Xing's Mansion, and Shao Jing won't remain a widower for three years. Third Aunt will make trouble tomorrow. Zhao Xiran doesn't have enough status. Marquis Xing's Mansion will be in chaos..." Speaking of this, Shao Wanru smiled more coldly and indifferently. She would have the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion in chaos.

Those people thought that she couldn't bear to hurt Marquis Xing's Mansion since the heir of Duke Xing was Hao'er. Shao Wanru would show them how ruthless she could be to get what she wanted.

She didn't care whether Marquis Xing's Mansion was destroyed or not. She just needed to make sure that Hao'er and her grandma were fine in this life.

Those people thought that Madam Wen and Old Madam had arranged for E'niang to marry into Marquis Xing's Mansion. In addition, the members of Marquis Xing's Mansion were suffering from trouble at home and outside the mansion. At this time, even if Shao Jing went a little too far, it would not be a big deal to let E'niang marry into the mansion as soon as possible, as long as no one objected.

Shao Yanru was determined to return to Marquis Xing's Mansion, while Shao Hua'an and Shao Jing were determined to make Shao Yanru live a better life and regain glory. Both of them were greedy, and so did E'niang.

The decline of Marquis Xing's Mansion was just around the corner.

"Let's go back. It's time to go down the mountain after packing up!" Shao Wanru stood up and walked out slowly. She had said goodbye to the Empress Dowager before. Tomorrow, Marquis Xing's Mansion would hold the funeral, and the Third Madam would make a scene in the mourning hall. In any case, Shao Wanru had to be present.

Qing'er nodded, and they went down the hill one after the other. When they returned to the courtyard, Yujie had already packed up with a group of servants. They surrounded Shao Wanru and headed for the gate of Huaguang Temple. The carriages of Prince Chen's Mansion had been waiting there for a long time. Seeing them come out, the coachmen hurriedly pulled the carriages over.

After Shao Wanru got in a carriage, several carriages went down the mountain. By the time they arrived at Prince Chen's Mansion, the chief supervisor had been waiting there with a smile. When he saw Shao Wanru get out of the carriage, he hurried forward to bow with a smile and said, "Greetings, Your Highness!"

"Where is Prince Chen?" Shao Wanru asked casually.

"His Highness Prince Chen is in the study. He asks you to go there first!"

Shao Wanru was slightly stunned and asked, "Is there anything wrong?" In the past, when she came back from outside, Chu Liuchen would come back to the yard to see her if he was missing her.

The chief supervisor said with a smile, "It's nothing serious. Queen Consort Lan just sent someone here!" He seemed to be in a good mood, so it should not be something serious.

Shao Wanru nodded and went to the outer study of Chu Liuchen with Yujie, but she was a little confused. Consort Lan's men had never been able to show up in front of Chu Liuchen. Why did Chu Liuchen receive her men now?

The chief supervisor stood at the door of the outer study. He didn't leave until he saw Shao Wanru being led in by Xiao Xuanzi. Looking at the half-open window above the study, he slowly stopped smiling and sighed helplessly. "Consort Lan is actually a poor person!"

He did not dare to say that in front of his master. He could only think to himself. He only hoped that with Princess Chen around, his master would not be so extreme.

Chapter 1226 An Extremely Desolate Funeral

"What's this?" Shao Wanru looked at the thing in front of her in astonishment and didn't recognize it for a while.

It was a small box, and the thing in the box was even smaller, occupying half of the box. If it weren't for the clear dents on the bottom of the box, she couldn't tell that the thing in the box was missing half.

"What's this?" Shao Wanru tilted her head and looked at the thing, but she still didn't recognize it. She turned to look at Chu Liuchen, who was standing by the window.

Chu Liuchen stood there with his hands clasped behind his back. Shao Wanru couldn't see his face clearly, but she inexplicably felt that he was in a very depressed mood.

After thinking about it, she took two steps forward, put her arms around his waist behind him, and put her face on his back. "If you don't want it, return it!"

She thought that he probably didn't want anything from Consort Lan.

"She is sure that I will take it!" Chu Liuchen said with a little gloom in his voice. Even if he did not turn around, Shao Wanru could imagine the coldness on his face.

"Do... do you have to take it?" Shao Wanru asked softly.

"This is the Tiger Token! The Tiger Token of the deceased emperor!" Chu Liuchen smiled and said with a sneer, "Only half of it!"

"Half of the Tiger Token?" Shao Wanru didn't understand, but it didn't prevent her from knowing the meaning of the Tiger Token. "Why only half of it?"

"She only has half of it!" Chu Liuchen said. He reached out and held Shao Wanru's hand in front of him.

His hand was cold, and hers was warm.

Shao Wanru held his hand with the other hand. She stroked his hand gently with her fingers as if she was trying to warm him up, but she didn't ask any more questions. She believed that the deceased emperor's death was the last thing he wanted to talk about.

Since he didn't talk about it, she didn't ask.

Chu Liuchen slowly calmed down. Although his eyes were still cold and his face was no longer cruel, he turned around, held Shao Wanru in his arms, looked down at the top of her head, and said slowly, "The Tiger Token of the deceased emperor can mobilize part of the military power. It was left by the deceased emperor when he fought a war. But after the war ended, the Tiger Token has been put away and has never been used again."

Shao Wanru didn't quite understand this kind of thing and said subconsciously, "That is to say, the Tiger Token is useless now?"

Chu Liuchen stroked her beautiful hair with his hand from time to time and said, "It's useful. It hasn't been used for many years, but it's still useful. It's just not as useful as it used to be. If combined with the current imperial edict, it will be more powerful!"

What a Tiger Token, combined with an imperial edict, meant was terrifying.

Shao Wanru couldn't help shivering and subconsciously hugged Chu Liuchen tightly. "What about the other half?"

"The other half was hidden by the deceased emperor. I don't know where it is. I haven't seen it for so many years," Chu Liuchen said calmly.

"What does Consort Lan want now?" Shao Wanru blinked her long eyelashes a few times and did not quite understand what the meaning within was. There was only half of the token, which meant that it was useless. What did Consort Lan want to do by sending it over?

Chu Liuchen lowered his head and said meaningfully, "Consort Lan said it was for you when she sent it here."

Shao Wanru was shocked. She pushed Chu Liuchen away and asked hurriedly, "What? It's for me? Why?" But then she suddenly understood. "It should be for you. Maybe she was afraid that you wouldn't take it, so she said that it was for me so you will get it."

Chu Liuchen shook his head and said with certainty, "No. It's for you!"

"Why is it for me?" Shao Wanru really didn't understand this time. In her opinion, Consort Lan was just afraid that Chu Liuchen wouldn't accept it, so she took the opportunity that she was giving Shao Wanru a gift so that Chu Liuchen would get the Tiger Token.

"There are two pieces of the Tiger Token. This one was supposed to be kept by a woman," Chu Liuchen said.

Shao Wanru pursed her lips. She understood.

"In that case, should we return it now?"

"It's up to you," Chu Liuchen said with gentleness in his eyes, which were no longer as gloomy as before. He looked at Shao Wanru quietly with an ambiguous look.

Shao Wanru thought for a moment, looked up at Chu Liuchen, and suddenly smiled. She walked to the table, put away the box, and said, "Since it's a gift from Consort Lan, I'll accept it. I can't refuse her kindness."

Chu Liuchen was not surprised by what Shao Wanru was doing. He smiled and said, "Since it's a gift for you, you should take it. You've just come back, and you need to have a good rest. We have to go to Marquis Xing's Mansion tomorrow."

"It's almost time for lunch. I'll have lunch here before leaving." Shao Wanru took Chu Liuchen by the hand and said softly with a gentle and charming smile, "You did prepare food for me, didn't you?" She sounded a bit embarrassed.

"Of course. I've prepared what you want to eat." Chu Liuchen smiled. This time, his smile was not only gentle and calm but also bright.

At the door, Xiao Xuanzi breathed a sigh of relief and hurriedly ordered the food to be served. The lunch had been sent here, but it seemed that Xiao Xuanzi really didn't dare to send it in. He was glad that Princess Chen was back, Prince Chen calmed down again, and everything was fine now.

The lunch was very light, but it was very sumptuous. There were a few dishes that Shao Wanru liked, so she didn't have to order any extra food at all. Shao Wanru hadn't eaten any meat in the mountain these days. Although the food in her place was light, there was a lot of meat, which made her pleased. Finally, she had a small bowl of soup before she finished eating.

Chu Liuchen had one more bowl of soup than her. He looked thin, but after recovering from his illness, he got better and ate much more than before.

After finishing the meal, Shao Wanru watched Chu Liuchen eat with a smile. When he put down the bowl, she brought him another bowl of soup. Chu Liuchen took it and had it.

Xiao Xuanzi watched from the side and smiled happily. As expected, as long as Princess Chen was here, his master would feel upset at most. How could Xiao Xuanzi not know his master's character? If Princess Chen was not here, his master would definitely think of something bad and get furious just because of the thing sent by Consort Lan.

Xiao Xuanzi was glad that Princess Chen was around.

After lunch, Shao Wanru and Chu Liuchen went for a walk hand in hand. After that, Shao Wanru returned to her courtyard with the brocade box.

After returning to the yard and taking a nap for a while, Shao Wanru got up. She was going to Marquis Xing's Mansion tomorrow, so she still needed to prepare some things.

The next day, Shao Wanru didn't go to Marquis Xing's Mansion early, but when she arrived, she found that the whole mansion was desolate. Even at the gate, there was only a small piece of white cloth hanging, indicating that there was a funeral inside. The gate was half-open, and the servants by the gate were lazy. It was hard to tell that there was a funeral, where the relevant people should be very busy.

Seeing the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion coming over, the gatekeeper hurriedly stepped forward to bow and lead the carriage back.

When Shao Wanru arrived at the parking place, there were only a few scattered carriages. They didn't look like they belonged to noble families. It should be the members of the Shao Family who came to pay their respects.

Madam Jiang's coffin was placed in a very remote place. When Shao Wanru went around the corner, she saw that only Zhao Xiran was in the mourning hall. Even Shao Hua'an was not there. Several other servant girls and old maids serving Zhao Xiran were dressed in white.

Even the decent supervisor old maid in the mansion would be honored in this way if she was dead.

Shao Wanru calmly stepped forward to offer some incense and then left. She came here today to pay her respect to Madam Jiang for the sake of Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Zhao Xiran should have been waiting for her here. After Shao Wanru finished offering incense, she said slowly, "Fifth Sister, take a seat in there."

She looked very calm, and her eyes were not very red. Although she was a little tired, she was basically calm. She was wearing coarse white clothes, which made her look quite haggard.

Shao Wanru looked around and asked, "Where is Eldest Brother?"

"He's in there. Grandma, Father, and some elders are also there," Zhao Xiran said with a pale face.

Shao Wanru frowned and asked, "Sister Zhao, what happened?"

Zhao Xiran wanted to say something but stopped on second thought. After a pause, she said, "Fifth Sister, you'd better go and see for yourself!"

Shao Wanru nodded and they went to the backyard together.

Old Madam's main room of Chuntang Courtyard was very lively. Old Madam, who had a stroke, was also there. She was half-lying on the couch in the middle. Shao Jing and Third Master Shao were sitting on one side respectively. Third Madam was sitting next to Third Master Shao, and Shao Jing was sitting beside Shao Hua'an. Shao Jie'er, Shao Caihuan, and Shao Cailing weren't there.

There were several elders of the Shao Family sitting on both sides. These elders looked a little familiar to Shao Wanru. They were there when she recognized her ancestors.

The death of Madam Jiang was a big deal for the Shao Family, so it was normal for those elders to show up now.

Seeing Shao Wanru come in, everyone present, together with Shao Jing, bowed to her. At present, Shao Wanru had the highest status. Shao Wanru said, "Please rise." Then, she sat down in the middle.

There was an empty seat saved. Members of Marquis Xing's Mansion guessed that it was impossible for Prince Chen to come, so they saved one empty seat.

The atmosphere in the room was very depressing. After sitting down, Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jing and asked softly, "Second Uncle, what were you discussing before?"

There were so many people in the room, and Zhao Xiran was the only one waiting in the mourning hall of Madam Jiang. Moreover, she was waiting for Shao Wanru there. There must be something wrong.

When Shao Wanru entered the yard just now, she heard the sound of people talking in the room from a distance, but none of them said anything at the moment.

Shao Jing sighed and said helplessly, "Your grandma just made a suggestion." His smile was no longer as flattering as before, but a little gloomy.

"Can Grandma talk in this situation?" Shao Wanru looked at Old Madam, who was lying on the couch, in surprise and raised her eyebrows slightly.

Nanny Yu stepped forward and explained with a flattering smile, "Your Highness, although Old Madam can't move, she can talk about some simple things. I heard Old Madam talking these days, and I can understand her."

"Then tell me what Grandmother has said that so many elders are disturbed." Shao Wanru raised her eyebrows and looked at the elders sitting next to her. These elders were probably the ones quarreling fiercely when she entered the room just now. It seemed that the suggestion of Old Madam was not so pleasant.

In the past, no one would dare to question what Old Madam said and did.

Chapter 1227 The Third Branch's Request to Leave

"Old Madam wants Madam Lu to marry into the family and manage the family affairs. The mansion is in chaos, and it can't stay this way. After all, the First Young Madam is a junior, so it's not convenient for her to and can't manage some things." Nanny Yu was uneasy and whispered after receiving Shao Jing's hint.

"Madam Lu?" Shao Wanru raised her eyebrows.

"She is the daughter of an imperial censor. She has been with Marquis for so many years. Old Madam means that pains also count, even without gains. Besides, she has a daughter. We can't keep the Young Madams of Marquis Xing's Mansion outside the mansion," Nanny Yu explained.

"Madam Lu is Lu E'niang, right?" Shao Wanru sneered in her heart. Shao Jing and Shao Yanru really couldn't stay calm anymore. Madam Jiang's coffin was kept in a temporary shelter before burial, and now E'niang was about to marry into the mansion. Shao Wanru wondered if Madam Jiang knew about this, whether she would be so angry that she would crawl out of the coffin and get even with her children and Shao Jing in the middle of the night.

“She’s just a mistress. She can’t become the Marquis’s secondary legal wife. Besides, Madam Jiang has just died. How can a new woman marry into the mansion now?” an elder said, displeased.

The others nodded repeatedly. They all thought that it was inappropriate.

At this time, it was not appropriate for a concubine to marry into the mansion, let alone a secondary legal wife. The so-called Madam was certainly not a concubine.

After all, Madam Jiang had just died.

“Madam Lu has an unusual identity and has been with me for so long. Madam Wen values her very much. A few days ago, in Huaguang Temple, she saved Madam Wen’s life. It’s my fault that Marquis Xing’s Mansion has become like this now. I let the Shao Family down. If things go on like this, maybe there will be no place for our Shao Family in the capital city in a few years,” Shao Jing said with a sigh.

He was using the future of the Shao Family to state his point. He made it sound as if the Shao Family would be hopeless if E’niang was not allowed to marry into their family. Shao Wanru glanced at Shao Hua’an, who had been sitting there quietly with his head down and the expression on his face unable to be seen clearly. He did not respond to what Shao Jing had said at all.

“She saved Madam Wen’s life?” The eyes of several elders lit up. They looked at each other and immediately understood the meaning in each other’s eyes.

Many aristocratic family members had known about it, including the members of the Shao Family. Prime Minister Wen and Prime Minister Zhang were important officials in the imperial court. It would be a good thing to have connections with them.

The decline of Marquis Xing’s Mansion was inevitable, and the mansion mattered to the Shao Family the most. This matter was related to the survival of the Shao Family, so the elders couldn’t say anything no matter how unwilling they were.

At the moment, they nodded reluctantly, but also repeatedly proposed that even if Madam Lu entered the mansion as a secondary legal wife, there couldn’t be any rituals at this time. At most, they could ask a few relatives to have a meal to celebrate it, and no outsiders could be invited. If this kind of thing was spread out, it would be bad.

It would be better to let others think that she was a concubine since most people would have a problem with a man marrying a secondary legal wife in a big way.

When the time came, the elders could just quietly open the family tree and record Madam Lu and her daughter in it. As for what would happen in the future, neither Shao Jing nor the elders said anything.

Since the matter had been settled, the elders saw that it was almost time to leave. Originally, they didn't intend to come over. Madam Jiang had a bad reputation and ended up like this because of her own actions. No one was willing to come over at this time. If Shao Jing hadn't specially asked them to come over, they wouldn't have been willing to pay their respects to Madam Jiang.

Old Madam showed a smile on her tilted face. It seemed that she was in a good mood.

Third Madam suddenly stood up with the help of a servant girl. She staggered a few steps and knelt in front of Old Madam. "Old Madam, Second Sister-in-law has just died, and yet a new woman is going to marry into the mansion. I don't accept it. Why should a mistress marry into our Marquis Xing's Mansion? She claims to be the daughter of the former imperial censor. Who knows if she is a fake?"

Third Madam was furious.

"What nonsense are you talking about?" Third Master Shao didn't expect this. After being stunned for a moment, he was furious and stood up to pull Third Madam. This was his second brother's business, which had nothing to do with the third branch.

"Old Madam, if you are partial to this bitch from nowhere and want her to marry into our mansion, our third branch is willing to separate from the family and live alone," Third Madam said with difficulty.

It was obvious from her face that she was weak. It was unknown whether she was angry or tired, but she was panting.

Third Master Shao didn't dare to hit her. How could he hit her when she was in such a state? He rubbed his hands anxiously and said in a low voice, "What nonsense are you talking about? This is Second Brother's business. It has nothing to do with us. You are in poor health. You'd better go to rest early."

Third Madam turned to Third Master Shao and said with a bitter smile, "It has nothing to do with us? If such a woman enters the mansion, what will happen

to our daughters? They haven't got married yet, and they certainly will not get to do it after this. Second Brother is going to take this woman into the mansion while Second Sister-in-law has just died. I heard that Second Sister-in-law committed suicide because of this woman. Aren't you afraid that she will crawl out of the coffin at this time?"

Shao Jing had two daughters. Shao Yanru and Shao Jie'er were both married at least. Thinking that his two daughters, Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing, had not had a suitable marriage recently, Third Master Shao was very annoyed.

Third Madam looked furious while mentioning the marriage of her two daughters. The Third Master Shao, who had always been indifferent, couldn't help feeling angry at this time. "Second Brother, can't you marry a decent woman?"

Old Madam on the couch patted the edge of the bed hard. At this time, if she could move, she would have slapped Third Madam twice and asked her to kneel outside. As the insignificant Third Madam, she could not make the decision on the affairs of the mansion.

Shao Jing pulled a long face and said harshly, "Third Brother, what are you talking about?"

"No. Second Brother, I didn't mean..." Third Master Shao had always been afraid of his brother. After being scolded by Shao Jing, he immediately lowered his voice.

"Marquis, our third branch wants to separate from the family." Third Madam gritted her teeth and insisted. She was not like Third Master Shao. Even though she used to be afraid of Shao Jing, she was no longer afraid at this time.

"Hey, don't talk nonsense..." Third Master Shao looked at her and then looked at Shao Jing, whose face was darkened, and stamped his feet anxiously.

"Third Master, our third branch has always been an extra in Marquis Xing's Mansion, and they never discuss anything with us. Most of the time, they will inform us. If it weren't for the elders here today, I'm afraid that we wouldn't even know that woman is going to marry into the mansion! Haven't our two daughters suffered enough in the past? Will we even ask them to bow to such a woman now? If so, I will take our daughters away even if I die. When that happens, you can also marry a new woman into the family not long after my death!"

The Third Madam burst into tears, but her meaning was very clear. She was going to separate from the family today no matter what.

The elders looked at each other and couldn't say anything for a while. They didn't expect things to turn out like this.

It was the first time that Shao Jing had been disgraced by his useless sister-in-law. She kept talking about marrying a new woman. He was so angry that his face turned livid. He slammed his hand on the table and looked at Third Master Shao gloomily. "Third Brother, what do you think?"

Third Master Shao was a carefree person and had never cared about what Third Madam said in the past. But now he saw Third Madam, who was so thin that her bones were almost exposed, clenching the handkerchief in her hand hard, and a touch of faint blood in the handkerchief. Also, he thought of the matter that a mistress would marry into the mansion. For a moment, he got some courage.

"Second... Second Brother, we'll separate from the family!"

He couldn't take it anymore. His wife was about to die of illness, and his daughters hadn't even got married. The worse the reputation of the mansion was, the worse it would be for their marriage. For so many years, the third branch had just been unimportant in Marquis Xing's Mansion. Third Master Shao didn't care about it before, but now he felt quite aggrieved.

His second brother brought all kinds of women to the mansion, whether they were noble or not. He did this for his daughter who was raised outside the mansion. But Third Master Shao also had two daughters.

"Third Brother, do you know what you are talking about?" Shao Jing was furious, and the veins on his forehead bulged. His younger brother, who had always been obedient to him, betrayed him at this time. He really couldn't stand it anymore. "Without the protection of Marquis Xing's Mansion, how will your daughters marry decent men?"

"Well..." Third Master Shao hesitated again. He took the marriage of his two daughters as his priority. Seeing that his second brother was so angry, he felt guilty and couldn't help looking back at Third Madam.

Third Madam said with difficulty, "Thank you, Second Uncle. If... if it's possible, please separate us. I don't wish my daughters to marry into rich and powerful families. I just hope that they will get to be decent wives. I can't let them be scolded before they get married. How can they face others in the future? Even if they can get married, how will they hold their heads high in the husband's family?"

Although her voice was low, her every word was very powerful. After that, she kowtowed to Old Madam and said, "Old Madam, please grant my wish!"

It seemed that she was determined to separate from the family.

Although Old Madam couldn't move her mouth or hands, she knew what Third Madam was talking about. She was angry and full of hatred, but she could only make a strange sound while slamming her hands and feet. She glared at Third Madam angrily, and saliva dripped from the corners of her mouth. Nanny Yu took two steps forward, wiped the saliva for Old Madam with a handkerchief, and then carefully stepped aside.

"I disagree!" Shao Jing said angrily and glared at Third Madam.

"I agree!" A cold voice almost sounded at the same time. It surpassed Shao Jing's voice and appeared in everyone's ears. It was Shao Wanru.

Her words attracted everyone's attention. Even Shao Hua'an, who had been silent all the time, raised his head and looked at Shao Wanru, whose face was tense, with unclear eyes.

"What do you mean, Your Highness?" Shao Jing asked, his face darkening.

Chapter 1228 It's Done

The family elders looked at each other, not saying a word.

If it were an ordinary junior, they would definitely scold them without Shao Jing saying anything. However, it was Princess Chen, so no one dared to offend her.

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jing's gloomy face, smiled slightly, and answered lightly, "Second Uncle, Third Aunt is in poor health. We can't go against her will. It's indeed inappropriate for Madam Lu to marry into the mansion at this time. If it weren't for... in fact, I also wish to improve the reputation of Marquis Xing's Mansion."

The third branch could separate from the family, but the first branch and the second branch couldn't.

Shao Jing still possessed the title of nobility of the mansion, but the title of heir of Duke Xing was held by the first branch, which meant that the first branch and the second branch couldn't separate from the family.

"Do you mean that the first branch also needs to separate from the family?" Shao Jing asked in a sharp voice.

Qing'er's face darkened. Marquis Xing was blaming her master.

Shao Wanru waved her hand gently, indicating that Qing'er should not act rashly. She looked up slightly and said with a deep look, "Second Uncle, I just

said that I agreed with Third Aunt to separate from the family, but you asked me about the first branch. Do you think that the two siblings of the first branch are an eyesore?"

Her words were extremely sharp. Shao Wanru looked gloomy with her deep eyes.

She and her brother were the only members of the first branch, so she could indeed speak on behalf of Shao Yuanhao.

Shao Jing calmed down and suppressed the anger in his heart. Originally, he thought it was just a formality, but now he couldn't control his anger for a while.

"I was wrong, Your Highness," Shao Jing said.

Shao Wanru looked relaxed and said, "What do you think, Second Uncle? Are you going to keep the third branch in the family and force Third Aunt to death?"

"Second Brother, our third branch has to separate from the family, and we must do it. The third branch can't afford such damage to its reputation! The children of your second branch have been married, and now only the children of our third branch... have not been engaged yet. If... I just die, what... what should I do about their marriage?"

Third Madam cried and coughed hard, covering her chest with her hands. She coughed so hard that she almost couldn't breathe. The servant girls on both sides hurriedly helped her pat her chest. Finally, they saw her recover.

"Second Brother, please grant my wish."

Seeing that Third Madam was still thinking about her children even in such a state, Third Master Shao felt sad for a moment. The children of the third branch were indeed not engaged. If something terrible happened to Third Madam, her daughters would need to stay single for three years to mourn her, and they couldn't afford to wait like that. If their marriage stayed postponed like this, would they still get married?

Thinking of this, Third Master Shao also knelt with a thud. "Mother, Second Brother, please allow our third branch to separate from the family. Second Brother, you've gone this far for one daughter. I also have two daughters!"

He was talking about the mistress's daughter of Shao Jing.

As soon as Madam Jiang died, Shao Jing insisted on bringing a mistress into the mansion. Third Master Shao felt that the main reason was the mistress's daughter. It was said that the mistress's daughter was not young anymore,

and it was the best time for her to get married. It would be bad if her marriage was delayed any longer. The reason why Shao Jing ignored that Madam Jiang's coffin was kept in a temporary shelter before burial and insisted on letting his mistress marry into the mansion must be that mistress's daughter.

Third Master Shao thought that Shao Jing was not the kind of person who would be bewitched by a woman. He had gone this far by now, and he was not doing it for just his mistress.

Third Master Shao was right about that.

Shao Yanru pretended to be dead and left the Palace. This was the only chance for her to return to Marquis Xing's Mansion. How could she let go of this opportunity? If she got to be the legitimate daughter of Marquis Xing's Mansion, even if the mansion declined, she would at least be more honorable than a mistress's daughter with a promising future.

Third Madam held the hand of the servant girl and said with difficulty, "Mother, Second Brother, please grant my wish!" Her voice became lower and lower.

On the couch, Old Madam tried her best to move her hands and feet, and her eyes were full of hatred. She couldn't wait to kill Third Madam at the moment, but she couldn't do anything. She could only struggle to make a sound to remind others of their anger.

However, her resentment was not noticed by everyone present.

Everyone's eyes were fixed on Third Master Shao and Third Madam.

Shao Wanru looked up at the stunned elders and asked softly, "What do you think, elders?"

"Well... well..." The elders were very helpless. Things had changed so fast that they had never expected that Third Madam would be so decisive.

An elder stroked his long beard and said slowly, "Well... we'd better consider carefully before making a decision!"

"When will it be decided? Even if we can afford to wait, Third Aunt's current situation... Second Uncle can't wait, not to mention her current situation..." Shao Wanru stared at the elder who had spoken with her cold eyes.

The elder's hands trembled and he lowered his head. He couldn't answer.

Third Madam was in a bad situation, and she might even die on the spot. If something terrible happened to her, who could bear the responsibility?

There was nothing wrong with the mistress of the second branch, but she couldn't wait to marry into the mansion. Third Madam was in such a state, how could they keep her from getting what she wanted? No one could tell if she would die on the spot due to her worry.

"Second Brother, I'm begging you, please allow us to separate from the family. If you don't, she... she..." Third Master Shao was so anxious that sweat broke out on his forehead. He could tell at a glance that Third Madam was in a bad situation and her whole body softened. He took over Third Madam from the servant girl and said in a loud voice, "Second Brother, your daughter and my daughters all matter. It's just a mistress. Do you really want to force your sister-in-law to death for a mistress? If so, we might as well all die here since your two nieces can't get married no matter what."

Third Master Shao usually fooled around and didn't care much about Third Madam, but now he was furious since he noticed that Third Madam couldn't hold on any longer.

Shao Jing gritted his teeth in anger. In the past, his useless brother didn't dare to talk to him like this. But now, he dared to provoke him like this.

"Second Uncle, please let go of Third Uncle and Third Aunt!" Shao Wanru said coldly.

The others were all juniors and did not dare to speak. She was different. With her status, even if she spoke, no one could do anything to her.

"Okay... okay, okay. The third branch shall separate from the family." Shao Jing almost squeezed the words out of his teeth. He couldn't let others say that he had forced his sister-in-law to death because of the matter of his mistress. Third Madam was not like Madam Jiang, and she had a good reputation although she had not been a powerful figure in Marquis Xing's Mansion for so many years, and Old Madam didn't take her seriously.

But she did great outside the mansion. If something terrible really happened to her, Third Master Shao would probably make a scene, and Shao Wanru here would not let Shao Jing get away.

Shao Jing took a deep breath and suppressed the anger in his mind. He had to have the third branch separate from the family even though he didn't want to.

Third Madam was making a scene despite her serious illness. When she heard Shao Jing agree, her whole body softened. "Thank you, Second Brother!" After saying that, she fainted in Third Master Shao's arms.

Third Master Shao was so anxious that his face changed greatly. He immediately sent someone to call a doctor. Fortunately, Third Madam had a regular doctor, who came over soon.

Shao Jing didn't care about his sister-in-law. He just said with a cold face, "Third Brother, are you really going to separate from the family? After that, you will just be an ordinary family and no longer belong to Marquis Xing's Mansion."

"Don't worry, Second Brother. I know that. Thank you for your understanding!" Third Master Shao only wanted to separate from the family now. He didn't want to make such a scene. At present, he could only grit his teeth and beg to separate from the family at all costs.

He had always been afraid of Shao Jing. At this time, he was not afraid at all and refused to give in.

At this point, no matter what Shao Jing said, it was useless. The elders and Shao Wanru of the first branch were also there. Shao Jing calmed down and divided the things of the third branch with Third Master Shao.

Old Madam was so angry that she fainted. Zhao Xiran accompanied her into the inner room and asked a doctor to treat her.

Shao Wanru couldn't leave at this time because she represented the first branch.

This time, the third branch asked to separate from the family. Logically speaking, the three branches were supposed to do it together. However, because of the uniqueness of the first branch and second branch, and the fact that the third branch proposed to be separated, there was no objection.

The reason why the third branch took the initiative to leave was that Shao Jing wanted to let a mistress enter the mansion. The elders were present, so Shao Jing couldn't really treat the third branch unfairly. As for Shao Wanru, she was also very generous and said that they should give more things to the third branch. Third Madam was in poor health, and Third Master Shao wasn't capable. Besides, Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing hadn't been married yet, and they would need a dowry in the future.

In short, the third branch was given a lot of benefits.

Seeing these benefits, Shao Jing couldn't say anything, feeling angry and annoyed.

Shao Wanru had agreed, and she had offered to compensate the third branch. As Third Master Shao's second brother, Shao Jing certainly couldn't

be stingy. This made him feel more and more that it was good to let E'niang marry into the family.

If E'niang had already married into the family, it would be impossible for him to suffer such a big loss. The second branch lacked an elder who was in charge of the inner court. As a man, he couldn't argue with his niece here.

Shao Hua'an was also a man, so it was inappropriate for him to argue. Although Zhao Xiran was Sister Zhao, her status was much inferior to Princess Chen's.

Therefore, Shao Jing divided the third branch with grievance and annoyance.

After learning that the third branch had separated from the family, Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing were very calm and asked their servants to pack up the things in their courtyard. The third branch would not live in Marquis Xing's Mansion in the future. They were given a big house with a good location and a large area on the street. This was the compensation given to the third branch by Marquis Xing's Mansion that Shao Wanru had proposed.

Originally, Shao Jing didn't intend to give this house to the third branch. Since Shao Wanru proposed it, he could only agree.

Marquis Xing's Mansion was in chaos. The servants of the third branch were busy moving things out, and some of them went to clean up the house. For a time, it seemed that there was no funeral but a lively event, which attracted some people outside the mansion to inquire about the news carefully.

The people who came in and out were basically the servants of the third branch, who used to be despised in the mansion. At this time, when they heard that the third branch had been separated and benefited a lot, they were in a good mood since they would no longer be treated badly. So they spread the news in full when asked by others.

Chapter 1229 Consort Dowager Qing Shifting the Blame

"What? Marquis Xing's Mansion is going to break up today?"

"Aren't they holding the funeral of the former Madam of Marquis Xing, Madam Jiang? Instead of holding the funeral, they're breaking up the family?"

"What? Third Madam can't bear to see a mistress of Marquis Xing take charge of the internal affairs of the mansion in the next few days, so she insisted on separating from the family. That's why the mansion is breaking up?"

"What... what's going on? Madam Jiang has just died. How could they let a mistress marry into the family and take charge of the family affairs?"

“What Marquis Xing’s Mansion is doing is truly improper. No wonder the third branch has to separate from the family. If they stay together, they may do something absurd...”

Many people listened to the words of the servants of the third branch. They whispered to each other and pointed at Marquis Xing’s Mansion. What Marquis Xing had done was really terrible.

No matter how bad Madam Jiang had been, Marquis Xing should not let a mistress take charge of the affairs of the inner court at this time.

“No wonder Third Madam wants to separate from the family. This is so embarrassing...”

Originally, Shao Jing wanted to handle the matter of E’niang quietly. As long as she was recorded in the family tree, married into Marquis Xing’s Mansion, and had the support of Madam Wen, no one could interfere in his affairs. After all, he also cared about Madam Jiang’s dignity, so he didn’t set up a banquet or hold an official banquet to marry E’niang.

He didn’t expect things to turn out like this. Not only did many people know about it, but they also slandered him. He was so angry that he went straight to the study in the front yard and didn’t care about the funeral of Madam Jiang.

Shao Hua’an also went to the study and put all the blame on Zhao Xiran. Seeing that Old Madam was still struggling on the bed and trying to make a sound, Zhao Xiran felt that it was really hard for her to deal with the mess in the mansion alone.

When she married into Marquis Xing’s Mansion, she wanted to control the whole mansion. She thought that she could make the mansion thrive and prosper while helping her father look for what he wanted.

At this moment, the mansion was in chaos. Everyone blamed what had happened on her. She looked at Old Madam, who stared at her with hatred as if she was the one who broke up the family.

Zhao Xiran felt weak all over, but she had to deal with the affairs.

The family was breaking up, and there were so many things inside and outside. However, her father-in-law and Shao Hua’an didn’t care about anything and left them all to her. How could she, as a new daughter-in-law, deal with them?

At this moment, Zhao Xiran was so exhausted that she regretted marrying into Marquis Xing’s Mansion.

Back then, she actually had a lot of choices. With her hands on the pillar, her vision went dark for a while, and she could hear the voices of the servants coming from a distance. Her body went limp and she almost fainted.

“First Young Madam. First Young Madam!”

“First Young Madam.”

After a long while, Zhao Xiran slowly opened her eyes. She looked around blankly, took a deep breath, and said slowly, “I’m fine. Go and do your work!”

“First Young Madam, let me help you rest for a while!” The servant girls Qiu Yue and Qiu Lian, who came with Zhao Xiran when she got married, were worried, so they helped her sit down.

“No need for that. Let’s go back first!” Zhao Xiran whispered.

“First Young Madam, what... should we do with Old Madam?” Qiu Yue glanced at Old Madam secretly and whispered.

Seeing that Old Madam was in a bad situation, she was afraid that something bad would happen to her. If that happened, the Marquis and the First Young Master would blame everything on the First Young Madam.

Zhao Xiran smiled bitterly and lowered her eyes. In order to marry into Duke Xing’s Mansion, she had to endure that no one in the mansion had been sincere to her. But now she had to deal with the mess.

“Help me sit down on the stool!” Zhao Xiran said. She couldn’t leave now. She had to take charge of the affairs of the mansion. Fortunately, the mistress was about to enter the mansion.

Zhao Xiran had been very opposed to the mistress marrying into the Marquis Xing’s Mansion, but now she had given up objecting. “Since those women have to come in, so be it. The reputation of Marquis Xing’s Mansion has been ruined and is at its worst.

“I can’t deal with the mess in this mansion. Whoever wants to deal with that can do it!

“Marquis Xing’s Mansion won’t get any better!”

Shao Wanru left when Marquis Xing’s Mansion was in chaos. Now that the mansion was in such a mess, no one could make a proper decision. With the inner court in a mess, she didn’t intend to help Marquis Xing’s Mansion manage the affairs. She got on the carriage with her servants and went out of the mansion. Since she had come to pay her respects to Madam Jiang, Marquis Xing’s Mansion couldn’t find fault with her.

Marquis Xing's Mansion was in a precarious situation. Shao Wanru would love to see how they could avoid this disaster.

The carriage was very stable. She took a cup of tea and looked at the tea inside. Her eyes were clear and a little darkened. "Since Marquis Xing's Mansion has hurt my parents, there's no need for me to show mercy..."

"Mother, what should we do? The people of the Ministry of Justice come to ask about it again!" In Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, Chu Qing was very annoyed. The Empress Dowager was still in Huaguang Temple, and not everyone could see her. At present, this matter could not be delayed any longer.

An official of the Ministry of Justice, even if he was just a junior official, died in Chu Qing's mother's Buddha Hall. If no one spoke, the Ministry of Justice would not close the case and would send people over from time to time.

"Make someone take the blame," Consort Dowager Qing said with a gloomy face. She knocked on the wooden fish so hard that the sound almost covered her voice.

"Who will take it?" Chu Qing was not surprised by what she said. "There must be a reason!"

If the reason was improper, he might be implicated. Chu Qing couldn't afford it. The Emperor didn't care about him as his nephew. Both he and Chu Liuchen were the sons of the deceased emperor, but the Emperor treated them differently.

Not everyone in the mansion could hide a junior official in the Buddha Hall.

"Make a supervisor take the blame!" Consort Dowager Qing gritted her teeth. "Do it tonight. Make a supervisor take the blame and kill him. You'll say that he committed suicide. Tell those officials that he's the one who secretly brought the junior official in that day."

"What's the purpose?" Chu Qing asked anxiously.

Consort Dowager put down the wooden fish in her hand heavily and said sharply, "Someone used the supervisor to frame you. Someone wanted to frame you and then tried to assassinate you. The assassination was not the real purpose. The main purpose was to have the Ministry of Justice search the Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, find out the dead junior official, and frame you."

Since she couldn't ask for the Empress Dowager's help, she could only come up with this idea.

This was a good idea. Chu Qing nodded repeatedly. At present, he was forced to do so by the Ministry of Justice. The minister of the Ministry of Justice had sent a message that if Chu Qing could not provide a suitable explanation, he would be taken directly to the Ministry of Justice.

Chu Qing thought for a moment and said, "Mother, who do you think is likely to frame me?"

There was a reason for this matter, and he had to accuse someone of being the culprit vaguely. Otherwise, the Ministry of Justice would not take it seriously.

"It was not supposed to be so late on the day when the junior official got killed. Because of the death of Madam Jiang, many officials of the Ministry of Justice were asked to stay, including that junior official. What if he had something to do with Madam Jiang's death?" Consort Dowager Qing, who had survived two disasters and hid her son in the Yuhui Nunnery, had made up her mind at this time.

Thinking of what had happened before, the strange behavior of the Ministry of Justice, and some other clues, Consort Dowager Qing deduced that this junior official might have something to do with the death of Madam Jiang.

Consort Dowager Qing said, "After Madam Jiang died, Marquis Xing will definitely benefit from it. I heard that Marquis Xing has kept a mistress and even raised a daughter, they are determined to enter Marquis Xing's Mansion. In order to frame Marquis Xing, Madam Jiang was ready to commit suicide. Now that she is dead, Marquis Xing can benefit from it."

Chu Qing nodded repeatedly, but he had to hesitate. "Mother, Shao Jing is not qualified!"

Shao Jing was not qualified to assassinate him.

"If Shao Jing is not enough, what about Prince Cheng behind him?" Consort Dowager Qing sneered. At this time, she had no time to care about the secret connection between Prince Cheng and them. In order to save herself, she would make Prince Cheng take the blame.

Because of the secret connection with Prince Cheng, she knew that the relationship between Shao Jing and Prince Cheng was unusual. She also knew that Shao Jing was actually on the side of Prince Cheng.

It was inappropriate to blame the matter on Shao Jing, but what about Prince Cheng?

It would get her what she needed.

“Will Prince Cheng countercharge us?” Chu Qing was still a little worried. Prince Cheng was not easy to deal with. They knew something about Prince Cheng, and Prince Cheng also knew something about them.

“So what if he does that? He will just be making groundless accusations. We won’t say anything improper. We won’t spread the news either. It has nothing to do with us. Chu Liuyue, Chu Liuzhou, and Chu Liuchen are not easy to deal with,” Consort Dowager said coldly with a gloomy face.

“But... Mother...” Chu Qing was still hesitant. “We can’t let others find out.”

“Ask Mo Qiuyi to do it. Isn’t Wei Dahai on her side? Even if something gets found out, you won’t be involved,” Consort Dowager Qing said disapprovingly.

“Mother, Qiuyi is going to marry me. It’s inappropriate for her to be in trouble at this time, isn’t it?” Chu Qing was still worried. Mo Qiuyi had accompanied him in the Yuhui Nunnery for so many years, and they could be considered childhood sweethearts. She was different from other women. Even if Mo Qiuyi was not very good-looking and even not as good-looking as Shao Jie’er, Chu Qing was always partial to her.

“If she doesn’t do it well, someone will replace her.” Consort Dowager Qing said with a sneer, “I’ve kept her as a helper for you, so it’s inevitable for her to help you.”

Mo Qiuyi was related to a former royal princess, but so what? Chu Qing was the most important person to Consort Dowager Qing, and she didn’t care about anyone else.

Mo Qiuyi was not the only one related to a former royal prince. There were many former royal princesses. Consort Li, who had fled to the Xu State, was one of them. If Mo Qiuyi couldn’t marry Chu Qing, he could have other women marry him.

As for Wei Dahai, he was even less important. There were many means left by the previous dynasty. At present, Consort Dowager was possessing most of them, so she was very confident.

She thought that it was only right and proper for her son to ascend the throne, and no one else could do it.

“Qing, don’t be sentimental. Qiuyi is a good girl, and I will definitely draw her over to our side. But you must remember that you are the master, and the others are all your subordinates. Even when we have no choice left, I can sacrifice myself for you.” Consort Dowager Qing said earnestly, “Mo Qiuyi did something wrong before so that the treasury was confiscated. Until now, I

don't know who got it and whose suspicion has been aroused. You took all the blame for this matter at that time. If you continue to protect her like this, what will others think?"

Her words made Chu Qing silent for a while, and he didn't know what to say. What happened back then was really the fault of Mo Qiuyi, which made him lose a lot of his people.

Chapter 1230 Implicated One by One

There was a lot of money left in that treasury, at least one-fourth of Chu Qing's property. It had been managed by Wei Dahai's madam before, and of course, Mo Qiuyi had been in charge. Unexpectedly, this treasury had been confiscated entirely. Chu Qing didn't even know who did it.

After that, he secretly sent people to investigate, but they couldn't find anything, so he could only let it go.

Consort Dowager Qing got angry. She had asked Wei Dahai to prepare some new funds to offset the loss this time. However, Wei Dahai was useless. He took a fancy to that store, which Princess Chen obtained in the end.

Therefore, Consort Dowager Qing didn't get any benefits. Every time she thought of this incident, she couldn't help resenting Mo Qiuyi.

The gold bars, bracelets, and other gold bricks in the treasury were all solid. Originally, they were very useful for the revival of the mansion. Because of the loss of this treasury, Consort Dowager Qing was restrained a lot when she did things, and the money for activities was reduced a lot.

Consort Dowager Qing got angry at the thought of it. But when Mo Qiuyi came over, she always welcomed her with a smile since she still needed Mo Qiuyi, who was the help she got for her son.

Since Mo Qiuyi was a help, Consort Dowager Qing certainly did not hope that her son would really do anything to Mo Qiuyi.

"It's up to you, Mother!" Chu Qing thought for a moment and decided to listen to Consort Dowager Qing. "What about Shao Jie'er? Shall I bring her back? She has been in Marquis Xing's Mansion for many days!"

"It's good that she doesn't want to come back, so as not to let her know what happened in the mansion. Qing, you should know that Shao Jie'er married into the mansion reluctantly back then. This time such a thing happened, and she is the most suspicious one. If she comes back, you have to find a chance to get rid of her!" Consort Dowager Qing said unhappily. She despised her son acting emotionally the most.

How could Shao Jie'er, the daughter of a concubine, be worthy of her son?

"Mother, shall we leave her alone now?" Chu Qing asked, feeling a little reluctant to part with Shao Jie'er. After all, Shao Jie'er was adorable when she showed her feelings for him.

Also, she was more beautiful than Mo Qiuyi.

"Don't worry about her. Put the blame on her as well. Didn't she go back to Marquis Xing's Mansion now? Aren't we going to say that Prince Cheng wants to hurt you? Put the blame on Marquis Xing's Mansion and indicate that she's involved. Now after this happened, she has gone to Marquis Xing's Mansion. Even if you go over to pick her up, she won't dare to come back."

Consort Dowager Qing sneered.

She had always been a smart woman. Otherwise, she would not have sneaked into the Palace and given birth to Chu Qing in the Yuhui Nunnery. How could she have done this without careful scheming?

If it weren't for her bad luck, she would have taken down the queen of the deceased emperor and become the Empress by now, and her son would also be the Emperor's legitimate son. Prince Yue and Prince Zhou wouldn't be so powerful by now.

The day Madam Jiang was buried, it was still desolate. Only Shao Hua'an led a group of people to bury Madam Jiang in the ancestral land of the Shao Family. They didn't pay their respects along the way. Many people didn't even know that this group of people belonged to Marquis Xing's Mansion. They looked like they were from an ordinary family carrying out a funeral procession.

Shao Jing didn't show up. He secretly went to Prince Cheng and came to the Yuyun Temple where Prince Cheng lived. He was led to Prince Cheng. As soon as he entered the room, he saw Prince Cheng sitting there coldly with a furious face and gloomy eyes.

Standing next to him was Master Jieyan from the Yuyun Temple. After glancing at Shao Jing, he lowered his head speechlessly and said nothing.

The atmosphere in the room was very gloomy.

"Greetings, Your Highness." Shao Jing tried his best to show a smile on his face. He took two steps forward and bowed to Prince Cheng.

Prince Cheng looked at him coldly and did not speak.

The man who led Shao Jing there left, and the atmosphere in the room became more and more gloomy.

Seeing that the man above didn't speak, Shao Jing secretly looked up and saw Prince Cheng's gloomy face. He couldn't help being startled. He came at the wrong time today. Prince Cheng happened to be in a bad mood.

When Shao Jing came over previously, Prince Cheng had always looked great, especially after Shao Yanru left the Palace and was sent to Prince Cheng. Prince Cheng almost treated him kindly.

"Shao Jing, are you hiding something from me?"

With his heart pounding, Shao Jing hurriedly shook his hand and said, "Your Highness, how can I hide something from you? My daughter is now serving you. If I am not loyal to you, why would I send my best daughter to you?"

Moreover, Shao Yanru wasn't married to Prince Cheng at present.

If Shao Jing had not been really forced to do this, he would not have given his innocent daughter to Prince Cheng in private.

Although Prince Cheng was noble, Shao Jing's eldest legitimate daughter was not an ordinary person.

"Daughter? Don't you have another daughter?" Prince Cheng sneered.

Shao Jing shook his hand and said, "The other one is just the daughter of a concubine. Now she merely lives in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Because she doesn't do well there, she has returned to my mansion in the past few days. She is really not a noble lady."

He really didn't like Shao Jie'er. He had always thought that this daughter of his concubine was useless. She had such a shameful experience when she first married into Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion.

"Not noble?" Prince Cheng said with an increasingly cold smile. He picked up a memorial at hand and suddenly threw it at Shao Jing. "Your ignoble daughter even caused a lawsuit against me. Shao Jing, you are really capable!"

Shao Jing was knocked back two steps and almost fell. He subconsciously reached out to take the memorial, but he didn't catch it. The memorial fell to the ground, and his face was burning with pain. He was hit hard on the face just now, and the corner of his mouth might be bleeding.

"Your, Your Highness, what is this?"

Shao Jing stammered. Prince Cheng had never treated him like this before. He couldn't help panicking and inexplicably feeling guilty, but then he became angry. He wondered if Shao Jie'er had caused some trouble again.

"Read it yourself," Prince Cheng said sternly, pointing at the memorial at the feet of Shao Jing.

Shao Jing picked it up in a panic and read it rapidly. The more he read, the more flustered and shocked he became. After reading it, he hurriedly looked up at Prince Cheng and said, "How... how could this be... how could this be..."

He held the memorial with trembling fingers, and his face was pale.

"Yeah. I also want to know why things turned out like this. You wanted to kill Madam Jiang, and I sent my men to help you. But now, someone said that the junior official worked for me and it was also my men who tried to assassinate that good-for-nothing, Chu Qing. In the end, I made the junior official die in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, where a supervisor also died. As for your good daughter, it's said that she secretly helped you, so the junior official of the Ministry of Justice died in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion."

Prince Cheng gnashed his teeth in anger. This matter actually involved him. Originally, it really had nothing to do with him, but now it seemed that he brought trouble to himself.

Shao Jie'er had been ready to marry into Prince Cheng's Mansion at that time, but now she had become the evidence of others impeaching Prince Cheng, which proved that it was indeed possible that he was related.

Whether it was because of love or hatred, or for other reasons, or for a secret purpose, it was possible for him to make this happen.

Thinking of his brother's previous rebuke, Prince Cheng was very angry. It was not only Shao Jing who was hit by the memorial but also him. Now he still felt a dull pain in the back of his head. What made him angrier was that his forces had really been wiped out last night.

He thought that it was all caused by Shao Jing.

"Your Highness, this... this..." Shao Jing was so startled that he couldn't even finish his words. Originally, he wanted to ask Prince Cheng for help. It was best to deal with Prince Chen in order to control Shao Wanru.

"What else can you say now?" Prince Cheng said harshly.

Shao Jing gritted his teeth, calmed down, and said, "Your Highness, I... I don't think the officials of the Ministry of Justice will find anything. They won't find out that Madam Jiang was killed by the junior official."

He had to hold on no matter what.

"They won't find out?" Prince Cheng said coldly, " Shao Jing, you are just too confident, aren't you? You don't know how many people want to report you now, do you? Well, you can't even go to court now, so you naturally don't know how others will report you."

Shao Jing blushed. He was indeed not qualified to go to court at the moment. He used to be an important official in the court, but because of several accidents, he could only idle in his mansion now.

If he couldn't even face the Emperor, how could he get the Emperor's favor, let alone read the memorials others used to report him?

Thinking that he had originally been valued by the Emperor, but now he had fallen into such a situation, Shao Jing was also very angry and couldn't help saying angrily, "Everything in my mansion is a private matter. Even if there is something wrong with my personal morality, it has nothing to do with anyone else. Madam Jiang died in the Ministry of Justice. If the Ministry of Justice can't find out the truth and shift the blame onto me, I won't take it so easily. I will get a few good friends to appeal against the decision together. I'm very sad that my wife is dead, and my mansion is in chaos. These people just want to see me suffer."

He always felt that he had inexplicably run into bad luck. He didn't know what he did wrong. He had almost got everything wrong, and now it was difficult for him to advance.

Duke Xing's Mansion used to be so prosperous, and now Marquis Xing's Mansion was doing so terribly. Thinking of this, Shao Jing felt wronged and angry.

"Shao Jing, it's not up to you to decide now. If you don't have the courage, the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion will be destroyed. I heard that you took your mistress to your mansion last night. Are you going to have the elders put her name into the family tree today?" said Prince Cheng with a sarcastic smile.

"Your Highness, I'm doing this for your sake. I can't have others think that your woman is Ru'er." Shao Jing panicked and his anger immediately subsided. He looked at Prince Cheng and curried favor with him in a hurry.

Prince Cheng did not answer him but said meaningfully, "I heard that the new woman in your mansion has high status and has won the favor of Madam Wen. You should go to ask Madam Wen for help. As long as Prime Minister Wen says that this is your mansion's private affair and that Madam Jiang's death has nothing to do with you, you will be safe. When I ascend to the throne, you will naturally get your benefits!"