

MEDICAL PRINCESS

Chapter 1231 - Chapter 1231 He's Here to Make Trouble



Chapter 1231 He's Here to Make Trouble

Shao Wanru didn't expect to see E'niang so soon, whose identity was different today. She was no longer the mistress as the alleged daughter of the imperial censor.

Today was the day when E'niang and her daughter would be recorded in the family tree, and only E'niang came. Her daughter had also entered Marquis Xing's Mansion, but she was so seriously ill that she couldn't even get up. E'niang could only get this done alone.

Shao Wanru didn't expect to see not only the elders but also Madam Wen, who looked solemn, here. She smiled silently.

It was Gu Xishu who followed Madam Wen. She sat next to Madam Wen while looking very weak and well-behaved. She also looked extremely gentle when she looked up. If Shao Wanru had not dealt with her in this life and the last life, she would have been confused by her appearance. But now she did not need to deal with her in person. Her identity was enough to make Gu Xishu stay away from her.

Seeing Shao Wanru come in, Madam Wen stood up with the help of her servant girl and was about to bow to Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru smiled slightly and ordered Yujie softly, "Help Madam Wen sit down."

Yujie stepped forward and helped Madam Wen sit down with the servant girl.

There were many people in the hall, who had been waiting for Shao Wanru. Even Shao Yuanhao had specially asked for leave to get here today. At this time, he sat next to Shao Wanru and looked indifferently at his eldest brother Shao Hua'an, who was sitting opposite him.

His eldest brother used to be the one he respected and admired the most, but now there was only a complicated look in his eyes.

"How are your legs, Madam Wen?" After sitting down, Shao Wanru asked Madam Wen, who was sitting aside.

"Thank you for your concern, Your Highness. I have to thank you for your help in Huaguang Temple that day. I planned to come here early to express my gratitude, but it was inconvenient for me to walk at such an old age," Madam Wen said with a wry smile.

When she was in Huaguang Temple, Shao Wanru went to see her once. At that time, she didn't see Madam Wen but was stopped by Gu Xishu, for fear that she would be suspicious of E'niang. After that, Shao Wanru had never been there again. And now, it was the first time that Shao Wanru met Madam Wen since her fall.

"It's so nice of you to say that, Madam Wen." Shao Wanru said with a smile. She glanced at Madam Wen's face with some doubt and said, "You're here today for..."

Today's matter was a family affair of Marquis Xing's Mansion. It was not suitable for Madam Wen to come here as an outsider.

"Madam Lu saved my life when I was on the mountain. Now she has entered Marquis Xing's Mansion. Because of Madam Jiang, it's inconvenient for her to marry into the mansion in a big way. But she can't do it alone without a family member. I'll be here as her family member and support her," Madam Wen said with a smile.

“So, are you here to support Madam Lu?” Shao Wanru asked lightly.

Madam Wen said gently, “In fact, it’s not some support. I just feel sorry for her loneliness. She used to be a Miss of an aristocratic family, but... it’s sad that she fell into such a situation.”

Shao Wanru looked up and asked seriously, “Are you familiar with her?”

“Well...” Madam Wen was confused by her series of questions. Thinking of what she had been warned by her husband last night, she felt inexplicably uneasy. She looked sideways at E’niang, who was standing aside with her head down, and said, “We’re not very familiar with each other. Madam Lu is a kind person, and her experience makes people sympathize with her.”

The last part of Madam Wen’s words was very vague.

But no matter how vague her words were, the purpose of her visit today was obvious. She wanted to support E’niang and help her establish a foothold in Marquis Xing’s Mansion.

Shao Wanru showed a trace of sarcasm in her eyes. Madam Wen had never been a stupid person, but she didn’t want to investigate E’niang too much because of Gu Xishu. She would believe whatever Gu Xishu said. She always believed in the girl she had raised since she was a child, but she insulted other people’s daughters at will because she trusted Gu Xishu. On the surface, she just doted on her niece, but in fact, she was extremely selfish.

Madam Wen didn’t want to see Gu Xishu embarrassed, so she would rather cover it up with more vicious actions, while Shao Wanru could pretend that she didn’t see it.

When her interests weren’t harmed, she could ignore the pain of others.

In her last life, Madam Wen intended to kill her when she got driven away in that situation. She was homeless and had a bad reputation with no servants

around her. If it weren't for that man, she could only die miserably in a dirty unknown place. In this respect, Madam Wen was not only Gu Xishu's accomplice.

In this life, Shao Wanru would expose the true colors of Gu Xishu and let Madam Wen see what kind of person the woman she wholeheartedly protected was.

The third branch was also here today. It was the day when E'niang was recorded in the family tree, and it was also the day when the third branch officially separated from the family tree.

Third Madam was too sick to get up. Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing came over by themselves and sat quietly below at this time.

Since everyone was here, Madam Wen looked at the people around her and said with a slight smile, "Since everyone is here, Your Highness, why don't we go and record Madam Lu's name together? From now on, she will be the Madam of Marquis Xing."

Since Madam Jiang had died and E'niang had entered the mansion as a secondary legal wife, if Shao Jing asked for a title later, she would naturally become the Madam of Marquis Xing.

Third Master Shao suddenly rolled his eyes and said, displeased, "She is just a secondary legal wife. Why should she be the Madam of Marquis Xing?"

He was really in a bad mood. Originally, he was the Third Master of Marquis Xing's Mansion. Although he had gained a lot of benefits, his branch got separated from the family. "Speaking of which, it's all caused by this woman. If it weren't for this bitch who wanted to marry into the mansion, my wife would not have been worried about our daughters' marriage and insisted on breaking away from the family wholeheartedly."

After he and Third Madam went back, she also analyzed the matter with him. Third Master Shao was merely quite displeased before. After that, he felt very angry. "Madam Jiang was not a good person, and this woman doesn't seem to be a good person either. We broke away from the family because of such a cheap woman." The more Third Master Shao thought about it, the angrier he became.

He was furious and his words were harsh. He said that in front of so many people, and Shao Jing couldn't bear it anymore. Shaojing's face darkened and he said harshly, "Third Brother, mind your words."

"Am I wrong? Second Brother, you have gone through a lot of trouble to marry such a woman. You are even willing to drive our branch out for her. I don't think she's beautiful. She's just an ordinary woman. There are many servant girls and old maids in the mansion who are even much better-looking than her. Second Brother, you really shouldn't have driven out our third branch because of her."

Third Master Shao was angry and kept mocking E'niang. He made her sound like a servant girl and old maid and then made Shao Jing take the blame for Third Madam breaking away from the family.

Shao Jing was furious. He slammed his hand hard on the table and said, "What are you talking about? Did I drive you away?"

Shao Jing was also very angry. Because the third branch broke away from the family, he was annoyed and furious.

"Didn't you? Second Brother, didn't you do this for the daughter raised by your mistress? How could you drive my two daughters away for the sake of your mistress's daughter? You are so cruel!" Third Master Shao was too annoyed with Third Madam's crying. He vented all his anger on Shao Jing.

In the past, he had always been afraid of Shao Jing when he saw him. However, he was a careless person, so he didn't have so many scruples when he was angry at this time. Moreover, Third Madam had asked him to make a scene today to get even with the second branch.

For so many years, the third branch had been weak and bullied by the second branch. They had never vented their anger. Now they didn't have so many scruples. Third Master Shao was here to make trouble today.

The more Third Master Shao said, the harsher his words became. Shao Jing was so angry that he wanted to slap his younger brother hard in the face, but it was inconvenient for him to do so in front of so many people.

"Second Brother, are you feeling guilty? Such a woman..." Third Master looked at E'niang, and he smacked his lips sarcastically. "Did you get this woman from some brothel? She said that she was the daughter of the imperial censor. If she was really the daughter of the imperial censor, how could such a thing happen? Which noble lady would be someone's mistress just because she's in distress? One might as well commit suicide to prove her chastity if that really happens."

The elders nodded. That was exactly what they were thinking.

A noble lady in distress wouldn't be a mistress, but E'niang had to be a mistress. It was really hard to say what kind of woman she was. It was possible for her to have ended up in a brothel.

As a Miss who had no one around her and had no experience, it was reasonable for her to be used by someone and made to work as a prostitute. Did this E'niang really come from the brothel? Thinking of this, the elders looked at each other and felt that it was better to wait and see.

Although they had received orders from Shao Jing before, they thought that the other daughters of the Shao Family would be too ashamed to get married

in the future if a woman from a brothel became the Madam of Marquis Xing's Mansion.

All the elders had daughters and granddaughters. Even if it was not for themselves, they had to act while taking the future of their daughters and granddaughters into consideration.

"If you talk nonsense again, get out of here!" Shao Jing said angrily with a livid face.

Third Master looked at Shao Jing provocatively and said, "Second Brother, you got really angry. It seems to be true. You're guilty." At this moment, he was ready to risk everything. He tried his best to make Shao Jing suffer. Thinking that Shao Jing made his daughters separated from the family because of a mistress, he couldn't suppress his anger.

Today, even if Shao Jing slapped him, he would still say these words.

"You..." Shao Jing stood up with a cold look in his eyes. He was so angry that he really wanted to fight his third brother.

Third Master stood up, jumped on his feet, and said angrily, "Second Brother, what do you want? Are you going to beat me for such a cheap woman from a brothel?"

His reaction was even more intense than that of Shao Jing. Seeing that the situation was not good, the elders hurriedly came over to persuade them to sit down again.

Looking at the mess, Madam Wen frowned. "No wonder Xishu and E'niang asked me to come here. It's obvious that Marquis Xing's Mansion can't treat E'niang well. Those harsh words are really infuriating."

She glanced at Shao Wanru, who was sitting next to her, and said with a smile, "Your Highness."

“What’s the matter?” Shao Wanru was tidying up her cuffs with her head lowered. After hearing that, she looked up with her watery eyes, which were quiet and elegant, as if she was not affected by the noise just now.

Madam Wen felt inexplicably depressed.

Chapter 1232 Madam Dowager Lu

Madam Wen coughed in a low voice and said implicitly, “It’s not good for them to keep arguing like this, Your Highness.”

“Well, what’s not good about it?” Shao Wanru rolled her watery eyes and said with a little apology, “I was thinking about Grandma’s health just now, so I didn’t pay attention to what is going on. Are they arguing?”

Madam Wen was secretly angry. She didn’t expect Shao Wanru to not notice such a loud noise until now.

Madam Wen took a deep breath, suppressed the anger in her heart, and said with a smile, “It’s not appropriate for them to quarrel like this. It will damage the reputation of Marquis Xing’s Mansion.”

“The reputation of Marquis Xing’s Mansion? Thank you for your concern, Madam Wen. In fact, how much reputation do we have left now?” Shao Wanru said bluntly with a cold look in her eyes. She smiled slightly.

Madam Wen was rendered speechless and thought that as the daughter of the Shao Family, Princess Chen was not supposed to say that.

“Your Highness, I think even if you don’t think this is related to you, you need to take the young heir’s reputation into consideration. After all, the Marquis Xing’s Mansion will belong to the young heir in the future.” Madam Wen tried to persuade her in a different way.

She wanted Shao Wanru to step forward and suppress the quarrel between Shao Jing and Third Master Shao. With her status as Princess Chen, even though Third Master Shao was a carefree man, he didn’t dare to offend Princess Chen.

“Now everything in the mansion belongs to Second Uncle. It’s up to Second Uncle to decide what to do. From my point of view, I certainly take Third Uncle’s side. Indecent women shouldn’t be allowed to enter the mansion,” Shao Wanru said disapprovingly.

Madam Wen felt that they couldn't carry on the conversation since every word of Shao Wanru made her feel uncomfortable. "Is Princess Chen also here to make trouble today?"

She looked Shao Wanru up and down secretly. Seeing her natural expression, Madam Wen couldn't tell what her attitude was at the moment.

"You're a junior, Your Highness, but you have a noble status. It's better for you to speak up to stop them," Madam Wen added.

"Do you think that I'm being too indifferent, Madam Wen?" Shao Wanru asked lightly with a cold look in her watery eyes.

"That's not what I meant. After all, we are a harmonious family. Since she has married into our family, can't we have a nice discussion in peace?"

Madam Wen's smile was a little embarrassed. Although she thought so, she felt a little embarrassed after her real thinking was exposed by Shao Wanru mercilessly.

Shao Wanru looked at the crowd seriously and said slowly, "Even if we are a harmonious family, we can't have someone marry into the family casually, and we need proper evidence. Third Uncle's meaning is obvious. She wants people to believe that she is the daughter of the former imperial censor, which remains a rumor so far. Our Shao Family has to keep its dignity. We can't confirm the identity of people just because of some rumor. There are so many daughters of the Shao Family, and their marriages can't be ruined by one person."

Her words were not soft, and many people heard them. The elders nodded in agreement.

After all, it was just a rumor. It was not appropriate to act according to rumors.

Shao Jing looked at his niece sitting above. He still couldn't see through her. He always felt that this niece was not what she looked like on the surface, but when he looked at her carefully, he didn't find anything wrong with her.

E'niang took two steps forward, bowed to Shao Wanru and Madam Wen, and said, "Your Highness, Madam Wen, my wet nurse can testify."

Of course, she had been prepared for this. Even if Princess Chen didn't mention it, she would bring it up.

"Your wet nurse?" Madam Wen asked in surprise.

"My wet nurse was separated from me back then, but I found her previously. She's also here today. Many people know that she used to be my wet nurse.

After she stayed in the capital city, she also had contact with some of my old servants,” Lu E’niang said.

“Since she’s here, bring her here!” Shao Jing called a servant over and asked him to call the wet nurse.

After a while, an old maid in her fifties was brought over and knelt in the living room. After kowtowing to the people in the hall, she said, “I am the wet nurse of Miss Lu. At that time, our Miss Lu was in distress and suddenly disappeared. I could only go back to my home. I have never given up looking for her for so many years.”

Third Master Shao looked the old maid up and down and asked, “Are you really the wet nurse who worked for Imperial Censor Lu’s family?”

“Yes, I am. If you don’t believe me, you can ask some servants in other mansions. After I went home, I still kept in touch with some old acquaintances. The servants got assigned to work in other mansions back then,” the old maid said.

“Then how can you confirm that this is the Miss you worked for?” an elder asked.

“I grew up with Miss Lu, so how could I not know her? It’s been so many years. Although she has grown up, her facial features haven’t changed. Besides, there is a birthmark on her wrist, and I recognized it at a glance!” the old maid answered seriously.

Her words were very reasonable, and every word she said was to help E’niang to verify her identity.

With a smile on her face, Madam Wen turned to Shao Wanru. She sighed and said in a kind tone, “Look, Your Highness, she is indeed the Miss of the imperial censor’s family. It’s a misery that Madam Lu up like this. At that time, she was very lonely and had no relatives. She didn’t know anyone. It’s pitiful for her to end up like this.”

Shao Wanru looked up and fixed her eyes on the old maid with a faint look in her eyes. Of course, she knew the old maid was one of the pawns of her grandmother’s plan. Of course, her grandmother was not the one who asked the old maid to do this.

A servant girl rushed in and reported, “Your Grace, there are a few people outside who say that they are the relatives of Madam Lu and ask to see her.”

“My relatives?”

“What relatives?”

E’niang was stunned at first, and then she panicked. She looked up at Shao Jing. “It can’t be the real relatives of the missing daughter. Please.”

“Those must be irrelevant people. Madam Lu’s relatives are not here at all. Drive those people away,” Shao Jing said unhappily. The sudden appearance of the alleged relatives made him feel uneasy, so he ordered to drive them away.

“Don’t do that. You’ve allowed an old maid to come here, Second Brother. But yet you’re turning down your woman’s relatives. Will that be proper?” Third Master Shao spoke again. He had to take Shao Jing down today.

He would mess things up as much as he could.

“Third Brother, won’t it be better if you don’t stir up trouble today?” Shao Jing scolded with a gloomy face.

Third Master Shao rolled his eyes and said indifferently, “Second Brother, what are you talking about? Did I say something wrong? An old maid came in and said that she’s your woman’s wet nurse, and you believe her. It’s strange that you now don’t believe that it’s your mistress’s relatives who have arrived. Could it be Imperial Censor Lu? If so, that will be really interesting!” He was really going to risk everything today. Even if he had to go against Shao Jing, he would not let Shao Jing get what he wanted.

Thinking of what his wife had told him before, Third Master Shao was burning with anger. Anyway, he was going to separate from the family and would not be a member of Marquis Xing’s Mansion in the future, so why should he be afraid of Shao Jing?

Now that they had fallen out with each other, what else could Shao Jing say?

“Since they are here, let them in!” Shao Wanru said indifferently.

Since his brother had said those words, it was inconvenient for Shao Jing to stop the ones who had arrived from coming in. He frowned and nodded. After a while, an old maid led the visitor in. It turned out to be an old Madam Dowager.

She was followed by a servant girl and an old maid.

The wet nurse’s face changed greatly, and she knelt on the ground in shock. E’niang blinked her eyes in a panic and felt that something bad was going to happen.

The Madam Dowager stepped forward and bowed to Shao Wanru and Madam Wen in front of the hall.

After a discussion, Madam Wen suddenly stood up and asked in astonishment, “Are... are you the Madam Dowager of Imperial Censor Lu’s Mansion?”

“Yes. I didn’t expect that you still remember me, Madam Wen.” The Madam Dowager nodded.

“Is Imperial Censor Lu going to be transferred back to the capital city?” Madam Wen asked in surprise. She had never heard her husband mention this before.

“No. Since he made such a mistake, I’m afraid he can’t go back to the capital city for the rest of his life,” the Madam Dowager said bitterly. After being involved in such a thing, her son almost couldn’t make a comeback. “This time, I’ve come to the capital city to visit my hometown. I’m old and may not be able to go back to my hometown again during my last days.”

The Madam Dowager sighed. She was from the capital city, and her ancestral land was in a town outside the city. After her son was demoted, she suddenly wanted to go back to her hometown for a visit. Since her son would not have a chance to go back to court again, her visit could be considered the last time for her to go back at such an old age. Imperial Censor Lu didn’t allow her to do so at first, but the Madam Dowager insisted, so he could only ask some servants to accompany her to the capital city.

Fortunately, the Madam Dowager was in good health and didn’t fall ill all the way to the capital city. It took her a long time to arrive while her servants took care of her.

Since Imperial Censor Lu had been demoted, it was inconvenient for Madam Dowager to see an old friend in the capital city this time, so she went to the ancestral land outside the city quietly. No one expected that the Madam Dowager, whose son had been demoted and was sent thousands of miles away, would come back to worship her ancestors.

No one knew about her trip at first, but she happened to meet Nanny Gao, who was the personal Nanny of Rui’an Great Elder Princess and had something to do with this Madam Dowager. After seeing her by chance, Nanny Gao didn’t dislike her and came specially to see her.

Later, the second time she came to visit the Madam Dowager, apart from catching up, it was about this matter.

After that, Rui'an Great Elder Princess released the news that E'niang was the daughter of the imperial censor, and there were more and more rumors.

After the Madam Dowager briefly talked about her affairs, she turned to the crowd and looked at them one by one. Finally, her eyes were fixed on the face of E'niang. After looking E'niang up and down a few times, she said slowly, "It is said that my granddaughter is here, so I come here especially to see her. Are you the one?"

E'niang was so panicked that her face turned pale. She took a step back subconsciously and her lips trembled. Finally, she toughed up. She gritted her teeth, rushed over, held the Madam Dowager's leg, and burst into tears. "Grandma, Grandma, I didn't expect that I could see you again. I... I thought I would never see you ever again!"

After saying that, she choked with sobs.

"Greetings, Madam Dowager." The wet nurse kneeling on the ground also sat up straight in a hurry and saluted the Madam Dowager.

Madam Dowager pushed E'niang away hard and looked her up and down a few times with a frown. When she was about to speak, Shao Jing interrupted her.

"Men, help Madam Dowager down so that she can talk."

An old maid hurriedly reached out to help the Madam Dowager to sit down on the chair aside.

Shao Jing narrowed his eyes and said with a smile, "Madam Dowager, E'niang is your granddaughter, and now my madam. Speaking of which, our two families are relatives now. You are also my elder. When you left, there was a rumor that a granddaughter was missing. You asked your old acquaintances in the capital city to look for her. Now you are reunited as a family. Congratulations!"

Chapter 1233 The Servant Girl of Infanta Qinghua

There was indeed such a saying back then.

Imperial Censor Lu was demoted. In the chaos, one of his daughters was missing. At that time, he had asked some old friends in the capital city to look for her, and many aristocratic families knew it.

After that, they couldn't find her, and the matter remained unsettled.

The reason why E'niang was quickly believed by many people was that there was such a past.

Imperial Censor Lu was demoted from the capital and could not come back again. Now there was a Miss in the capital city who claimed to be his daughter, and her age matched. Even the wet nurse who was lost at that time said so, so people thought that it was true.

Shao Wanru smiled slightly and calmly fanned the round fan in her hand a few times, making herself feel cool. She watched the situation quietly.

With such unexpected twists and turns, she wanted to see how Shao Jing would deal with this.

Shao Jing sounded gentle, but the threat in his words was obvious. If Madam Dowager had only met Nanny Gao by chance, she would not offend him for real and ruined his plan.

“Any Old Madam would be glad to see their granddaughter become the Madam of Marquis Xing.

“Anyone who gets related to the Madam of Marquis Xing for nothing will not care about other things. It won’t matter to this Madam Dowager if E’niang is really her granddaughter. At least, she’ll have the support of the Marquis Xing’s Mansion in the capital. Imperial Censor Lu may be able to come back because of this.

“Back then, Duke Xing’s Mansion was the family of a powerful official. Although it has declined now, what does this Madam Dowager know? She has been sent to the desolate border. I dare her to offend me.”

E’niang was originally in a panic, but after hearing what Shao Jing said, she immediately understood his meaning. After wiping away her tears, she stepped forward again to bow to the Madam Dowager. “Grandma, I... I am so happy to see you. I thought I would never see you ever again. Things turn out well now. You can stay in the capital city with me. As for my father, we will try to get him back.”

E’niang threatened the Madam Dowager like Shao Jing. She was afraid that Madam Dowager would expose her. After all, she did not look like the missing daughter of Imperial Censor Lu at all.

It wasn’t a big deal for Shao Jing to say these words. After all, he had high status. But when E’niang said it, it somehow made people feel a little sarcastic.

Her identity had not been set yet, but she regarded herself as the Madam of Marquis Xing and said that they could get her father back. Imperial Censor Lu was a demoted official. How could she, as a daughter with little power, make

him a chance to return to the capital city? What she said was really ignorant and ridiculous.

Third Master Shao laughed mercilessly and said, "Who do you think you are? Do you really think you're a big shot?"

"Mind your words, Third Brother!" Shao Jing said with his face darkening.

"Why should I mind my words? It's obvious that she's a fake. Do you still want to threaten me with the mansion? Bah!" Third Prince became more and more unscrupulous and said whatever he wanted.

"Third Brother, Madam Dowager has admitted it. How can you humiliate your sister-in-law like that?" Shao Jing couldn't stand it anymore. He picked up the cup at hand and threw it at Third Master Shao's feet.

Third Master Shao was shocked. He didn't expect that Shao Jing would really take action.

"Wait, when did I admit it?" Madam Dowager suddenly said.

"That's right, Second Brother. She didn't admit it at all. You're the only one who's in a hurry to recognize her." Third Master Shao burst into laughter.

"What do you mean, Madam Dowager?" Shao Jing looked at Madam Dowager with a gloomy face and gloomy eyes.

E'niang had a bad feeling. She knelt with a thud, hugged Madam Dowager's knees, and cried, "Grandma, although I was the Marquis... I had no choice at that time. How... how could you not recognize me for some false rumors!"

"Madam Dowager, E'niang has no choice but to be with me. If you think she violated the rules for unmarried girls, I should apologize to you." Shao Jing stood up and bowed deeply to Madam Dowager, showing enough respect for her.

For the sake of his doing this and the reputation of Marquis Xing's Mansion, anyone who was smart would definitely recognize E'niang.

"Madam Dowager, since your granddaughter has said so... You should be glad that she is fine now!" Madam Wen also spoke, seeming to sigh with emotion. No one wanted such a thing to happen.

Even if E'niang was a mistress, she had no choice back then. She had been a weak girl who was lost. It was amazing that she got to survive.

The three of them spoke in a threatening manner.

“Madam Wen, stop talking about it. If you go on, Madam Dowager will think that our Marquis Xing’s Mansion is pressuring her with power. So we’d better let her say if E’niang is her granddaughter. Madam Dowager hasn’t said anything about it yet. Could it be that E’niang is not her granddaughter?”

Shao Wanru interrupted the three of them rudely. As soon as she spoke, the three could only let her finish even if they wanted to say something.

After Shao Wanru intervened, Madam Dowager finally had time to take a breath. She looked at E’niang coldly and said, “Who are you? Why do you pretend to be my granddaughter? I don’t know you!”

“Grandma...” E’niang was terrified.

“Madam, no matter who you are, you have nothing to do with me. You can’t ruin my granddaughter’s reputation. Even if you are the Madam of Marquis Xing, I will try my best to fight against you.” Madam Dowager interrupted E’niang in a cold voice and became increasingly rude to her.

An old maid standing behind her stepped forward and looked warily at E’niang who was kneeling in front of Madam Dowager. “Madam, you can pretend to be anyone, but you shouldn’t have claimed to be Miss Lu, who looks completely different from you.”

“Grandma, I am really your granddaughter. How... how can you be so cruel...” E’niang was so anxious and terrified, but she did not dare to show it on her face. She clutched the hem of Madam Dowager’s clothes while crying and begging Madam Dowager.

With his face darkening, Shao Jing thought, “This old woman really doesn’t know how to appreciate favors. She keeps refusing to admit that the Madam of Marquis Xing is her granddaughter.”

“Hahaha, she’s indeed a fake. Second Brother, where did you get such a slut? How could you make such a big scene for such a cheap woman?” Third Master Shao laughed hysterically and felt very satisfied.

Shao Jing ignored Third Master Shao and said harshly, “Speak before you think, Madam Dowager. This is not your mansion. If you talk nonsense, you will have to take responsibility.”

“Don’t worry, Marquis. If I’m not telling the truth, I’m willing to take all the responsibility,” Madam Dowager said unhurriedly.

Shao Jing slammed his hand on the table and said, “You’re willing? I’m afraid that you, as merely a mother of the former imperial censor, can’t take the responsibility.”

"If you don't believe me, you can get the officials of the Ministry of Justice over to verify my statement on the spot," Madam Dowager said coldly, not frightened by Shao Jing.

Shao Jing trembled with anger. He didn't know where this damned old woman came from. His threat didn't work on her, and she didn't appreciate his favor. However, Madam Wen had just confirmed her identity.

A timid voice suddenly came in, and an old maid appeared at the door at some point. She seemed to be coming to report something. When she came in, she was stunned for a while when she saw E'niang, and then she said in a trembling voice, "Your... Your Grace... Didn't... didn't she use to be the servant girl of Her Highness Infanta Qinghua?"

The old maid had said that in a low voice, but after Madam Dowager finished her words and everyone fell silent, the voice of the old maid became obvious.

"The servant girl of my mother?" Shao Wanru looked up with her watery eyes and beat it to Shao Jing. "Bring her here!"

Yujie hurried forward and led the old maid in.

The old maid knelt in front of Shao Wanru.

"Tell me what happened," Shao Wanru said calmly. Since her mother was mentioned, she could ask about it.

"This is Her Highness Infanta Qinghua's servant girl. She used to serve Her Highness before and was still doing so after Her Highness returned to the mansion. After the incident, she disappeared. I didn't expect that she would be together with His Grace," the old maid reported.

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jing coldly. "Second Uncle, what's going on? Why is my mother's servant girl yours? And why did she become your mistress and give birth to a daughter? Is there something else behind it? Second Uncle, please explain it to me."

Finally, she could voice her doubts openly.

Third Master Shao was also stunned and looked at E'niang in astonishment. Most of the time, E'niang's head was lowered just now, or she was crying so hard that she could not speak. It was not convenient for him to stare at her all the time. When he looked at her carefully, he recognized her. He slapped his thigh and said, "Yes, it's the servant girl of Sister Qinghua. What's her name? She was the only servant girl who came back with Sister Zhao."

There used to be so many servant girls around Infanta Qinghua. No one had expected that this servant girl would work for Shao Jing, who then took her as his mistress. This sounded extremely shameless.

“No wonder you would claim to be the daughter of the imperial censor. It turns out that you are the servant girl of my sister-in-law.” Third Master Shao suddenly realized it. He looked at Shao Jing and saw that his face was embarrassed and livid. He felt great and laughed out loud.

“Impudent!” Shao Jing said sternly, “Men, take this bitch servant away and punish her severely.”

“Wait a minute. It’s related to my mother. I’d like to see who dares to take action before I figure it out,” Shao Wanru said with a sneer and looked at Shao Jing with cold eyes in a tit-for-tat manner.

At this moment, she no longer hid her sharpness.

“The hatred for killing my mother is absolutely irreconcilable. If this woman really has something to do with my mother, she might have secretly attacked her.”

Shao Jing taking the servant girl of his sister-in-law as a mistress seemed to be shameless, but if one thought about it carefully, one would find it terrifying. Had he planted this servant girl beside Infanta Qinghua a long time ago? Or did she become his woman later? If she had been on Shao Jing’s side long ago, didn’t that mean that Shao Jing had long had ill intentions toward his brother and sister-in-law of the first branch?

The two had long passed away. One of them died in a foreign country, and the other went crazy. Neither of them ended well. However, Shao Jing benefited from it. In addition, Madam Jiang had said those words at the gate of the mansion before, so this topic was no longer a groundless rumor.

The face of Madam Wen, who was sitting on the seat of honor, changed greatly. She was not stupid, and she was also a little suspicious of E’niang. But even so, she still supported E’niang. But if what was said was true, she would also be disgraced. For a moment, she was so angry and full of hatred that she glared at Gu Xishu beside her.

“You can’t talk nonsense, Your Highness!” Shao Jing said with anger and hatred. Things were getting complicated, and he had to confront Shao Wanru in front of everyone, which was the last thing he wanted to do.

Chapter 1234 Falling Out with Each Other

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jing fearlessly and said without dodging his eyes, "Second Uncle, why are you afraid of me talking about it? Could it be that what Second Aunt said at the gate by then is true?"

"Even... even if you're doing this for your own, you should take Hao'er into consideration." Shao Jing gritted his teeth in anger.

"Don't worry, Second Uncle. I agree with everything my sister said." Shao Yuanhao stood up and stood beside Shao Wanru. The young boy was not short anymore. Standing beside Shao Wanru, although his face was childish, he looked fearless. He was no longer the child who was only interested in playing.

"If you can find out the cause of my father's and mother's death, I will thank you, Second Uncle. As for this woman, since she has something to do with my mother, please allow me to deal with her," Shao Yuanhao said coldly.

"You... How dare you!" Shao Jing was so angry that he felt blood in his throat. Shao Wanru could contradict him. After all, she was Princess Chen, so he, as Marquis Xing who was powerless, couldn't compare with her. His seniority was the only thing he had that was superior to hers. "Now even Shao Yuanhao intervened. Do they really think I'm a pushover?"

"Second Uncle, if I am being impudent, I should apologize. But don't blame me for being disrespectful to you if you're really related to the death of my parents."

Shao Yuanhao stood proudly in front of Shao Jing, took two steps forward, and protected Shao Wanru behind him.

Looking at the young boy in front of her, Shao Wanru tried hard to suppress the bitterness in her heart with red eyes. In this life, not only her grandma but also her biological younger brother was protecting her subconsciously. But in her previous life, they were all ruined by Marquis Xing's Mansion.

The bitterness in her eyes turned into a touch of fierceness, which was deeply hidden. Shao Wanru looked at Madam Wen beside her and said coldly, "Madam Wen, do you know what's going on now?"

"I..." Madam Wen also regretted it at this time. This matter was about to be out of control. How could she get herself involved in it back then?

In fact, this matter was already very clear. E'niang was not the daughter of the imperial censor at all. She just used to be a servant girl of Infanta Qinghua. No one knew when she hooked up with Shao Jing. Was this exposed now? Moreover, it was not a simple matter. If it was just a matter of a servant girl, it

would not be a big deal. Even if her reputation was ruined, it was not a big deal. But now it was related to the death of Infanta Qinghua and the former heir of the mansion, which was a big deal.

Not to mention Madam Wen, even Prime Minister Wen couldn't bear the consequences of this matter. Rui'an Great Elder Princess was not easy to deal with, and Princess Chen was famous for being difficult to deal with because she had Prince Chen's protection.

"What do you think, Madam Wen?" Shao Wanru continued asking.

Madam Wen sighed and said helplessly, "It's your mansion's own business. I just thought that E'niang saved my life, so I believed what she said. Since what she said is not true, of course, I have nothing to say."

"Madam..." E'niang got very anxious. She knew that no one would believe her in the current situation. She turned to Shao Wanru and said sadly, "Your Highness, it's obvious that I pretended to be the daughter of the imperial censor because of Rui'an Great Elder Princess. You also know that. Why do you talk like this now?"

Her words made everyone's face change.

"My maternal grandma has always had a bad attitude toward Marquis Xing's Mansion. In the past, she quarreled with my paternal grandma several times. Why should she treat you so well and advise you to pretend to be the daughter of an imperial censor?" Shao Wanru said with sarcasm in her eyes, "Are you going to say that it was my grandma who asked you to be with Second Uncle?"

E'niang was dumbfounded by her words. She stammered and said with sweat on her forehead, "Your Highness, I... I used to be the servant girl of Her Highness Infanta Qinghua!"

"Yes, I knew it just now. So what? You used to be my mother's servant girl. After she died, you hooked up with Second Uncle. I refuse to believe that there's nothing fishy about it. Guards!" Shao Wanru said harshly.

Two guards of Prince Chen's Mansion appeared at the door. Shao Wanru said, "Take her away!"

The two guards stepped forward and were about to drag E'niang away. Shao Jing was so angry that his face turned livid. "Who dares to hurt her?"

"Second Uncle, what if I hurt her? If I really wronged you, Hao'er and I will definitely plead guilty. But if... please forgive my brother and me for doing this for our parents."

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jing coldly and remained unmoved.

The two guards grabbed E'niang by the arm and pulled her down. Seeing that the situation was not good, she struggled desperately and shouted for help, "Your Grace, Your Grace, save me!"

At present, the only one who could save her was Shao Jing.

Shao Jing was angry and anxious. He shouted, "Stop them! I want to see who can take her out of Marquis Xing's Mansion today."

"Second Uncle, do you have to go against me and hide the real cause of my father's and mother's death?" Shao Wanru said slowly with coldness in her eyes. At this moment, Shao Jing actually saw a trace of coldness and bloodthirstiness in his weak niece's eyes. She appeared weak and slender as a noble lady, but she had such strong murderous intent.

Shao Jing couldn't help stepping back, only feeling his heart beating wildly. But at this time, he couldn't back down. "Even if this woman lied to you and me, Your Highness, you can't take her away directly. You should interrogate her and get to the bottom of the matter!"

He admitted that E'niang was not the daughter of the imperial censor.

"Your Grace..." E'niang exclaimed and struggled in a panic. Suddenly, she pushed away the two guards and rushed to Shao Jing. "Your Grace, save me! Save me!"

Shao Jing winked at her and glared at her fiercely.

E'niang immediately understood. She turned in another direction in front of Shao Jing and rushed to Madam Wen, crying, "Madam Wen, save me. I... I don't know anything. I didn't hurt Their Highnesses. Please save me, Madam Wen."

Looking at E'niang falling in front of her, Madam Wen took a step back with a gloomy face.

"Aunt, save her. She also saved your life!" Gu Xishu whispered in her ear.

Madam Wen was in a dilemma. She glared at Gu Xishu and had to plead for mercy. After all, E'niang had saved her life. "Your Highness..."

"Catch her. This woman knows martial arts!" Shao Wanru suddenly shouted and stepped back repeatedly. Shao Yuanhao guarded her and looked at E'niang warily.

“My Lady, she knows martial arts. I saw it. She was so strong that the two guards couldn’t pull her over just now. She even kicked them a few times, and they let go of her.” Yujie also stood in front of Shao Wanru and shouted anxiously, “She’s skilled at martial arts. If someone gets tripped by her, they will probably fall to their deaths.”

Madam Wen’s face turned livid. After a pause, she pushed Gu Xishu away and turned to walk out.

Since Madam Wen fell at that time, she had been recalling how she fell. Gu Xishu didn’t get close to her, and no one else was close enough to her that they could trip her. E’niang was the same. At that time, there seemed to be a step between them, which seemed to be showing that Madam Wen had fallen on her own.

After returning to the mansion, Madam Wen also told Wen Xichi about it. Wen Xichi said that there was another possibility that someone who practiced martial arts had tripped her nearby or thrown a stone at her acupoint on her leg, which was why she fell. Of course, the premise was that that person was close to her, otherwise, they would be discovered.

There were only women around her. Madam Wen didn’t think that anyone could practice martial arts, so she left it unsettled. Now she found that E’niang knew martial arts, and she knew what had happened.

“No wonder she brought ginseng with her and could save me. It was obviously a trap, a trap set for me.

“This woman is a liar, a fake. She wants someone to introduce her to the madams of aristocratic families, so she targeted me. It seems that my niece is not completely unaware of this. When everyone was surprised just now, Gu Xishu did not look very surprised.”

Originally, Madam Wen thought that Gu Xishu could keep her cool, but now she found that she was not calm at all. It was obvious that Gu Xishu was also involved in it. Otherwise, it would not be so coincidental for Madam Wen to meet E’niang. It was Gu Xishu who led her to that place, where she almost died from her fall. Thinking that her beloved niece had plotted against her and almost got her killed, Madam Wen wanted to slap Gu Xishu right in the face badly on the spot.

“I treat her like a treasure, but this bitch girl dared to plot against me.”

Madam Wen was so angry that her legs went weak and she left Marquis Xing’s Mansion angrily. Gu Xishu was stunned for a moment and realized that something was wrong, so she hurriedly chased after her.

Seeing that Madam Wen understood and turned to leave, Shao Wanru said harshly, "Take her away!"

Two more guards came out of the door, and the four guards came over together. E'niang had been instructed by Shao Jing to pounce on Madam Wen, but she didn't expect that Madam Wen would leave without hesitation. She could only turn to Shao Jing and escape in his direction.

Shao Jing took two steps forward to stand in front of E'niang and said angrily, "Your Highness, this is Marquis Xing's Mansion, not your territory!"

"I'm sorry that I have to do this, Second Uncle!" Shao Wanru said coldly.

The guards came over and tried to pull E'niang away.

Shao Jing was furious and fought with those guards. His martial arts skills were not bad, and he was not as gentle as he used to be. After all, he was Marquis Xing, and the guards of Prince Chen's Mansion did not dare to really hurt him. Two guards of Marquis Xing's Mansion came out from nowhere and fought with those four guards.

"What's going on? Are they fighting?" A gentle and somewhat delighted voice suddenly came from the door, which made the tense atmosphere stiff for a while.

It was unknown when Chu Liuchen appeared at the door. On his gorgeous black and white royal robe, there was a golden python with four claws and sharp teeth. With his hands clasped behind his back, he was dressed in an elegant and handsome manner, which was completely different from the atmosphere in the hall. He looked up with his handsome eyes, which seemed to be condensed with a gentle and noble aura. Even if he just stood there, the momentum he carried shocked Shao Jing. He took a step back subconsciously, and his heart beat wildly. "Chu Liuchen is here. Why is Chu Liuchen here?"

"Shouldn't he be in the Palace at this time?"

Chapter 1235 The Suspicious Pavilion

Chu Liuchen walked in slowly, looking elegant and noble.

After walking up to Shao Wanru, he slowly turned his head, reached out to hold Shao Wanru's hand, and took a few steps toward Shao Jing. He looked up slightly, revealing a lazy smile. His eyes were as dark as ink. "Are you... going to fight with me, Marquis Xing?"

He waved his hand, and his guards stepped back.

When Shao Jing saw Chu Liuchen, he felt like he had been splashed with a basin of ice water and got sober. At the same time, he motioned for his people to step back and bowed to Chu Liuchen. "Greetings, Your Highness Prince Chen."

"Did my lady offend you?" Chu Liuchen asked curiously.

"No... no. I went too far just now. Your Highness Princess Chen, please forgive me." Shao Jing lowered his head and apologized to Shao Wanru.

"Second Uncle, I also went too far just now!" Shao Wanru said softly. Her gentle look was no longer as aggressive as before.

"Since it's not my lady's fault, what do you want, Marquis Xing? Do you dislike my lady? If so, you'd better tell me. I will definitely ask my lady to apologize to you," Chu Liuchen said with a cold and gloomy face, which was completely different from his gentle expression just now. It was as if he had become another person in an instant.

Shao Jing had long heard that Prince Chen was temperamental. He could appear calm and charming a moment ago, but the next moment, he could be ruthless. Shao Jing really regretted it. Why did he fight with the guards of Prince Chen's Mansion on the spur of the moment?

Shao Hua'an came over, bowed to Chu Liuchen, and said, "Your Highness, my father fought with your guards because he was deceived just now. I wish for your forgiveness for what he has done."

Just now, he and Zhao Xiran had been standing in the back and didn't come up to meddle in the fight. But now he couldn't stand still and came forward to explain what had happened.

"He was deceived? By who?" Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows and his face softened, as if he were not the gloomy one just now.

"It's this woman. She said she was the daughter of the imperial censor. After my father had her enter the mansion, he found out that she was a liar. She turned out to be a servant girl who intended to pretend to be the daughter of the imperial censor. She wants to enter Marquis Xing's Mansion and replace my mother." Shao Hua'an lowered his head and looked very sad. His mother had just passed away, but his father was going to let another woman marry into the mansion. As a son, he was certainly angry.

But no matter how angry he was, he couldn't oppose his father.

"A fake daughter?" Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows and looked at E'niang who had been trembling.

"She's a fake. She's just a servant girl," Shao Hua'an said with a pale face and a little anger. Anyone who encountered such a thing would be very angry.

"Then take her away. The Ministry of Justice has dealt with a lot of this kind of thing!" Chu Liuchen ordered gently. This kind of thing should indeed be dealt with by the Ministry of Justice.

"I'm at your disposal, Your Highness!" Shao Hua'an took two steps back and bowed with hands folded in front.

Two guards came over and took E'niang away. She still wanted to struggle, but Shao Jing glared at her so hard that she didn't dare to move and followed the two guards to leave obediently.

"Has the family tree been settled?" Chu Liuchen asked Shao Wanru this time.

"It will be done soon. Third Uncle's branch will be separated from the family. Originally, this woman's name would be recorded into the family tree, but now that won't be necessary," Shao Wanru answered softly.

"Marquis Xing, can we start now?" Chu Liuchen nodded and looked at Shao Jing. "I'm going to take my lady to the Palace to see Imperial Grandmother."

Shao Jing couldn't wait to see them leave, so he said in a hurry, "Okay, okay. I'll do it right away!"

The following things were much simpler. Without E'niang, everything else was nothing serious. Shao Jing was now very well-behaved. He didn't dare to say anything extra or ask anything more, for fear that he would accidentally provoke Prince Chen, who was ruthless. He really didn't dare to provoke him.

The frightened elders didn't dare to say anything extra either. They retrieved the family tree and changed all the members of the third branch into collateral members of the family. They also burned several incense sticks in front of the ancestral tablets. After all the members kowtowed, this matter was finished.

After following the process, Shao Wanru asked Chu Liuchen to wait in the Piaoyun Courtyard first while she went to the courtyard of Third Madam.

Third Madam was still lying in bed, but she was in good spirits. Seeing Shao Wanru come in, she struggled to sit up, but Shao Wanru reached out to hold her.

"No need to get up, Third Aunt!"

Third Madam lay down again, and the others in the room left.

“Third Aunt, Grandma has selected a few candidates. She will ask Nanny Gao to send them to your new mansion soon. You can choose two suitable ones to get engaged with Third Sister and Fourth Sister. These people are not from noble aristocratic families, but fortunately, they come from decent families and have good character. They are about the same age as Third Sister and Fourth Sister, and I’m sure they will be nice husbands.”

That was to say, if Third Madam’s daughters needed to get married urgently, it could be achieved.

“Thank you, thank you, Your Highness.” Third Madam was about to cry. She had thought that she would not get many benefits from the separation this time, but because of Shao Wanru’s proposal, the third branch got more benefits than she had imagined. At this moment, she was very grateful to Shao Wanru.

“You’re welcome. This is our deal, but that’s all I can do for you,” Shao Wanru said.

Third Madam nodded to show that she understood. What had happened at that time was a thorn in Shao Wanru’s heart. Even if Third Madam had not killed her father and Mother, she had guessed. “When that happened, she just stood aside and watched, didn’t she?

“In my last life, the third branch had watched me die, hadn’t they?”

Shao Wanru was not a saint. She had never been a saint. Not only that, but she was also a cold-hearted person. It was impossible for her to have no grudge against the third branch.

What she and Third Madam had done before was a deal, which had nothing to do with the kinship of the two branches.

In fact, it was best for the third branch to break away at this time. Since Marquis Xing’s Mansion was going down, anyone who had something to do with it would fall and even die.

After coming out of the courtyard of Third Madam, Shao Wanru didn’t go straight back to the Piaoyun Courtyard but went to the Quhuan Courtyard, where her father and mother used to live. The screen wall recorded the process of her father’s practicing calligraphy from childhood to adulthood, as well as the traces of her parents’ love for each other. But they were just traces.

She felt a bit like crying. “Everything here in my last life must have been destroyed!”

If Shao Hua'an moved in, everything here would inevitably be ruined. She felt inexplicably sad. She stood alone in front of the screen wall and raised her head for a long time.

"What's wrong?" The voice of Chu Liuchen came from behind her. She fell into his broad arms, and the familiar breath made her relax.

"If Marquis Xing's Mansion is destroyed, will this place remain?" Shao Wanru suddenly asked, her eyes still fixed on the screen wall. In the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion, what she couldn't part with the most wasn't the Piaoyun Courtyard but this Quhuan Courtyard, which represented the family care she sought in her two lives.

"It won't be destroyed." Chu Liuchen said in a gentle but reassuring voice.

"It won't?"

"It definitely won't!" This was not just an answer, but a confirmation.

Shao Wanru nodded with a smile. When she turned around and saw that he was alone, she couldn't help looking back and asking, "Where is Hao'er?"

"I told him to go back to school!" Chu Liuchen said. He took her hand and walked out slowly while he asked with a smile, "Can we go back now?"

"Let's go back!" Shao Wanru said with a nod. The mansion was in chaos, and Zhao Xiran was busy. She was the only official female lead in the inner court now. Old Madam couldn't take charge in her current situation.

When the two walked out slowly, they passed by Shao Jing's courtyard. Shao Wanru stopped and looked at the tall pavilion. In fact, it was really eye-catching. She took a few more steps out.

After taking a few steps, she suddenly stopped and decisively took the hand of Chu Liuchen and walked inside.

"Your Highness, His Grace is not here. He's in another study outside. If you ask for him, you should go there instead." The old maid guarding the door hurried up to stop Shao Wanru.

Chu Liuchen snorted coldly. Two guards appeared behind him and pulled the old maid away.

The old maid still wanted to say something, but her head was hit heavily and she fainted to the ground.

When the other servants in the yard saw this, they were all trembling and lowering their heads, for fear that Prince Chen's guards would come at them. It was obvious that Prince Chen was not a reasonable person.

Shao Wanru walked to the bottom of the pavilion, gritted her teeth, and raised her head. She had always had a doubt in her heart. For some reason, she felt that this place was suspicious. She felt like going upstairs. She just wanted to go up and have a look for no reason. She just felt that if she didn't visit it, she would miss something very important.

This feeling came inexplicably, but it was very real, which made her have an inexplicable sense of urgency. She bit her lip, and the corner of her mouth was red.

"Shall we go up?" Chu Liuchen pointed up, and Shao Wanru nodded.

She quickly turned to the front of the pavilion. When she reached the door, she was stunned. There was a big lock locking the door. If she wanted to go up the pavilion, she had to pass through this door. However, with such a wide lock, unless she unscrewed the lock, it was impossible to go up.

"Where is the key?" Shao Wanru asked. There was an old maid beside her who had been cleaning just now. When she saw the two coming over, she hurriedly lowered her head and stepped aside.

"The key is... is kept by His Grace," the old maid stammered.

"No one has ever gone up there?" Shao Wanru asked.

The old maid didn't dare to raise her head and said in a panic, "Very few people... go up. I heard... I heard that this place is full of sundries!"

"How many years has it been since someone went up there?" Shao Wanru was very disappointed. The impulse she had just had slowly faded away. Looking at the closed window of the pavilion, she felt very uncomfortable as if something was pressing down on her heart.

"Usually... we won't go up... People only go up for... cleaning..."

"Let's go!" Shao Wanru was extremely disappointed. She looked up at the window and turned around.

Seeing the reluctance in her eyes, Chu Liuchen said with deep eyes, "In fact, we can get there without the key!"

Chapter 1236 Is Someone Hidden There?

"Your Highness Prince Chen and Princess Chen!" Shao Jing strode over. He bowed to them, reached out to point at the upper floor, and said, "Your Highness, do you want to go up there? I'll ask someone to clean it up first."

Chu Liuchen didn't say anything. He glanced at the upper floor lazily and waved his hand, signaling Shao Jing to rise.

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jing calmly for a while and said, "We shouldn't trouble you, Second Uncle. I just felt strange when I walked here and found that the door is locked!"

"This place is filled with sundries, which are aged ones. If you want them, I'll ask some servants to sort them out and send them to Prince Chen's Mansion. Some of them belong to Eldest Brother, and I don't usually use them," Shao Jing said gently.

"Thank you, Second Uncle!" Shao Wanru nodded.

Shao Jing pointed to the main room and said with a kind smile. "Your Highness, why don't you take a seat? I'll ask someone to sort things out right away." He was indicating that the two should leave soon.

"There's no need for such a hurry. We need to enter the Palace, so we don't have time to get those things now!" Shao Wanru said slowly.

It was reasonable for her to be a little domineering in her words and deeds after what had happened before. After all, it was related to her biological parents. At this time, it would not be appropriate for her to pressure Shao Jing to sort out some previous belongings of her father in a hurry.

After saying goodbye to Shao Jing, Shao Wanru and Chu Liuchen got on the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion. Sitting in the carriage, Shao Wanru still frowned slightly because she felt that there was something wrong with the pavilion.

Shao Jing was too nice to her. If it were in the past, his attitude would be very normal. Shao Jing always gave people an amiable smile. But today was different. Shao Jing had fought with the guards of Prince Chen's Mansion before, but now he was so kind to her. For some reason, Shao Wanru felt a strange sense of discord.

"Is Shao Jing afraid? Or is he feeling guilty?"

Sensing her silence, Chu Liuchen asked, "Do you want to visit that pavilion?" He looked at her with his beautiful eyes, which were clear and gentle.

"I do want to visit it. I always feel..." Shao Wanru couldn't explain it clearly at the moment. It was a kind of feeling, but in fact, she had no evidence. "I just feel that something is wrong. Could there be... someone hiding inside?"

In fact, her guess was groundless. After saying that, Shao Wanru also felt that it was ridiculous. How could such a thing happen? But she had that feeling.

Afraid that Chu Liuchen would make fun of her, she lowered her head and pulled the round fan in her hand with mixed feelings.

"I'll take you to visit it tonight." Chu Liuchen lowered his head with a smile and did not ask her why she thought so, nor did he ask her for evidence. He made it sound as if he was going to take her to his own pavilion.

Shao Wanru instantly looked up and said in surprise, "Can... can we?" If she didn't get to do so, she would be worried. She just wanted to go there and check the pavilion out.

"Of course. Shao Jing will be taken away in the afternoon, and some of the information you found will be sent to the Ministry of Justice. It won't be easy for Shao Jing to come back so soon," Chu Liuchen said slowly.

Shao Wanru looked at Chu Liuchen with her bright eyes. She put down the round fan in her hand, grabbed his sleeve, and said in a trembling voice, "Is... is it done?"

"Yes!" Chu Liuchen looked at her with a smile and saw a trace of tears at the corner of her eyes.

Shao Wanru bit her lip and said, "Thank you!" She wanted to say a lot of things, but she only said these two words in the end.

"If you want to thank me, you should grow up soon, Zhuozhuo!" Chu Liuchen squinted at her, reached out to hold her in his arms, and sighed inexplicably.

Shao Wanru felt that she had understood his meaning immediately. She pinched his waist angrily and buried her head in his arms with a faint fragrance of medicine.

She had thought that he would not say those words so easily, but he did.

"Mingqiu Nun and Doctor Qi found that Doctor Qiu could make the medicine that could be used to fake one's death. Shao Yanru escaped from the Palace with this medicine. When my mother died, did she also take this medicine? Doctor Qiu remained silent before, but the day before yesterday, he said that he and Shao Jing had known each other for a long time. They got to know each other not in the capital city but at the border."

Shao Wanru blinked her long eyelashes, looking a little tired. She pursed her lips tightly and suppressed the hatred in her heart. "It was Shao Jing who asked him to come to the capital city. He said that he came here through Gu Xishu, but it was just an excuse. In fact, his main purpose was to enter Marquis Xing's Mansion. More than a decade ago, he also gave Shao Jing a dose of the Fake Dead Medicine."

Her words were a little confusing, and she became emotional. She held Chu Liuchen's robe tightly. When talking about the past, she almost couldn't breathe.

"My father is really dead. He was shot by an arrow..." Shao Wanru tried her best to keep calm, but her heart ached as if it had been stabbed by a sword. She didn't want to recall those unbearable things in her two lives.

Her father, the First Young Master of Duke Xing's Mansion, died to save Qin Huaiyong, but what if someone else wanted to deal with him at that time? No matter how hard he tried to dodge, he would die, right?

There might be someone who wanted to help Qin Huaiyong, but there must be someone who wanted to kill her father. This person was no one else but Shao Jing.

Qin Huaiyong should have known something, so he didn't think that Shao Wanru was the daughter of his lifesaver and didn't care about her. He merely raised her as his daughter on the surface, that was why his attitude toward her was so strange.

She really didn't want to tear open those old scars, but she had to.

She bit her lip and her tears fell. Feeling that his chest was wet, Chu Liuchen held her tighter and reached out to pat her on the back gently with a sense of tenderness and care.

He didn't ask or say anything else. He just wanted to protect her.

In fact, he should thank her for slowly pulling him out of the abyss. She was the only one in his heart.

His parents had never been nice to him. She was the only one he had.

He hugged her tightly. After a long while, he comforted her softly, "It's okay. Everything will be fine."

Everything would be fine, and those people that had hurt them would disappear.

In fact, the Empress Dowager was still in Huaguang Temple and did not go down the mountain. Because she went there secretly, she claimed to be still in the Palace.

The carriage went all the way to the mountain road of Huaguang Temple. After getting out of the carriage with Shao Wanru, Chu Liuchen went straight to the courtyard where the Empress Dowager temporarily stayed.

The Empress Dowager had recovered a lot. When she heard that Chu Liuchen and Shao Wanru had come over, she hurriedly asked her servants to invite them over. Looking at this pair of good-looking young people, the Empress Dowager felt happy from the bottom of her heart.

She put down the prayer beads in her hand and asked her servants to serve them tea with a smile.

Chu Liuchen took a sip of tea and said with a smile, "Imperial Grandmother, are you feeling better?"

The Empress Dowager said with a smile, "I'm fine. I'm just recuperating!" She looked up at Shao Wanru and saw that although there was a smile on her face, her eyes were red. She had heard about what had happened to Madam Jiang. She thought that Shao Wanru had gone to Marquis Xing's Mansion to attend Madam Jiang's funeral, so she felt that this girl was a good person. Rui'an had told her several times that Madam Jiang didn't treat Shao Wanru well at all. The Empress Dowager didn't know why Shao Wanru would be so kind that she would be sad for this woman.

"After the matter of Marquis Xing's Mansion is settled, don't go back there often. Your second uncle is so stupid that he even wants to bring a mistress into the mansion."

Empress Dowager held Shao Wanru's tender hand and comforted her softly.

Chu Liuchen looked up with his cold smiling face and said sarcastically, "You're wrong, Imperial Grandmother. Marquis Xing is smart and scheming. He has been trying to eliminate the first branch step by step for so many years before he can benefit from it."

The Empress Dowager did not quite understand, but she got the scheming part from what she heard. She asked in shock, "What happened?"

"Shao Jing sneaked out of the capital city when the former heir of Duke Xing went to the border under an anonymous name and joined the army. When he left the capital city, it happened that the Heir of Duke Xing was killed. Someone can testify that," Chu Liuchen said.

Yan Xi had asked his father to write a letter to confirm this matter. Now the letter was kept by Shao Wanru.

Yan Xi specially came to Prince Chen's Mansion and promised Chu Liuchen that his father could testify in person if necessary.

The Empress Dowager finally understood what Chu Liuchen meant. It was not a trivial matter. She straightened up and said hurriedly, "The... the Heir of Duke Xing was killed by Shao Jing?"

"Yes!" Chu Liuchen nodded. Shao Wanru lowered her head, bit her lip, and suppressed the sadness in her heart.

"Then... then what are you waiting for? Have your Uncle the Emperor catch him! Is he still a human being? How could he do such a cruel thing to his own brother just for the title of nobility?" The Empress Dowager looked angry. The more she thought about it, the more she felt that Shao Jing was despicable. In the past, she had thought that Marquis Xing had a good character and would smile at everyone. He seemed to be a good-tempered person, but it turned out that he was so insidious.

"I have sent his mistress to the Ministry of Justice. The officials will call for him later." Chu Liuchen said lightly, "His mistress was the servant girl of Infanta Qinghua, who seemed to have died inexplicably back then. That woman claimed to be the daughter of the former imperial censor, but she's a fake. Shao Jing made it up in order to have her enter the mansion."

"What... what?" Empress Dowager almost couldn't believe her ears. "This... this man is too vicious. Even the worst punishment won't be enough to deal with him! You have to tell your Uncle the Emperor that he has to demote this man!"

"Don't worry, Imperial Grandmother. The Ministry of Justice will investigate it properly and find out the truth!" Chu Liuchen said with a smile, "Please take care. I'll talk to Uncle the Emperor. Before the truth comes out, don't tell anyone about this, not a single person."

"Don't worry, Chen. I know what to do." Empress Dowager patted her chest.

However, Chu Liuchen and Shao Wanru saw a figure behind a gauze curtain. There was more than one layer of gauze curtain, and there were many layers of it. If they hadn't paid attention to it, they wouldn't have noticed it. The figure was hiding there and didn't move at all.

Chapter 1237 Secret Report

Nanny Wei covered her chest tightly and curled up motionlessly, for fear that people outside the curtain would see her.

She had come into the room to get a pastry box, but when she heard the conversation in the room, she immediately stopped. She felt dizzy and her face turned pale. Something big had happened in Marquis Xing's Mansion, and she had to find a way to tell her nephew so that he would not get involved in it. She had heard from her nephew before that he seemed to have a good relationship with Marquis Xing.

The conversation was still going on. The people who spoke were doing chitchats and no longer talked about the affairs of Marquis Xing's Mansion. Nanny Wei pressed her chest hard to suppress the shock, carefully turned around, and went back inside the curtain. After calming herself down for a long time, she walked out with a relaxed look and light steps.

After talking for a while, the Empress Dowager looked tired.

Chu Liuchen stood up and said, "Take care, Imperial Grandmother. I'm going down the mountain."

"Okay!" the Empress Dowager said with a kind smile and looked at Shao Wanru with increasing pity. "I feel so sorry for this girl. I thought that Chen was the most pitiful, but I didn't expect that there would be such a poor child."
"Leave the affairs of Marquis Xing's Mansion to Chen. If you don't want to go, don't go. You won't be blamed!"

The Empress Dowager was going to support Shao Wanru. No matter what others said, she was going to protect this girl.

With her eyes turning red, Shao Wanru bit her lip and suppressed the bitterness and grievance in her heart. She nodded hard and said, "All right... Imperial Grandmother. Thank you very much!"

Her biological grandmother was so heartless to her, but the Empress Dowager treated her like her own granddaughter. How could Shao Wanru not be sad? But after the sadness, she was happy. Her hand was silently held by Chu Liuchen in the palm of his hand. It was warm and made her cold and sad heart slowly calm down.

In this life, she was not alone. He was by her side.

"Your Highness Empress Dowager, would you like to have a rest first? You need recuperation. The scenery here is good, and you can rest and relax."
Nanny Wei came out with a smile and put the pastries on the table. She looked at the face of Empress Dowager and knew that she was in low spirits.

“Sure!” The Empress Dowager nodded and walked toward the interior with the help of Nanny Wei. She said with a smile, “The scenery here is indeed nice. You can also tour around when you are free. Don’t just get busy serving me all the time.”

“When you have rested, I will go and walk around, Your Highness. I do need to visit the place and burn incense. I’ll ask for Bodhisattva’s blessing that Your Highness will live a long life.” Nanny Wei helped the Empress Dowager into the room and helped her lie on the bed. She let down the gauze curtain on one side and carefully tucked the Empress Dowager in.

“You need to go and enjoy the scenery!” Empress Dowager said with a smile and closed her eyes. She was really tired. She had taken a big walk outside before.

When Nanny Yu heard the Empress Dowager’s even breathing, she came out of the inner room and ordered one little palace maid to go in and serve the Empress Dowager. She instructed another one to stay outside. Then, she quietly went to a Buddha hall.

This Buddha hall belonged to the Huaguang Temple, but it was small and remote. There were some votary lamps, but they were not from big aristocratic families. The place was usually desolate.

When Nanny Wei came over, there was only a monk here to clean up the votary lamps. When he saw her coming in, he bowed to her and then stepped aside.

Nanny Wei stood still and said, “I’m here to see Wei Dahai.” Wei Dahai had told her that if she wanted to see him, she could come here and tell the monks in the Buddha hall.

Nanny Wei didn’t think about the reason behind the serious matter now. There were some things that she didn’t dare to think about. Wei Dahai was her only relative, so she couldn’t watch him get into trouble and do nothing.

The monk stepped aside, put his palms together devoutly, and said, “Lord Wei happens to be in the temple today. Please wait for a moment, Nanny.”

It was really a coincidence that he was on the mountain. Nanny Wei breathed a sigh of relief and nodded. Seeing the monk leave, she breathed a sigh of relief. She looked around and waited inside the hall.

Not long after, she saw a figure at the door of the Buddha hall. She turned around and saw Wei Dahai rushing over.

After coming in, Wei Dahai wiped his sweat and asked, "Aunt, what happened?" Something serious must have happened since Nanny Wei asked him to come here in such a hurry.

Nanny Wei pulled Wei Dahai to stand behind the hanging curtain and asked in a low voice, "Do you know Marquis Xing?"

Wei Dahai didn't understand what Nanny Wei meant at the moment, so he nodded and asked, "I know Shao Jing, Marquis Xing. What happened?"

"Do you have a good relationship with him? If so, lose your contact with him..." Nanny Wei paused and said, "If you have any letters from him, destroy them as soon as possible. He is going to get into trouble!"

Wei Dahai was confused. He really didn't understand why Nanny Wei suddenly told him this. The matter about Marquis Xing's Mansion had not been spread out yet. Madam Wen, who was present at that time, had only returned to the mansion and was too ashamed to tell others about it.

Marquis Xing's Mansion had long been in chaos. If Zhao Xiran had informed any outsiders, she would only have informed her father. Moreover, no one thought that this matter was so serious.

Wei Dahai really didn't understand what Nanny Wei meant. After thinking for a while, he asked tentatively, "What trouble would he get into? Is it about that mistress?" It was spread among the outsiders, so he knew something about it.

"You really know about his mistress?" Nanny Wei was shocked and grabbed the hand of Wei Dahai. "Does she have anything to do with you? This woman used to be the servant girl of Infanta Qinghua, and there must be more than that!"

Nanny Wei had been living in the Palace for so many years, so she knew that in any case, something wrong must have happened. Moreover, Infanta Qinghua was dead. If Princess Chen hadn't returned in time, the first branch of Marquis Xing's Mansion would have been eliminated, and the second branch would have gotten all the benefits. There must be something wrong with Shao Jing, Marquis Xing.

Seeing Nanny Wei in such a panic, Wei Dahai asked in shock, "Isn't she the daughter of the former imperial censor?"

This matter really had nothing to do with him, and he didn't pay much attention to it previously.

"No, that's not true. She's not the daughter of the imperial censor. She merely used to be a servant girl of Infanta Qinghua. It seems that the death of the

former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua has something to do with Marquis Xing. You can't get implicated. Marquis Xing's Mansion is going down!" Nanny Wei warned Wei Dahai worriedly.

Wei Dahai frowned. This was not a trivial matter. He had to go down the mountain to make arrangements. The drastic changes in Marquis Xing's Mansion were not trivial. If Shao Jing got into trouble, it would involve a lot of people.

"I see. If there's nothing else, I'll go down the mountain." Wei Dahai was about to leave.

Nanny Wei grabbed him and was still worried. "Dahai, tell me, does it have anything to do with you? Prince Chen intervened in it in person!"

If nothing unexpected happened, Shao Jing was doomed.

Wei Dahai became annoyed and said unhappily, "Aunt, don't worry. I have nothing to do with them. I merely have a nodding acquaintance with Marquis Xing, and we don't have a particularly good relationship. But this matter is serious. I have to go down the mountain to get something done."

"Okay then. Remember not to get involved in it. If you get involved, and if Prince Chen discovers it, even I won't be able to save you!"

Nanny Wei reminded him again.

Wei Dahai shook off Nanny Wei's hand and said, "Aunt, don't worry. I won't mess with Prince Chen." After that, he ignored her and strode out of the hall.

It was indeed a coincidence that he went up the mountain today. Originally, he wanted to see Nanny Wei and inquire about something from her.

Unexpectedly, he got such shocking news. How could he remain calm? He had to go back and discuss it with his wife. He kept feeling that although this matter had little to do with him, he was very likely to get implicated.

When Wei Dahai hurried down the mountain, the Ministry of Justice had already called Shao Jing over.

E'niang had been taken away by the guards of Prince Chen's Mansion, and Shao Jing had been prepared. Knowing that this matter could not be settled peacefully, he thought about it carefully. Except for the fact that E'niang used to be the servant girl of Infanta Qinghua, she didn't do anything wrong. As for her alleged identity as the daughter of the imperial censor, it was Rui'an Great Elder Princess who released that saying, not him, so it was not his fault.

Thinking of this, Shao Jing calmed down and felt that the Ministry of Justice would let him go after he made a proper statement.

Shao Jing could do nothing about the fact that E'niang couldn't marry into Marquis Xing's Mansion, and he could only think of another way. Although E'niang couldn't be his madam, Ru'er would still be his daughter. He could have her enter the mansion with the identity of his daughter with a mistress. If that didn't work out, he could make her his daughter with Madam Jiang. In any case, she would be his legitimate daughter. Thinking of this, Shao Jing didn't think this matter was troublesome.

He secretly went to a remote courtyard in Marquis Xing's Mansion. This is the place where Shao Yanru lived as his mistress's daughter after she returned. He told Shao Yanru what had happened and told her to know what was going on. Then, he went back to the study to wait. Soon, the officials of the Ministry of Justice arrived. Shao Jing didn't say much and went with them calmly.

It was similar to the last time. He just needed to go there once at most. He thought that without any evidence, what Shao Wanru said would be false. Although she was Princess Chen, she couldn't deal with him as she pleased. Moreover, he had written a letter to Prince Cheng and asked him to try to save him. Even if there were some accidents, it would not be a big deal.

E'niang was not an ordinary servant girl. She knew martial arts and was sent to Infanta Qinghua by him on purpose. She was loyal to him. Even if she ruined his plan, she would only have a false reputation and would not die. Of course, she would not expose him. As for what Shao Wanru had said before, he thought that no one would believe it.

Shao Jing had thought through all the possibilities and believed that he would not be in trouble this time. Unexpectedly, as soon as he entered the door of the Ministry of Justice, he was held down and his hands and feet were immediately bound with chains.

"I'm Marquis Xing. How dare you bind me!" Shao Jing was furious. After being stunned for a moment, he struggled desperately, his face turning red and his veins bulging.

Chapter 1238 Pieces of Evidence

He was in the Ministry of Justice. No matter how hard he struggled, it was useless. After binding him, the guards of the Ministry of Justice took him into a room on the side.

Inside the room, the minister of the Ministry of Justice was sitting there, as well as two deputy ministers and Wen Xichi.

Since the ministers of the Ministry of Justice were there, this wouldn't be a simple interrogation.

Although the minister of the Ministry of Justice and two deputy ministers were there, Wen Xichi acted as the chief judge. He looked at Shao Jing coldly and asked straightforwardly, "Marquis Xing, more than a decade ago, when your brother died, what did you do at the border? As you said before, you had been in the capital city at that time and said that someone would testify for you."

Shao Jing was shocked and his face changed slightly, but he reacted instantly. Taking a deep breath, he kept his slightly changed face just now and said in surprise, "Lord Wen, what do you mean? I don't understand what you mean. I was indeed in the capital city more than a decade ago and had never crossed the border."

At that time, not many people knew his whereabouts. Except for Yan Xi's father, who had seen him with his own eyes and talked to him for a while, the others had only seen him once or twice, and they had not talked to him. It was impossible for others to know that it was him.

Before leaving the capital city and after returning, he had been very cautious, so it was impossible for anyone to know that he had been to the border.

The man surnamed Yan was far away at the border, and Shao Jing had been on good terms with him since then. He also took care of his son. In any case, it was impossible for that man to tell others that Shao Jing was at the border at that time. As for Qin Huaiyong and Qi Ping, he didn't know if they had seen him at that time. Even if they had, they couldn't possibly be sure that it was him.

Thinking of this, Shao Jing immediately calmed down.

He looked furious and as if he had been wronged. "Milords, I don't think I have done anything wrong. What right do you have to do this to me? Even if I'm in the wrong in terms of some of my private affairs, the Emperor will punish me, so what right do you have to interrogate me?"

"Do you think that your mistress didn't tell anything, Marquis Xing?" Wen Xichi ignored Shao Jing and suddenly sneered. He struck the gavel in his hand, which made Shao Jing tremble.

"E'niang?"

"She probably wouldn't tell. Even though she pretended to be an official's relative, she could just admit it. Nothing else would possibly get implicated."

Moreover, E'niang would definitely say that Rui'an Great Elder Princess made this happen. As for the reason, I don't know, and it has nothing to do with me."

Thinking about it carefully, Shao Wanru found that it was just groundless rumors from Shao Wanru. The Ministry of Justice couldn't punish E'niang according to these rumors.

Shao Jing raised his head high and said with a disdainful smile, "Lord Wen, what are you talking about? It's indeed inappropriate for me to have a mistress, but this is only my business, and I merely let my madam down. I let my Madam down. It has nothing to do with the Ministry of Justice. As for impersonating an official's relative, it's not a big deal. So why did you put this pair of shackles on me?"

He raised his hands, making a crisp sound of metal colliding.

"I want to ask you, even if it were Prince Chen His Highness who sent this piece of information to you, would you deal with it in this way?"

He was questioning them if they would just do whatever Chu Liuchen said, even if he was making trouble.

Wen Xichi knew that Shao Jing was not easy to deal with, so he didn't care about what he said and continued to ask coldly, "Marquis Xing, the woman said that she used to be the servant girl of Infanta Qinghua and then be together with you. She also said that the impersonation was plotted by you. So why did you have an affair with your sister-in-law's servant?"

It was indeed inappropriate to have an affair with one's sister-in-law's servant.

Shao Jing looked a little uncomfortable, just a little uncomfortable, but then he said shamelessly, "You are all men. If you take a fancy to a woman and take her as a concubine, it will not be a big deal, right? Besides, at that time, Infanta Qinghua had passed away, and E'niang was just an ordinary servant girl in the mansion. I kept her outside the mansion because I was afraid that my madam would make a scene, which would affect Infanta Qinghua's reputation."

He meant that since they were all men and knew what most men would be up to, they should not make things difficult for him.

Shao Jing tried to shift the blame onto his character again. Compared with women, it would not be a big deal for a man to have a bad character. There were many playboys in the capital city, and many of them had never done anything decent. The reason why the matter of Marquis Xing's Mansion had

become so well-known was that Shao Jing had always appeared as a gentleman.

At this moment, he no longer kept his dignity. He could say whatever he wanted in terms of his character. In a word, he had a bad character. It was not a big deal. He thought that Madam Jiang was dead, and no one could do anything to him.

Wen Xichi fixed his eyes on Shao Jing and then said seriously and slowly, "Marquis Xing, you sent a servant girl to Infanta Qinghua to keep an eye on her and the former Heir of Duke Xing, didn't you? It was also because this woman told you where the heir had gone after he left the capital city that you chased after him in a hurry and assassinated him. Shao Jing, the woman has told us everything. Confess now."

Shao Jing trembled and tried his best to suppress his panic. "Lord Wen, what she said is groundless. There's no evidence."

"I have the evidence. Marquis Xing, do you want to read it? Then let's read it!" Wen Xichi said coldly. He picked up a letter at hand, threw it in front of Shao Jing, and ordered an official, "Show this letter to Marquis Xing."

The official came over and picked up the envelope on the ground. He took out the letter, opened it, and put it in front of Shao Jing.

When Shao Jing read the words clearly, his face turned pale and he was so shocked that he almost couldn't stand still. The letter was written by Yan Xi's father, who testified that Shao Jing was indeed at the border at that time. The letter was written more than a decade ago, a few days before the former Heir of Duke Xing was killed.

It was too unexpected. Shao Jing had never expected that there would be such a letter. "Why did Yan target me? Did he know that I dealt with Yan Xi?"

"How could it be possible? Wang Shengxue was the known one who took action and killed Yan Xi at that time. Later, Wang Shengxue died, so this matter was left unsettled. Could it be that what happened has been discovered and now I get suspected?"

"It can't be. I've been very careful. Wang Shengxue was the only one who knew about this. Yan couldn't have possibly known that I asked Wang Shengxue to do it. Then why did he write this letter?"

"Shao Jing, why did you sneak to the border at that time?" Wen Xichi asked Shao Jing sternly.

“Lord Wen, I really don’t understand what this letter means, and I don’t understand why he framed me like this.” Shao Jing gritted his teeth and didn’t reveal a word about what he did.

He didn’t believe that the testimony of one man could prove anything.

“Do you think what General Yan wrote is nonsense?” Wen Xichi suddenly smiled.

Shao Jing suddenly had a bad feeling, but at this time, he could only brace himself to say, “I don’t understand what you mean, Lord Wen!”

“In fact, the letter from General Yan is not the only proof. General Qin and Magistrate Qi can also testify. Magistrate Qi is far away in Jiangzhou, but he has also written a letter. As for Lord Qin, he can testify on the spot when it is appropriate.”

“Qin Huaiyong and Qi Ping?”

“That’s impossible. Although I might have been seen by them at that time, they couldn’t have known that it was me while everything was in chaos and everyone could see one or two familiar faces. How could they be so sure that it was me? And did they know me at that time? This can’t be.

“I was prepared when I went there, so I recognized Qin Huaiyong and Qi Ping at a glance, but they didn’t know me.

“Is Wen Xichi trying to trick me?”

Thinking of this, Shao Jing calmed down and said with a sneer, “Lord Wen, you must be joking. General Huaiyuan and Magistrate Qi didn’t know me back then, so how could they testify? Even now, Magistrate Qi still doesn’t know me, does he?”

“Is it because of this idea that you have no fear, Marquis Xing?” Wen Xichi asked with a smile. He looked very kind, but it made Shao Jing feel more terrified than before. Their two mansions were neighbors, and they had lived next door for so many years. Of course, he knew that Wen Xichi was young and talented. “Did he really get the proof he needs?”

“Lord Wen, I really don’t understand what you’re talking about!” Shao Jing was flustered, but he didn’t show it on his face. On the contrary, he looked calmer and calmer. He looked at the minister and the two assistant ministers, who were sitting high above without saying a word, and asked, “What do you think, milords? Do you also agree with Lord Wen? My case is not a serious one, but it’s not an insignificant one either. Are you deliberately making a big deal out of it for Prince Chen’s sake?”

He meant that they were deliberately torturing him to flatter Prince Chen.

Wen Xichi ignored his provocation and asked with cold eyes, "Do you know that you lost something at the border back then?"

When the evidence was sent to the Ministry of Justice one piece by one, it shocked the whole ministry. Some of the evidence sent by Prince Chen's Mansion could not be obtained in one or two days, but it was clearly presented. With so much evidence, it was useless for Shao Jing to deny the charges against him no matter how hard he tried.

The officials of the Ministry of Justice had been calm. They even handcuffed Shao Jing as soon as he arrived, which indicated that he would not be able to escape this time.

It could be said that everything Shao Jing was doing now was useless. The officials of the Ministry of Justice were well aware of what had happened, but at the same time, they were secretly shocked since Prince Chen was really not to be underestimated. He had solved an unsolved case that was made more than a decade ago just like that.

What had happened in Marquis Xing's Mansion before was just a small matter. No matter how big the scene was, it was just a small matter, and Prince Chen's Mansion had been secretly holding back a big move.

Before getting all the evidence, Prince Chen's Mansion had been very calm. They had quietly watched Marquis Xing's Mansion stir up trouble now and then. When the evidence had been sorted out one piece by one, they had found that the matter had been settled. It could be said that when Prince Chen's Mansion had sent all the evidence to the Ministry of Justice, the truth had been clear.

It was just one move, and Shao Jing now looked like a clown.

Shao Jing didn't believe it and asked in reply, "What... what thing?" He had been very careful when he left and returned to the capital, so it was impossible for him to leave anything behind.

"Do you not believe it?" The minister of the Ministry of Justice suddenly spoke and looked at Shao Jing with a faint smile, which made Shao Jing feel a chill down his spine and his eyes twitch unconsciously. He wondered if he had left an important thing behind.

Chapter 1239 Shao Jing Gets Arrested

"Wh-what?" Shao Jing stammered.

Wen Xichi nodded. An official stepped forward, took an item from above, and waved it in front of Shao Jing. Looking at this silk-encrusted jade pendant, Shao Jing couldn't react in time.

The jade pendant looked very ordinary and insignificant.

"This jade pendant belongs to you, right?" Wen Xichi asked.

Shao Jing subconsciously wanted to say no, but he saw the letter "Lan" and a small cluster of orchids at the corner of the jade pendant. He seemed to be frozen. He opened his mouth in shock, but couldn't say a word, and his mind went blank.

"Orchids? Lan. Lady Lan? Lady Lan the once famous prostitute?"

Wen Xichi said slowly from above, "This jade pendant contains the name of Lady Lan, a famous prostitute in the capital. You gave it to this famous prostitute. There is the symbol of Marquis Xing's Mansion on the back of the jade pendant. You must have fallen in love with this woman at that time, so you custom-made it. Ningyuan Army General and Magistrate Qi got this jade pendant by accident. According to the symbol on the jade pendant, they guessed that it was yours. They have never seen you, but they have seen the old Duke!"

His voice was not light, but it got to Shao Jing hard, making him come to his senses for a moment. His memories back then suddenly came to his mind.

At that time, he did have an affair with a famous prostitute named Lady Lan and was very obsessed with her. He custom-made a jade pendant and gave it to her. When he left the capital, he departed from Lady Lan's place. Lady Lan covered him up. After returning to the capital, he also came out from there. Then, he talked to a businessman, paid a lot for Lady Lan's freedom, and took her far away. She had left for more than ten years.

Although he didn't tell Madam Jiang about his contact with the famous prostitute at that time, a few of his close friends knew about it. He lived in Lady Lan's place and specially told these friends in private, which was also the reason why he firmly believed that someone could testify.

He had contacts with a famous prostitute and had lived in her place. Naturally, he had to hide it from Madam Jiang. In order to cover it up, he didn't show up in public for a period, which was reasonable.

But why was this jade pendant here?

He remembered that he had given it to that prostitute back then. Why was it lost at the border and picked up by Qin Huaiyong and Qi Ping? Because he

didn't remember that he had brought this jade pendant with him before, he didn't find that he lost it after checking himself.

"I'm afraid you didn't expect that you did have this jade pendant with you at that time. I heard that it was an engagement token you gave the famous prostitute, Marquis Xing. Maybe she deliberately had it with you for fear that you would forget her when you were traveling!" Wen Xichi said.

Shao Jing suddenly thought of something. After returning to the capital city, he went to Lady Lan's place first. She asked him if he had anything to give her at that time. He just said a few perfunctory words and then left for his mansion in a hurry, for fear of being discovered. At that time, Lady Lan looked very disappointed. Now that he thought about it, Lady Lan probably wanted to ask him for the jade pendant.

After that, he got her out of the capital and had never seen her again.

Shao Jing lost the jade pendant at the border by accident. His hands trembled and his face turned pale.

"I'm afraid this is not the only thing we've learned. In fact, your mistress has confessed. She sent you a letter at that time and asked you to go over." Wen Xichi released a greater bombshell.

"E'niang also confessed? How could she do that?"

If it were just a matter of reputation, it would not be a major problem, and E'niang would not be tortured. But it was related to what had happened more than a decade ago, and in such a situation, how could the officials not have tortured her?

Shao Jing took a step back and sat heavily on the ground. Suddenly, he laughed. He had lost. He had thought that his niece had used some means to slander him. Even if she brought him a bad reputation or made a great scene, he didn't care. As a man, he could not care less about it. Moreover, he was a senior. No matter how much trouble his niece made, it wouldn't matter to him.

But now, he found that he was wrong. It was obvious that his niece was deliberately stalling for time, deliberately making him mistakenly think that it was a trivial matter and deliberately making him lose the initiative. He thought it was a trivial matter, so he didn't take it seriously. However, it was like a thunderbolt. After other evidence was shown, the truth was actually very clear.

Those actions were confusing and ruthless and left others no room for retreat. Needless to say, it must be Prince Chen's means. Shao Jing regretted what he had done at that time so much. If he had known this, he would not have

given his niece a chance to marry into Prince Chen's Mansion. Without the support of Prince Chen, no matter how powerful his niece was, it was impossible for her to get so much evidence and to make Qin Huaiyong agree to testify.

For so many years, Qin Huaiyong had never mentioned this jade pendant. He had always been weak in front of Shao Jing but sent it to Prince Chen's Mansion. Shao Jing didn't think it was accidental.

When his eldest brother left with Infanta Qinghua that year, it was his best chance, so he secretly planned to take action. Originally, he thought that they would go to the area south of the big river, where it was inconvenient for him to take action. Unexpectedly, they would go to the border area and hide their identities. This was a great opportunity. Taking advantage of the chaos, he plotted against his eldest brother with his guards.

Later, when Duke Xing's Mansion found out the news about the Heir of Duke Xing, he was dead and Infanta Qinghua was brought back because of a mental disorder. No one cared about anything else. Even if Shao Jing knew that his eldest brother had a daughter left, he didn't care since she was just a little girl. The girl was with her father when E'niang was with Infanta Qinghua and then disappeared. In the war, even an adult could die. So how could a little girl survive?

Shao Jing made a small mistake, but in the end, it became a disaster for him.

"What? Marquis Xing has been arrested? Maybe it's because of the former Heir of Duke Xing. Is he involved in his death?" Chu Qing was shocked.

There was also a woman in pink sitting in the room. If Shao Wanru were here, she would definitely recognize that this woman was Mo Qiuyi, who had been in the Yuhui Nunnery.

When she was in the Yuhui Nunnery, Mo Qiuyi was just a poor orphan girl. But now, her momentum was different from before. She was leisurely fanning herself with a round fan in her hand, and her face was covered with light makeup. She was much better than when she was in Yuhui Nunnery. She looked more exquisite. Her brows were slightly curved, which made her appear more charming.

"My uncle said that Marquis Xing's Mansion is doomed. He said that Your Highness should be careful!" Mo Qiuyi came here especially for this matter.

"This is so sudden! Didn't they say that he had a bad personal virtue before?" Chu Qing asked. He was also annoyed that Shao Jing was involved in what had happened before. Now that Shao Jing was in trouble, he was afraid that

he would be involved again. If he had known this, he wouldn't have let Shao Jie'er marry into Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion.

"But it's not true. Prince Chen has taken action!" Mo Qiuyi reminded him.

Chu Qing lowered his head and took a deep breath. "Do you all think that I'm not as good as him and keep reminding me?"

"Of course not, Your Highness. We have to be careful of him!" Mo Qiuyi hurriedly explained.

"Be careful of him. Stop telling me to be careful of him. I don't want to hear anything about him." Chu Qing was very annoyed. He stood up and walked around in the pavilion a few times before he calmed down. "I know. I won't intervene in the affairs of Marquis Xing's Mansion. Doesn't he have something to do with Prince Cheng's Mansion? Let Prince Cheng's Mansion intervene."

Speaking of Prince Cheng's Mansion, he was full of anger. The more he thought about it, the more he felt that he might have fallen into the trap of Prince Cheng's Mansion.

"That's wonderful. Shao Jie'er is just the daughter of a concubine, and Shao Jing won't take her seriously. Your Highness, you can have all kinds of beautiful women in the future, so you don't have to worry about a daughter of a concubine. What's more, anyone who wants to build a relationship with Marquis Xing's Mansion now will get into trouble!" Mo Qiuyi said with a smile, covering her mouth with the round fan.

She was indeed in a good mood. Compared with what had happened to Marquis Xing's Mansion, she was more glad to hear that Shao Jie'er was in trouble. "This woman pestered the Commandery Prince before I married into the mansion. She is just a concubine, but she entered the mansion before me. It was all because she has the support of Marquis Xing's Mansion. Now that she has lost this powerful backer, I'll torture her hard."

"Well, you can go back after seeing my mother. You should be more careful at this time!" Although Mo Qiuyi tried to hide her complacency, Chu Qing still saw it and couldn't help showing a trace of displeasure. "Women are like this. She is still jealous at this time. As expected, she can't achieve important things."

Mo Qiuyi also knew that it was not the right time to stay. She stood up and said with a smile, "Then I'll go back now!" Knowing that Marquis Xing's Mansion was in trouble, she still couldn't calm down. She just felt happy.

Chu Qing waved his hand. After Mo Qiuyi left, he returned to his chair and sat down. After thinking for a while, he suddenly relaxed. This might be his chance, an opportunity to shift the blame onto Prince Cheng. He was not completely innocent in terms of what had happened before. Since Prince Cheng was involved, he would make him get involved more.

After making up his mind, he picked up the writing brush. After thinking for a while, he immediately wrote something. Then, he put down the writing brush, dried it a little, put the letter into the envelope, and asked a servant to deliver it. Taking advantage of the matter of Marquis Xing's Mansion, he intended to get Prince Cheng's Mansion involved.

At this time, Prince Cheng also got the news from the letter Shao Jing had written before. Looking at the letter in his hand, where Shao Jing asked for help, Prince Cheng frowned tightly. What Shao Jing wrote in the letter was very ordinary and did not seem to be a serious deal. He merely asked for a small favor from Prince Cheng, but he could figure out the meaning behind it.

"Shao Jing is in trouble!" Prince Cheng handed the letter to Master Jieyan who then began to read three lines at a time. The more he read, the more dignified his expression became. After he finished reading the letter, he put it on the table and said with a gloomy face, "Your Highness, you can't get involved in this matter. I'm afraid that something serious will happen!"

"What do you mean?" Prince Cheng reached out to rub his forehead. Recently, nothing went smoothly, and he was greatly troubled.

"Marquis Xing may go down because of a small mistake," Jieyan said. He had just read Shao Jing's letter, and it didn't seem to be a big deal. Merely judging from what he said, Shao Jing could've settled this matter without asking for the Prince's help. However, he had pleaded with the Prince, which was really not a good sign.

Chapter 1240 Gu Xishu the Cunning Girl

"What should we do?"

"Let's wait and see," Jieyan said.

"We won't help him?" Prince Cheng frowned. It happened so suddenly that he didn't know how to deal with it for a while.

"No!" Jieyan shook his head and said meaningfully, "Your Highness, you should be more careful at this time."

Prince Cheng understood the meaning of Jieyan. After thinking for a while, he nodded and said, "I know what to do."

Jieyan reminded him that it was not only about Shao Jing but also about Shao Yanru. Prince Cheng said, "If there is any news about Shao Yanru, send her to Prince Zhou's Mansion."

Prince Cheng had asked Shao Yanru to contact Prince Zhou in private before.

"Send her to Prince Zhou's Mansion? It's not the right time now, is it?" Jieyan felt that no one would take Shao Yanru in at this time.

"We'll see what she can do!" Prince Cheng sneered. He had accepted this woman for the sake of Shao Jing. Although he needed children and had to overcome his psychological barrier to accept this woman, it did not mean that this woman could win his heart. It was a deal. Now it was inappropriate for him to keep her, so it was best to give this troublemaker to Chu Liuzhou.

It was not that he didn't want to give her to Chu Liuyue. Compared with Chu Liuzhou, Chu Liuyue was less likely to be bewitched. As for Chu Liuchen, Prince Cheng had never taken him into consideration. Chu Liuxin was not dangerous, so he didn't need him.

Since the Empress was grounded, Chu Liuzhou had been in a bad situation. At this time, Chu Liuzhou would need a woman the most. Moreover, Chu Liuzhou did covet Shao Yanru's figure before. Therefore, Prince Cheng thought that Chu Liuzhou was the most suitable one.

Hearing what Prince Cheng said, Jieyan understood and said, "I understand. Are you going back to your mansion now, Your Highness?"

"Yes. The plan remains." Prince Cheng nodded, straightened his sleeves, and strode out.

His brother had repeatedly asked him to go down the mountain and go back to Prince Cheng's Mansion. If he continued to refuse, his brother would definitely give him trouble. Especially at this time, he should be aboveboard. If he stayed here any longer, he would inevitably be suspected.

The news that Marquis Xing had been taken away by the Ministry of Justice had also spread to Prince Yue's Mansion and Prince Zhou's Mansion. It was well known in the capital city that Shao Jing's mistress pretended to be an official's relative and got discovered. The two princes' mansions didn't take the fact that Shao Jing got arrested again seriously. However, Shao Jing was now known as an indecent man.

When no one thought it was a big deal, the atmosphere in the Mansion of the Prime Minister was not good.

Wen Xichi hadn't gone back yet. He had gone to the Ministry of Justice and hadn't returned to the mansion yet. However, Prime Minister Wen returned to the mansion at night and went straight to Madam Wen's courtyard. After driving all the servants out, he said a few words to Madam Wen. After that, he went straight to the study in the front yard without staying.

Madam Wen sat under the lamp with her face turning pale. "Someone go and call cousin Miss over."

An old maid answered and left. After a while, she came over with Gu Xishu.

Gu Xishu also had a hard time. As soon as she came back from Marquis Xing's Mansion, she was slapped twice by Madam Wen and then driven away. She wanted to go to the front yard to stop her second cousin but was stopped by a servant girl. There was an old maid sent by Madam Wen at the gate of the yard to prevent her from going out.

At this time, hearing the summons of Madam Wen, she hurriedly dressed up and came over.

It was late at night, and the lights were on. Gu Xishu looked a little scared under the lights. Usually, she rarely came to Madam Wen's place at this time.

In contrast, Madam Wen, who was under the lamp, looked a little cold. Her cold eyes fell on Gu Xishu. When she saw Gu Xishu coming up to salute, she accepted her salute motionlessly and then said nothing.

Gu Xishu bowed slightly. After a long time, she couldn't hear Madam Wen's voice. She couldn't help but feel weak and fell to the ground. Her servant girl wanted to help her, but when she saw Madam Wen's face, she showed timidity and quietly stepped back to hide in the shadow.

"Aunt!" Gu Xishu fell to the ground, raised her head, and looked at Madam Wen with tears in her eyes. She felt extremely wronged.

Madam Wen looked down at Gu Xishu with coldness and disappointment in her eyes.

"Do you really want to kill me so badly? I've raised you for so many years as a daughter of my own. Is this how you repay me?" Madam Wen asked.

"Aunt, I don't know what you're talking about. I'm Xishu, the daughter you raised. Why do you think of me like that?" Gu Xishu cried. She looked really pitiful under the light, and her tears fell drop by drop, which made her look extremely miserable.

Madam Wen didn't want to get entangled with her anymore, so she coldly asked her to leave. "Whether you meant to kill me or not, we are done. Pack up your things and go back to your home tomorrow. Don't come back again from now on."

"Aunt... Aunt, what happened? Why did you do this to me? How... how can I leave you? You raised me up, and I haven't repaid you for raising me yet!" Gu Xishu took two steps forward on her knees in a hurry, hugged Madam Wen's leg, and cried even louder.

"I can't leave. How could I leave? I am to marry Third Cousin. I have to marry Third Cousin!"

As soon as Madam Wen moved her legs, two old maids came over and removed Gu Xishu's tight grip.

"Aunt, I really didn't know. I really didn't know that E'niang was lying. I thought she was really the daughter of the imperial censor, so I brought her to you. Aunt, please spare me. I really didn't know it." Gu Xishu struggled violently and cried while struggling. The makeup on her face had been destroyed, and her beautiful face looked messy and ugly.

The two old maids pulled her aside and stopped. Madam Wen sneered and said, "Was it really an accident that I met E'niang that day? If it weren't for your suggestion, would I have gone there? If I hadn't gone there, I wouldn't have met E'niang, would I? And I wouldn't have almost died. There was no one around, and my legs were fine. I'm not in my seventies or eighties yet!"

"I walked very carefully on the steps. I saw no annoying stones blocking the way before, but I accidentally stepped on them and fell in the end. I almost died. Coincidentally, I met E'niang, who was good at martial arts, and she saved my life. Then, I listened to you and introduced her to others. Previously, I went to Marquis Xing's Mansion to support her!"

"Aunt, I don't understand what you're talking about. It's my fault. I took you out to enjoy the scenery. I didn't take good care of you. You can punish me however you want, but you can't say that I have bad intentions toward you. After so many years, don't you know my character? How could I hurt you? What benefits can I get?"

Gu Xishu felt so wronged that she couldn't speak. She choked with sobs and defended herself loudly, but she didn't dare to rush over to hug Madam Wen's leg again.

She cried so sad that she looked terrible. She fell to the ground and looked sad. "Aunt, if you don't believe me, I'm willing to die to prove my innocence.

As long as you believe me, I... I'm willing to do anything! Aunt, you've been very good to me for so many years, and I've treated you as my biological mother. You suspect me so much... I... I really can't take it anymore!"

As Gu Xishu spoke, she stumbled to her feet, as if she really wanted to run into the wall and commit suicide to prove her innocence.

The servant girls and old maids hurried forward to stop her, and Gu Xishu cried and fell to the ground again.

Looking at Gu Xishu, who was so determined, Madam Wen hesitated again. "Does it really have nothing to do with her? Is it really just the plot of the woman named E'niang? After all, I've raised her since she was a child." Madam Wen's determined face softened a little, and her expression was no longer cold.

"Aunt, please let me die. If I die, God will bless you with a long life. I won't hate you. I just hope that you can bury me here so that I can always be with you. My parents have been far away from me since I was a child. I don't matter to them. Except for you, who else will love me?"

Gu Xishu saw Madam Wen's expression and knew that her heart had softened. She immediately cried even more bitterly, as if she had been abandoned. She looked at Madam Wen and talked about the deal between them with tears in her eyes.

Seeing her crying like this and hearing her sincere words, Madam Wen felt that she couldn't be cruel to Gu Xishu.

"Alright, get up!"

"Aunt, do... do you forgive me?" Gu Xishu was very excited.

"Get up first!" Madam Wen said.

"If you don't forgive me, I'll keep kneeling here until I die," Gu Xishu said stubbornly, looking at Madam Wen pitifully.

Looking at Gu Xishu, Madam Wen thought of her well-behaved appearance when she was a child. At that time, her daughter had just passed away, and such a young child had been staying by her bedside. When she saw Madam Wen wake up, she was also so pitiful and even asked someone to send a bowl of medicine to her. Gu Xishu also insisted on trying the medicine for her.

"Get up..." Madam Wen sighed. She really couldn't be cold-hearted to Gu Xishu. This was the girl she had raised as a daughter. When Madam Wen saw her, she would always think of her daughter. She wondered if her

daughter were still alive, would she look like this? Madam Wen's heart immediately softened. How could a girl she had raised have such bad intentions? Moreover, Gu Xishu had said that she would not be benefited from harming her.

"Mother, let her kneel!" A cold voice came from the door of the room. Wen Xichi, dressed in a black brocade robe, stood at the door, with coldness and sharpness in his eyes.

"Xi, you're back!" Madam Wen looked up and saw Wen Xichi. "Why did you come back so late today? You need to rest first."

"Third... Third Cousin!" Gu Xishu said timidly and looked increasingly weak. She looked at Wen Xichi pitifully and expectantly, hoping that Wen Xichi could help her when he entered the door.

Wen Xichi ignored her and went straight past her. He stepped on the hem of her dress and walked past her as if he didn't see her.

Gu Xishu was shocked and looked at Wen Xichi's back in a panic. Even if Wen Xichi had ignored her in the past, he had not been so indifferent to her. He had even stepped on the hem of her dress and left a footprint on her snow-white clothes. Was he still her elegant and noble Third Cousin? Why was he so rude and cruel to her?