

MEDICAL PRINCESS

Chapter 1281 - 1281 I'm Not an Outsider



Chapter 1281 I'm Not an Outsider

When the Empress entered the door, she especially looked around. She breathed a sigh of relief after she didn't find anyone else.

The eunuch led her to the emperor's bedroom behind the Imperial Study.

It was very quiet in the emperor's bedroom, where only the chief eunuch Derong was inside. When Derong saw the Empress coming over, he stepped forward and bowed.

"Is His Majesty getting better?" The Empress stood still, looked at the Emperor, who was lying in bed with his eyes closed, and asked in a low voice with concern.

"His Majesty remains the same, Your Highness," Derong replied.

"What did the imperial physician say after seeing His Majesty?" the Empress asked again.

"The imperial physician advised that His Majesty would better continue recuperating," replied Derong.

"Then follow his advice to recuperate quietly. Why didn't His Majesty go back to his residence? It's sort of inappropriate to live here!" The Empress frowned, but she was very satisfied that the Emperor was still living in the Imperial Study in such a situation.

The Emperor had his own residence. In contrast, this bedroom was too simple.

“His Majesty is not in good health, and it’s convenient for him to stay here,” Derong lowered his voice and said.

“Nonsense! His Majesty needs to have a good rest in his current state. How can he deal with national affairs as usual?” the Empress scolded Derong in a low voice, looking like she was considerate of the Emperor.

Derong lowered his head, but he did not respond.

After that, the Empress’ expression softened. “I didn’t mean to say that you did not take good care of His Majesty. However, you should be more concerned about his health. You can’t let His Majesty work too hard to affect his health.”

Derong was the closest chief eunuch to the Emperor, so the Empress could not offend him at any time.

“Yes, I will persuade His Majesty,” Derong said in a low voice. Then he looked at the Emperor lying in bed. “His Majesty has just rested. Your Highness, how about you come again next time?”

The Empress naturally sat on a chair on the side and said, “How can I leave at ease while His Majesty is still ill? Previously, I stayed in my Palace for self-examination, so it was inconvenient for me to take care of His Majesty. But now that I come out, I can’t leave His Majesty alone.”

Since the Empress had decided to take care of the Emperor, she had to come early.

Derong looked at the Emperor, who was lying in the bed, and said to the Empress with a flattering smile, “Your Highness, you’d better go back. His Majesty doesn’t like anyone to stay by his side.”

“Even including me?” the Empress said with her face darkening, “I’m not an outsider. I’m really worried about leaving His Majesty in your care.”

The Emperor was not in good health when the Empress couldn't let anyone take this advantage at this time. Since she had shown up here, the Empress couldn't let others such as Consort of Virtue, Consort Ming, etc. take advantage because she could know what had happened in advance by staying here.

The Emperor, who was lying on the bed, opened his eyes and said coldly, "What are you worried about, me or your position as the Empress?"

Derong hurried forward to help the Emperor up.

The Empress did not expect that the Emperor would wake up and say something so embarrassing to her. Her face immediately flushed. She stood up and revealed a sad look. "Your Majesty... I'm really worried about you... It is not a big deal whether I am the Empress or not. I'm willing to exchange my empress' position for your health, Your Majesty."

As she spoke, her eyes turned red.

"You can go back now." The Emperor looked a little relieved, but he waved his hand and said, "I won't keep anyone here. I feel a headache if I do. If you have nothing else to do, just go back to your Palace."

"Your Majesty..." The reason why the Empress could talk to Derong like that was that Derong was just a servant even if he was the Emperor's henchman. However, it was different now. The person in front of her was the Emperor. No matter how capable the Empress was, she did not dare to go against the Emperor. So she had to look at the Emperor with tears in her eyes and said sadly, "Your Majesty... I am your wife!"

"You can leave now. I'm tired." The Emperor closed his eyes slightly and then said with a cold look in his eyes.

Seeing that the Emperor was so indifferent, the Empress had no choice but to bow to the Emperor and left reluctantly. When she walked out of the Imperial

Study, the sadness in her eyes disappeared. She glanced at the Imperial Study behind her, and said to Derong, who had sent her out, "Are there any other consorts or concubines living here in the evening?"

"No, His Majesty likes to be quiet," Derong told a lie calmly.

Hearing that, the Empress breathed a sigh of relief. She was afraid that others would take advantage of the accident that happened to her in the past few days and get closer to the Emperor earlier than her. It was the best since that was not the case.

Just then, a palace maid behind the Empress stepped forward and handed Derong a pouch. The Empress said, "Please take good care of His Majesty. I will definitely return a great reward to you in the future."

Derong took the pouch and said, "Your Highness, please!"

Seeing that Derong had received the banknote in the pouch, the Empress became kinder. She nodded to Derong and left with her servants...

When Chu Liuchen returned to the mansion, Shao Wanru had not gone to bed yet. She was embroidering a small sachet under the candlelight.

Hearing the voice coming from outside, she looked up and met Chu Liuchen's smiling charming eyes. Shao Wanru put down the sachet in her hand and was about to get up.

Chu Liuchen walked quickly to her side and reached out to hold her shoulders. "Why haven't you slept yet? It's getting so late."

"It's not quite late," Shao Wanru said with a smile.

"Then let's have a rest now." Seeing her soft smile, Chu Liuchen felt a little relieved. His eyes were no longer so cold in the place out of sight of Shao Wanru.

It was really getting late. After they freshened up and went to bed, Chu Liuchen held Shao Wanru in his arms and closed his eyes. He had a sort of complex mood today.

“Is there anything special for you to go to the Palace?” Shao Wanru sensed something was wrong with Chu Liuchen’s mood and asked softly.

“Nothing special,” Chu Liuchen said vaguely, turned his head, and kissed Shao Wanru’s fair and tender ear gently. Then he opened his eyes slightly, with a deeper look in them. “How is Infanta Qinghua now?”

“She is getting better, but she still can’t recognize anyone,” Shao Wanru said. She had always visited her mother these days. At present, her mother’s condition was neither good nor bad, but it was next to impossible for her to get recovered. The only thing Shao Wanru could do was to take good care of her mother. But her mother could recognize her grandmother, which made her grandmother surprised, delighted, and excited.

As for Shao Wanru and Hao’er, Infanta Qinghua did not know them.

“Maybe it is a good thing. At least she doesn’t have to experience the pain of losing your father anymore.” Chu Liuchen heard the sadness in Shao Wanru’s tone and comforted her.

Realizing that Chu Liuchen was implying something, Shao Wanru thought for a while and said, “I understand.”

Then, Shao Wanru took the initiative to hug Chu Liuchen and pressed her head against his chest. “Who did you meet in the Palace?”

Chu Liuchen kept silent for so long time that Shao Wanru almost thought that he wouldn’t answer. After a long time, Chu Liuchen said lightly, “Consort Lan.”

“Sure enough, it was Consort Lan!”

Shao Wanru had already understood the reason why Chu Liuchen was a little emotional. She moved slightly and said, "You... Don't be sad."

"You've guessed it, haven't you?" Chu Liuchen said in a deep voice.

This time, Shao Wanru fell silent. After a long time, she said, "Sort of."

"Haven't you ever thought that Consort Lan is my mother, the one who gave birth to me?" Chu Liuchen smiled bitterly, and his dark eyes were full of sadness. "With such a mother, I would rather she be like Infanta Qinghua."

Shao Wanru did not say anything. She knew that Chu Liuchen did not need her to say anything. Since he wanted to say it, she would like to be a very good listener. If he did not, she would not ask. Since the wound had been scabbed, it would hurt a lot if it was dug out again. With Chu Liuchen's background, if he was just the son of the deceased emperor, he had no reason to abandon himself.

Apparently, he hated everything about himself, even including his life.

She hugged him tightly and gave him silent support.

"Consort Lan is my mother. She is also the former Empress. However, my Uncle the Emperor is my biological father. In contrast to an illegitimate child, my identity is even more shameful, and it was given by them," Chu Liuchen said sarcastically in a cold and gloomy voice.

"I've been shameful for so many years, during which I have been the nominal son of the deceased emperor. But now, I want to participate in the competition for the throne."

Shao Wanru's heart skipped a beat. She had guessed it, but it was another thing when she heard it so clearly. She didn't expect that Chu Liuchen would say it so frankly. For a moment, she didn't know what to say. She just hugged

him more tightly, leaned her head against his chest, and comforted him silently.

Chu Liuchen had always been deep-minded and had never been discomposure like this before. It could be seen that he had been stimulated in the Palace just now.

Chu Liuchen felt that Shao Wanru was holding him more tightly with her slender arms silently. Thinking of how she was trying to give him warmth, Chu Liuchen couldn't help feeling warm in his heart, and he reached out to embrace Shao Wanru tighter. No matter how others treated him, at least he had Shao Wanru.

Such a warm feeling diluted the gloom in his heart.

"Don't be sad," Shao Wanru said softly, but her voice was especially clear and strong in the night. "Maybe she has her own difficulties."

"What difficulties could make her do such a thing? She even gave up her position as the Empress and was only willing to follow that man as a third-rate Consort Lan. Her family was demoted, and so was herself. She was not upright, and she was plotted against, resulting in that I was poisoned before I was born. She has done enough for a man!"

Chu Liuchen said coldly. Sensing his hatred and anger in the darkness, Shao Wanru patted his arm gently and said, "It's okay. You have me. Even if the others give up on you, you still have me! What's more, Consort Lan may have some other reasons."

"What reasons can make her do such a thing!" Chu Liuchen said coldly.

"How about ... I get close to Consort Lan and try to find out?" Shao Wanru suggested.

"No need. Just let her be!" Chu Liuchen cut off this idea of Shao Wanru coldly. He did not want to know anything, nor did he have an interest to know. If he hadn't noticed that Consort Lan was behind the screen just now, Chu Liuchen wouldn't have lost control of his emotions suddenly.

Shao Wanru stopped talking and leaned against Chu Liuchen's chest gently, trying her best to calm Chu Liuchen down. Unlike Chu Liuchen, who had hated Consort Lan for a long time, Shao Wanru did not think that Consort Lan, a gentle woman, could do such a thing as Chu Liuchen said, based on her impression of Consort Lan when they met.

"Could there be some secret behind this?" Shao Wanru wondered.

Chapter 1282 Can We Get Back Together?

When Shao Wanru got up the next day, Chu Liuchen had already gone to court. There was no other master in the mansion except herself, so Shao Wanru didn't have to get up early.

After breakfast, Shao Wanru got on the carriage and went to Rui'an Great Elder Princess' Mansion as usual.

When she arrived at Great Elder Princess' Mansion, Shao Wanru got out of the carriage and saw Nanny Gao greeting her as usual. "Your Highness, Great Elder Princess, Her Highness is waiting for you. There is a visitor who came to our mansion."

"Who is it?" Shao Wanru asked in surprise as she walked inside.

"It's Princess Yue. She claimed that she came to see Great Elder Princess and Infanta Qinghua," Nanny Gao said.

"Zhang Qilan?" Shao Wanru wondered.

"Why did she ... come here?" Shao Wanru asked. Zhang Qilan was Princess Yue, but she seldom visited Rui'an Great Elder Princess' Mansion.

"Princess Yue said that she came to visit Infanta Qinghua on behalf of Consort of Virtue," Nanny Gao explained.

"Did Consort of Virtue have a good relationship with my mother before?" It was the first time that Shao Wanru had heard of this, so she specially asked.

“Well, it’s not particularly good, but at least good. Her Highness Consort of Virtue had a good relationship with Princess before she married the Emperor,” Nanny Gao said.

“Then ... why did she especially ask Princess Yue to come here?” Shao Wanru asked.

“Well, I don’t know either. Maybe she just said it casually,” Nanny Gao said.

When Shao Wanru arrived at the living room of Rui’an Great Elder Princess’ Mansion, as expected, she saw Zhang Qilan there. Seeing Shao Wanru come in, Zhang Qilan smiled decently. After saluting each other, they took their seats together.

“You girls talk for a while. I’ll go keep your mother company.” Rui’an Great Elder Princess stood up and said with a smile.

“Okay.” Shao Wanru nodded.

Rui’an Great Elder Princess left with her servants, leaving Shao Wanru and Zhang Qilan alone, as well as a few servant girls.

“Mother asked me to come and visit Infanta Qinghua, but Great Elder Princess just said that Her Highness has not fully recovered and that it is inconvenient for her to see anyone,” Zhang Qilan explained with a smile.

“Thank you, Your Highness,” Shao Wanru said extremely calmly.

Zhang Qilan hesitated for a moment and then looked up at Shao Wanru. She stood up and bowed sideways to Shao Wanru. “It happens that you are here today. I’d like to take this opportunity to apologize to you.”

“Why did you say that, Your Highness?” Shao Wanru stood up and bowed sideways to Zhang Qilan. Chu Liuchen was younger than Chu Liuyue, so Zhang Qilan was her sister-in-law.

When they sat down again, Zhang Qilan looked at Shao Wanru with a little guilt on her face. “Um... What happened between us previously was instigated by Infanta Yuan’an and Princess Yuyan, but it was also my fault. I took you wrong and thought what they said was true. Back then, I was blinded by jealousy and did that to you according to their ideas. Now when I think it back, it’s all my fault!”

Zhang Qilan looked very sincere with guilty in her eyes, and she did not shirk her responsibilities too much.

Since what happened last time, it was the first time Zhang Qilan distinctly expressed her thoughts and guilty to Shao Wanru. As Princess Yue, she

could undoubtedly leave a good impression on others by doing this, and meanwhile, she showed her intention of taking responsibility for her wrongs and mending their friendship.

Back then, too many people were involved in what had happened in Princess Yuyan's mansion, and all of them had extraordinary statuses, so it ended up with nothing definite finally. Up to now, the matter of Zhang Qilan had not had a final conclusion yet, and only Shao Wanru knew that Zhang Qilan was not innocent in it.

Now Zhang Qilan apologized to Shao Wanru and made it clear that it was also her fault, which showed that she was very sincere.

At this time, Shao Wanru should let go of the past. Even though she didn't appreciate it very much, the relationship between them would be eased.

"Your Highness, you're too polite," Shao Wanru said lightly with an extremely indifferent look as if she was not very touched by Princess Yue's words.

"Then, have you forgiven me?" Zhang Qilan's eyes lit up. She looked at Shao Wanru and asked anxiously.

"Your Highness, what past is past. It's not something that can be solved by whether I forgive you or not. Now that it's over, we don't have to mention it again," Shao Wanru said calmly. She curled up her red lips slightly and revealed a hint of a faint smile that could be almost negligible.

What Zhang Qilan said was sincere, but it couldn't withstand deliberation. Shao Wanru was fine currently, and it seemed that Zhang Qilan had done the best she could by saying so. However, if Shao Wanru thought further about what would end up with her after something had happened to her back then, it couldn't be resolved by a few meaningless words from Zhang Qilan.

"You... Are you really not going to forgive me?" The excitement in Zhang Qilan's eyes faded, and she looked sad. With tears in her eyes, it could be seen that she was very sad. Her lips trembled. "Even ... even if I misunderstood you at that time... For the sake of our past friendship ... would you forgive me for my jealousy?"

"Jealousy?" Shao Wanru raised her beautiful eyes, which were clear with a little cold look. "Your Highness, what you said is very funny. I am Princess Chen. Do you mean that you are jealous of me because you have a crush on Prince Chen?"

Zhang Qilan didn't expect Shao Wanru to say that. All the words she had prepared were stuck in her mouth. She looked at Shao Wanru with a blushed

face, and she was about to burst into anger. Fortunately, she still remembered what Chu Liuyue had told her before, so she held back her anger with great effort. Today, Zhang Qilan was here to make peace with Shao Wanru, but not to make trouble with her.

"I didn't mean that. I misunderstood you and..." Zhang Qilan explained.

Shao Wanru interrupted her rudely and said, "Your Highness, it's nothing good for you to hold a grudge against me. Prince Chen can only marry me, just like you are now Princess Yue."

"She is forcing me to take the blame, indicating that I take a fancy to Chu Liuchen!"

Zhang Qilan stood up in anger, and could not bear it anymore. She was going to talk about the matter between Shao Wanru and Chu Liuyue instead of offering Shao Wanru an excuse to gossip about her crush on Chu Liuchen.

"Your Highness, are you going back now? Yujie, see Princess Yue off for me. I have to go to see my mother, so I won't see her off." Shao Wanru also stood up and said before Zhang Qilan could say anything else.

"Yes, Your Highness," Yujie answered and came out. She walked up to Zhang Qilan and said softly with a smile, "Your Highness, please!"

Zhang Qilan couldn't vent her anger, nor could she stop Shao Wanru. Watching Shao Wanru swagger off with Qing'er, Zhang Qilan was so angry that her flushed face turned pale.

Zhang Qilan nibbled her lip and couldn't stay any longer. She turned around and walked outside.

Yujie led the way cleverly. When they arrived in front of Princess Yue's carriage, Yujie took a step back with a smile. "Your Highness, please."

Zhang Qilan got into the carriage with an ashen face. The carriage turned around and went straight to Prince Yue's Mansion.

In Prince Yue's Mansion, when Chu Liuyue heard that Zhang Qilan had come back, he asked her to come to the study.

Zhang Qilan entered the study, bowed to Chu Liuyue, and took a seat on one side. The servant served them tea and left.

"How was it going?" Chu Liuyue took a sip of tea and looked at Zhang Qilan.

"She didn't forgive me." Zhang Qilan lowered her head.

“Why didn’t she forgive you? Didn’t you apologize with enough sincerity?” Chu Liuyue asked with a cold smile.

“I... I...” Zhang Qilan clenched her handkerchief and lowered her head again.

“What did you promise me before? You said that it was not a big deal and that you had a good relationship with Princess Chen. As long as you sincerely apologize, you will definitely reconcile with her, right?” Chu Liuyue said coldly and put down the teacup in his hand heavily. “If you didn’t say that, why did you bother to go to Rui’an Great Elder Princess’ Mansion in the name of my mother today?”

This question made Zhang Qilan speechless. She particularly went to Rui’an Great Elder Princess’ Mansion to meet with Shao Wanru today. As she knew, if she went straight to Prince Chen’s Mansion, Shao Wanru might not be willing to see her, so she came up with this idea. Unexpectedly, even though she met with Shao Wanru, Shao Wanru did not treat her friendly and even insinuated to her, making her embarrassed.

“Your Highness, Princess Chen is narrow-minded. I didn’t think it was a big deal, but she refused to let go.” Zhang Qilan lowered her head and said. She was resentful in her heart, but she didn’t dare to reveal it on her face. She was no longer Prime Minister Zhang’s daughter, but Prince Yue. For the sake of this position alone, Zhang Qilan couldn’t be willful.

“Narrow-minded?” Chu Liuyue played with a jade ornament in his hand and looked up at Zhang Qilan. “Do you really think so? Or did you come up with this idea because you didn’t want to apologize to her?”

“Your Highness, I did apologize to her and admit my mistake sincerely. However, she was too stubborn and self-righteous to forgive me. No matter what, I am your wife, Princess Yue, her sister-in-law, but she actually said that she had something else to do and left even before I said goodbye to her. Your Highness, I wonder if you have offended Prince Chen recently.”

Zhang Qilan slowly raised her head, looked at Chu Liuyue, and asked. She looked extremely calm as if the jealousy she had just now never existed, and she was just objectively helping Chu Liuyue analyze the relationship between the two princes.

The relationship between the two princesses was not good. Even if it was because of the grudge between the two women, could it also indicate that the relationship between the two brothers was not good either?

Chu Liuyue was silent for a moment and thought it possible. His eyes fell on the Peony Painting on the side, and his brow furrowed tightly. If Chu Liuchen

was involved in this matter, Chu Liuyue had no other way to settle it for the time being.

Prince Chen's Mansion was a place lack of manpower the most for him. Previously, when Shao Wanru was plotted to be murdered, all the men he arranged in Prince Chen's Mansion had been cleaned up. Now Chu Liuyue knew nothing about what was going on in Prince Chen's Mansion, which made him restless.

That was why Chu Liuyue wanted to restore the good relationship between Zhang Qilan and Shao Wanru, but he didn't expect that it did not work for Shao Wanru.

Feeling annoyed, Chu Liuyue waved his hand and said, "You can go."

Zhang Qilan stood up sensibly and bowed to Chu Liuyue. She also glanced at the Peony Painting that Chu Liuyue had been looking at just now. Suddenly, she stopped to ask, "Your Highness, is the painting damaged?"

"What's wrong?" Although Chu Liuyue looked at the Peony Painting, his attention was not on it. When Zhang Qilan mentioned it, he subconsciously took a closer look.

When Chu Liuyue saw the marks on a peony on the painting, his expression immediately changed dramatically. He pressed the table and asked, "Who has been here?"

Chapter 1283 Instigating

Originally, there were five rich-colored peonies in the painting, and one of them was the most eye-catching. It was also the one that Chu Liuyue usually appreciate the most. But now, there was a little ink color in the middle of its pistils, which strangely destroyed the layout of the whole painting.

The dark purple peony was no longer gorgeous.

"Find out who did it!" Chu Liuyue was so angry that his face turned ashen. He hardly believed that such a thing had happened in his study.

Zhang Qilan sat down again and quietly watched Chu Liuyue investigate this matter. After a while, a concubine who had just married into the mansion was found out. She was quite gorgeous, and Zhang Qilan disliked that concubine's bright-red lips in particular.

So far, Zhang Qilan had only seen such bright red lips on the faces of Shao Wanru and the concubine in front of her. In particular, the lips shape of this

concubine was a little similar to that of Shao Wanru, which made her more disgusted.

“Your Highness, I... I just came to see you. You were not here, so I left immediately. It really has nothing to do with me,” the concubine cried and explained to Chu Liuyue.

Her surname was Yu, unlike those who were on the royal family list, she was just called “Miss” in the mansion, and her status was as same as a servant girl in the Prince’s bed. People in Prince Yue’s Mansion called her “Miss Yu”.

“You really didn’t do anything?” Chu Liuyue asked sternly.

“I swear that I didn’t do anything. Your Highness, please find out who wanted to frame me. Please uphold justice for me, Your Highness!” the concubine choked with sobs and looked at Chu Liuyue pitifully with her beautiful eyes.

From the angle that Zhang Qilan was sitting, this concubine, who covered her face and cried, looked especially similar to Shao Wanru.

“Your Highness, please punish her,” Zhang Qilan spoke for the first time.
“Whether she did it or not, since something has happened, you can’t keep her any longer.”

“Let’s figure it out first!” Chu Liuyue frowned and said unpleasantly.

“Your Highness, for such a thing, she claimed that someone framed her, but no one saw anyone else come in. Who else could it be except her? Don’t you want to punish her?” Zhang Qilan asked.

Her words sounded completely from the perspective of the prince’s mansion, and she looked like offering her help to Chu Liuyue wholeheartedly. Chu Liuyue should have agreed, but when he saw the concubine’s bright red lips, he hesitated instantly.

“Servant, take her away for now. I’ll decide after finding out the truth,” Chu Liuyue said in a deep voice.

“Does this mean that he would not punish this concubine for the time being?” Zhang Qilan stood up and cast a glance at the concubine with gloomy eyes.
“Your Highness, I’m tired, and I have to go back to rest.”

“Okay. Have a good rest.” Chu Liuyue waved his hand and said casually.

Zhang Qilan walked to the door and looked back at the concubine again. With a flash of fierce in her eyes, she turned around and left.

Chu Liuyue claimed that there was nothing between him and Shao Wanru, but if it was true, why would Chu Liuyue be soft-hearted because of this concubine whose lips were similar to that of Shao Wanru?

Since Zhang Qilan married into Prince Yue's Mansion, she had seen how Chu Liuyue punish his subordinates. He had never been soft-hearted. Even if he punished them by mistake, he would not let any of them go. Wasn't it the case with Chu Liuyue in the past?

But today, Chu Liuyue made an exception for such a nobody like this concubine unexpectedly.

The autumn wind was already cool. After walking through a few corridors against the wind, Zhang Qilan suddenly stopped in a place with big wind. As the wind blew, the two servant girls behind her started shivering.

"Your Highness, it's too cold here," a servant girl said timidly.

Zhang Qilan seemed not to have heard what the servant girl said. She stood still there with her head down. The wind was very strong, blowing her clothes up, but she did not feel cold at all. Instead, Zhang Qilan felt that her heart was burning, and she had an impulse that could not be suppressed. Clenching her fists, she finally suppressed the jealousy and hatred in her heart.

"Your Highness, be careful not to hurt yourself," the servant girl said again.

Zhang Qilan took a deep breath to suppress the hatred in her heart. She couldn't show it on her face. She was now Princess Yue, but not the daughter of the Zhang family. Her current status was even higher than that of Shao Wanru, so she would have more opportunities.

"Did you get any reply from Miss Qin whom I invited before?" Zhang Qilan asked as she moved forward.

Miss Qin was referring to Qin Yiyan.

"Not yet," The servant girl replied in a low voice.

Zhang Qilan was a little upset. She hadn't gone to Shao Wanru in the past few days, but she expressed her kindness to Qin Yiyan in private, and a few days ago, Zhang Qilan told Qin Yiyan that they hit it off at first sight, and she invited Qin Yiyan to go shopping together. Qin Yiyan had been living in Prince Chen's Mansion since she arrived in the capital. She didn't go out usually, nor did she have friends here. Since Zhang Qilan had expressed her goodwill to Qin Yiyan to go shopping with her, Qin Yiyan should be touched, but why hadn't she replied?

Zhang Qilan guessed as she walked. She didn't expect that she would receive a reply from Qin Yiyan when she just returned to her courtyard. Qin Yiyan agreed to go shopping with Zhang Qilan. The appointed time was relatively in a rush. It was set in the afternoon.

Zhang Qilan immediately asked someone to reply to Qin Yiyan, indicating that she agreed. At the same time, she set the appointed place, where whoever arrived first and waited for the other.

Zhang Qilan didn't come early in the afternoon. When she arrived at the private room of the teahouse she had reserved, she saw that Qin Yiyan was already inside. Zhang Qilan walked up with a smile. "Miss Qin, you came so early. Sorry to keep you waiting."

"It's okay. It's quite lively here!" Qin Yiyan sat at the window and looked at the scenery outside. It was a busy street downstairs. Zhang Qilan had booked a private room by the window. Qin Yiyan had been appreciating the hustle and bustle in the capital, so she didn't feel that she had been waiting for a long time. It was the first time for her to go on the street openly since she arrived in the capital.

"Let's have some pastries first. We'll go downstairs later," Zhang Qilan said with a smile.

The servant girl went out to have the waiter bring some new pastries. When she saw some delicate pastries that were not served just now, Qin Yiyan picked up one, tasted it, and gave compliments repeatedly. Then she said, "Just now, I also told them that I had a reservation, but they only served me some ordinary pastries instead of these tasty ones."

Qin Yiyan thought that those ordinary pastries also tasted good, but they were not as delicate as the ones served now.

Zhang Qilan smiled and gently covered the corner of her mouth with a handkerchief. "Maybe it's for the sake of me being Princess Yue. If Princess Chen comes this time, she can also have the privilege."

"Why can't I?" Qin Yiyan pulled a long face and became unhappy.

"It's not that you can't have the privilege but that we ... take advantage of the power of the Princes," Zhang Qilan explained patiently.

"I can also take advantage of the power of my cousin!" Qin Yiyan was unconvinced.

"Miss Qin, you are the cousin of Prince Chen but not the wife of Prince Chen. It's different. Maybe some people would think highly of you for the sake of you

being the cousin of Prince Chen, but most people are very snobbish. Moreover, if Prince Chen becomes the crown prince someday ... the status of Princess Chen will be even more noble. Even you, as his cousin, can't compare with Princess Chen."

Zhang Qilan took another piece of pastry, handed it to Qin Yiyan enthusiastically, and said casually.

After saying that, Zhang Qilan seemed to feel that it was inappropriate and hurriedly explained, "Miss Qin, don't take it seriously. I just said it casually and let you know the difference between Princess Chen and you. She is your cousin's wife, your cousin-in-law, and she has been engaged to His Highness Prince Chen early. Naturally, she is different from you."

"But I was supposed to be Princess Chen." Qin Yiyan lowered her head and said in a low voice that almost like she was talking to herself. But coincidentally, Zhang Qilan heard it.

"Miss Qin, what do you mean by saying that?" Zhang Qilan frowned slightly. "Miss Qin, for some things, you may just say it casually, but you can't talk nonsense. It's okay for me to hear it today, and I won't tell others. But you will be in trouble if anyone else knows your intention. At least, Princess Chen can't let you be."

Hearing that, Qin Yiyan revealed some anger on her face and was very unconvinced. "What are you talking about? Why can't I say it? It's not my own idea but Her Highness Consort Lan's."

Zhang Qilan smiled and comforted Qin Yiyan, "Miss Qin, it's just a kind reminder for you. I'm afraid that you don't know the ins and outs. If you suffer losses, no one can help you."

"Why will I suffer losses?" Qin Yiyan said angrily, "Is it because of my cousin-in-law? Why does she want to deal with me? It was Her Highness Consort Lan who asked me to live in Prince Chen's Mansion. But what does it matter to Princess Chen? Does she think that she will be the only hostess of Prince Chen's Mansion in the future?"

"Of course, there won't be only one hostess in Prince Chen's Mansion, but who knows what will happen in the future? At least Princess Chen is the only hostess now. Miss Qin, you'd better be careful. Don't offend Princess Chen. I used to be her bestie, but later..." Speaking of this, Zhang Qilan paused and then vaguely said, "Forget it. I'd better not mention it."

Hearing that it was related to someone close to her, Qin Yiyan became interested. "Your Highness, would you please tell me about the matter

between you and my cousin-in-law? Why does it sound like she has done something to you?"

"It's not a big deal. In fact, it's not your cousin-in-law's fault. Sometimes, it's hard to explain the feelings between a man and a woman. Alas, I'm not good enough," Zhang Qilan sighed, and her smile faded.

According to what Zhang Qilan said, it was related to the affection between a man and a woman, and it even made Zhang Qilan and Shao Wanru turn against each other. If it was because of Chu Liuchen, then it could be Zhang Qilan's fault. However, it didn't seem to be the case from the way Zhang Qilan looked. Zhang Qilan would never tell anyone else if it was her fault. It seemed that the relationship between them turned bad because of Shao Wanru.

Was it because of Chu Liuyue?

Qin Yiyan was not stupid. She immediately understood what Zhang Qilan meant. She widened her eyes and said in a trembling voice, "So... My... My cousin-in-law and His Highness Prince Yue..."

"Miss Qin, please don't say it anymore!" Zhang Qilan looked serious and immediately warned Qin Yiyan in a low voice, "If such words are spread out, you will be in trouble, and so will I. It's better not to know anything."

"Since they have done it, are they afraid to be talked to? No way! I have to tell my cousin about it." Qin Yiyan couldn't sit still anymore. She immediately stood up.

"Miss Qin, don't act rashly. There is no evidence." Zhang Qilan grabbed Qin Yiyan's hand immediately.

Qin Yiyan tried to shake off Zhang Qilan's hand twice but failed. She became angrier and said, "It doesn't matter if my cousin doesn't believe me. I'll tell Her Highness Consort Lan. My cousin is such a good person, but how could he be deceived by her?"

After saying that, she shook off Zhang Qilan's hand hard again and succeeded this time. Then she walked outside in a rage. When Zhang Qilan chased to the door, she saw Qin Yi had left. Zhang Qilan stopped there and looked toward the stairs with cold eyes. It happened that Infanta Yuan'an came...

Chapter 1284 Increasingly Intense Obsession

"Princess Yue!" Seeing Zhang Qilan, Infanta Yuan'an was also very surprised. She restrained the anger in her eyes and raised her smiling face. "I didn't expect to see you here. Why don't we sit and talk?"

With a decent smile, Zhang Qilan pointed to the private room nearby and said, "Come in and have a seat?"

"Okay, let's spend some time together!" Infanta Yuan'an nodded.

The two of them entered the private room hand in hand. The private room's door was closed, isolating them from the curious gazes of passersby outside. Some knew Infanta Yuan'an, while others heard someone calling Princess Yue. For a time, the scene set off a storm of speculation.

Prince Yue and Prince Zhou were widely known as the two leading competitors for the throne. It was astonishing that Princess Yue and Princess Zhou would sit and chat intimately like best friends.

In the private room, they sat down. A servant girl asked the shop-boy to change the tea and bring some fresh pastries. Then, she retreated to both sides.

"Princess Yue, did you meet anyone here just now?" When Infanta Yuan'an entered the door, the table hadn't yet been cleaned. There, she saw two used teacups and some leftover pastries. Just now, Zhang Qilan went out. It seemed she was sending a guest out. Recalling such a scene, Infanta Yuan'an couldn't help guessing the guest's identity. Princess Yue personally saw the guest off. Who would have such an honor?

Zhang Qilan deliberately walked with the person to the door. Who was so close to her?

Qin Yiyan only brought one servant girl with her. On her way out, she encountered Infanta Yuan'an. But because Infanta Yuan'an didn't know Qin Yiyan, she didn't think much of it and only knew she seemed to have passed by a Young Madam.

"A Miss, my good friend." Zhang Qilan said vaguely.

"From which family? I'm most familiar with the Misses in the capital city. Which one has such a good relationship with you?" Infanta Yuan'an inquired about the news calmly.

"She isn't very famous and just has a connection with my family. We happened to meet and talked for a while," Zhang Qilan answered with a light smile.

A Miss connected to Prime Minister Zhang's Mansion but not from an eminent illustrious family. It was quite normal that Infanta Yuan'an didn't recognize her. Zhang Qilan didn't want to tell Infanta Yuan'an about her private affairs. Her attitude was perfectly understandable.

The two families were only in harmony on the surface.

Considering the past event, their current identities and positions, it was impossible for them to be honest. Instead, they should be always on guard against each other.

“Infanta Yuan’an, were you angry just now? Did you come here because you were in a rage with anyone?” Zhang Qilan ended the previous topic and looked up at Infanta Yuan’an, not neglecting the details of her expression.

Infanta Yuan’an’s face suddenly fell, but soon she smiled. “Something was wrong. I was quite annoyed when dealing with an affair in my mansion. So, I ran out to relax and came across you!”

The Prince Zhou’s Mansion had many women. Most of them were endowed with a title by the Palace. Surely, they wouldn’t submit themselves to all Infanta Yuan’an’s wishes. Although Infanta Yuan’an had a noble and superior status, the others were difficult to deal with. Moreover, the incident about Qi Rongzhi just happened.

“Prince Zhou should handle the situation very well. After all, you are his legal wife!” Zhang Qilan said placidly, with a trace of a smile on her face.

But in the eyes of Infanta Yuan’an, her smile was full of sarcasm.

She put down the teacup in her hand and said, “That’s true, but... Qi Rongzhi, do you know about her?”

Infanta Yuan’an seemed to be a little hesitant when mentioning this. She looked at Zhang Qilan but held back the words which sprang to her lips.

“Consort Qi, I know her. We attended the Pageant together.” Zhang Qilan nodded. Beyond that, she heard Qi Rongzhi run into trouble in Prince Zhou’s Mansion. She was said to have had an affair with someone and even implicated her mansion. Notably, it was Infanta Yuan’an who took some people and caught her.

“Consort Qi was a poor wretch, and so is Prince Yue... Since he liked her, he could have asked the Empress for her. Anyway, our Prince didn’t like Consort Qi that much. You know, he received so many consorts and concubines. How could he care about the most inconspicuous Consort Qi?” Infanta Yuan’an sighed.

She knew Zhang Qilan was obsessively jealous — Zhang Qilan could even frame up her close friends out of groundless envy. And this time, she had solid evidence to prove the scandal.

“Our Prince has nothing to do with Consort Qi. Princess Zhou, you must have made a mistake!” Zhang Qilan said with her face darkening. She lowered her voice when she mentioned “Princess Zhou”. With this, she reminded Infanta Yuan’an that they were of the same status. Moreover, on careful inspection, Zhang Qilan, as Princess Yue, had a higher position.

“Don’t you know about it?” Infanta Yuan’an was not angry. Instead, she raised her eyebrows and looked at Zhang Qilan up and down with sympathy in her eyes. She shook her head and said, “Well, I was talking nonsense. Don’t take it seriously.”

Hearing her words, Zhang Qilan was somewhat convinced.

She did know something about Qi Rongzhi, but not much. An accident about Prince Zhou’s consort happened in Prince Zhou’s Mansion. She had little to do with Qi Rongzhi, who was not a virtuous daughter of an eminent family. They had just met a few times and were not very familiar with each other. She and her Eldest Brother were said to have secretly discussed how to scheme against Prince Zhou’s Mansion. Then, Prince Zhou’s Mansion lamely involved Prince Yue’s Mansion in this event, trying to provoke the Emperor to anger.

Of course, Qi Rongzhi eventually hanged herself in shame.

Chu Liuyue told her part of the facts, and she also got some information when in the mansion. At that time, she didn’t take this matter seriously. She just asked a few questions and listened to some discussions.

“I heard Consort Qi had an affair with someone! But does it have something to do with Prince Yue?” Zhang Qilan said unblinkingly.

“Consort Qi had an affair with Prince Yue. Don’t you know that?” Infanta Yuan’an looked surprised. “Both Prince Yue and Prince Zhou have been involved in this. Otherwise, His Majesty wouldn’t be angry. After all, a consort is not a big deal.”

Infanta Yuan’an did not go on talking about the details. Afterward, she turned to speak about something else. It seemed that what she had said before was just a casual chat. Sometimes, information revealed inadvertently sounded more authentic.

Zhang Qilan cleverly got back on the topic and mentioned Qi Rongzhi occasionally. The more she listened, the tighter she twisted the handkerchief.

She didn’t believe it at first, but now she sort of believed it. She had concluded in her heart that Chu Liuyue would kindly treat anyone related to Shao Wanru. The same thing happened to the concubine surnamed Yu. Now, the situation

of Qi Rongzhi sounded the same. This information sounded reliable to her merely because Qi Rongzhi had grown up with Shao Wanru.

Her handkerchief was almost torn into pieces.

If Shao Wanru knew what Zhang Qilan was thinking, she would sneer at her. How could she know that Chu Liuyue was in deep love with her? More ridiculously, because of his love for Shao Wanru, he would even think highly of those people related to her. In Zhang Qilan's eyes, he would even fall in love with the women around Shao Wanru. What a jealous woman with an incredible imagination.

Qi Rongzhi had intended to frame up Shao Wanru. It was evidently because she and Chu Liuyue shared the same rotten tastes. They conspired with each other to scheme against others. Unexpectedly, as their plot was discovered, she became Chu Liuyue's abandoned pawn.

"It's getting late. I'm leaving. I want to talk to you next time if there's any chance." Infanta Yuan'an felt it was almost time to leave, so she stood up and said goodbye with a smile.

Again, she glanced at Zhang Qilan's clothes. Covering her mouth corner with a handkerchief, she said, "Princess Yue used to like clothes elegant in style, but now you prefer those bright-colored ones. But I think you looked better in the past. Clothes in gaudy colors like peonies are not suitable for you. Honestly, they better matched Consort Qi in my mansion!"

Qi Rongzhi, with a beautiful face, should be prettier than Zhang Qilan.

Zhang Qilan gritted her teeth but did not show a look of hatred. In her eyes, this could also prove that Qi Rongzhi had an illicit association with Chu Liuyue.

"Princess Yue, I'm leaving now!" Infanta Yuan'an said goodbye again with a smile and left with her people.

Behind her, Zhang Qilan's peaceful eyes gradually turned cold and gloomy, with traces of blood. They appeared quite scary.

"My Lady!" The servant girl said timidly.

"Let's go!" Zhang Qilan angrily gnashed her teeth and suppressed the hatred in her heart. She couldn't suspect Prince Yue because of Infanta Yuan'an's one-sided statement. Infanta Yuan'an was not trustworthy.

With such an idea in mind, Zhang Qilan returned to the mansion and went to the study first. However, halfway there, she went back to the inner court. She

had to check it out by herself first. Otherwise, he would not tell her anything, even if she asked Prince Yue about this.

The incident about Qi Rongzhi had caused quite a stir, but she didn't find much information inside the mansion. Chu Liuyue forbade people in his mansion to talk about this. Therefore, Zhang Qilan didn't know much about it. Later, she sent her trusted old maid to Prime Minister Zhang's Mansion and finally got the information she wanted. Hearing the truth of the matter, Zhang Qilan closed the door of the inner room and sat in it for a whole night.

Chu Liuyue didn't come that night because he had something else to do.

The next day, he didn't send anyone to check on her. Similar things had happened a lot. Even since Zhang Qilan married into this mansion, she discovered that she couldn't even compare with that consort. Of course, that consort also had an outstanding appearance and an impressive family background. It was Chu Liuyue who selected her as the consort. He liked women with a pure but charming appearance.

This consort was not like Shao Wanru. However, Zhang Qilan was in the grip of an obsession and thought that every beauty she met looked like Shao Wanru. Both this consort and Qi Rongzhi were beautiful, so they were somewhat similar to Shao Wanru in her mind. Besides, they all had a certain magnificent charm of the peony, which was renowned as the queen of flowers.

Chu Liuyue liked peonies...

Zhang Qilan was secretly investigating this matter in Prince Yue's Mansion. Meanwhile, Prince Zhou's Mansion was not peaceful either. Infanta Yuan'an had even carried surveys outside the mansion. When hearing that Prince Zhou used to have a mistress somewhere outside, she immediately came over to deal with her. However, she was told that the mistress left long ago. She just lived there in the past.

Infanta Yuan'an did not believe it. However, the courtyard was empty, and the woman was no longer there. That place was even no longer belonged to Prince Zhou's Mansion. She came here but got nothing valuable.

There must be a woman, but she didn't know where Chu Liuzhou had hidden her. After Infanta Yuan'an successfully provoked Zhang Qilan, she was also tortured by many things. In fact, like Zhang Qilan, she also stubbornly believed that her husband did not like her and that many other women were secretly seducing him.

In this case, they had to hunt this woman down and cut her into pieces.

At this time, a letter was quietly sent to an inconspicuous place. The garden...

Chapter 1285 A Rebellion and A Failure!

"Master, there is news from the garden." Xiao Xuanzi presented a secret letter.

Chu Liuchen cast a languid glance at it and said with deep eyes, "Don't worry about them. Just watch them act."

"Then... should I tell Princess Chen about it? I'm afraid she doesn't know." Xiao Xuanzi thought for a moment and asked.

"No, she rarely goes to the garden over there!" Chu Liuchen said carelessly, waving the secret letter and gently putting it on the table.

Xiao Xuanzi knew his master didn't want Princess Chen to worry about it. So, he smiled and said, "Yes, Master. I will be careful and not let Princess Chen notice it. But she has always been smart. What if she finds it out?"

"Then, let's talk about it later!" Chu Liuchen said, not taking it seriously.

"I understand!" Xiao Xuanzi nodded. He just mentioned it casually. The chief supervisor was in charge of various situations in the whole mansion. Those people thought that his master had no idea about any of it, but Prince Chen was clear about their words, deeds, and plans. How could he allow these people to make trouble again?

"Master, Princess Yue invited Miss Qin. Before Miss Qin went out, she told Princess Chen about it. When she was back, she met and talked with Princess Chen for a while before returning to her place!"

Xiao Xuanzi reported the matter about Qin Yiyan.

"We don't have to worry about Qin Yiyan's business. Leave it to Princess Chen!" Chu Liuchen said, not taking it seriously. Qin Yiyan was now at Zhuozhuo's beck and call and wouldn't do anything to harm Zhuozhuo.

"How should we deal with the matter of Prince Zhou's Mansion?" Xiao Xuanzi asked the last question, which was also the main problem.

They started with the unusual situation in the garden and found out the secret through investigation. Those people's operations were entirely covert.

"Just wait and see. Don't let our people intervene!" Chu Liuchen remarked casually. The sunlight streaming through the windows fell on his face, but it didn't soften his expression. His pretty face still looked as freezing as ice. Although his face was delicate, it appeared bone-chilling cold...

"Your Highness, terrible news from the Palace." A guard rushed into Chu Liuzhou's study, his face deathly pale.

"What's the matter?" Chu Liuzhou pinched the space between his eyebrows unhappily. Then, he reached out and picked up the teacup beside him, intending to calm himself down with a sip of tea. He was in such a flutter tonight that he didn't even ask Shao Yanru to accompany him.

"Secret guard... was... discovered by His Majesty!"

"What?" The teacup in Chu Liuzhou's hand dropped heavily on the desk. The water splashed out of it and wetted the file he had carefully checked. However, he was too tensed up to notice it. Then, Chu Liuzhou jumped up from his chair.

"Master, they are the people you placed in the Palace among the Emperor's secret guards," the guard said in a hurry.

Chu Liuzhou understood that it was because of the token. There was something wrong with the secret guards under the command of his mother's token. All the secret guards were supposed to work for his father. But because his mother held this token, some became his mother's people. He had used this token and asked these people to keep an eye on the Imperial Study. If there was any sign of disturbance, they should report it to him.

Of course, if any unusual movement happened in the Palace, he had to react immediately and try to launch a coup before others to seize the throne.

He wouldn't do that unless he were in a desperate situation. But how could anyone discover his conspiracy at this time?

Chu Liuzhou's face darkened as he asked, "What the hell has happened?"

"I don't know it either. I just got the news from the Palace. The Emperor has put the Empress under house arrest and caught our secret guards. They said... said that you were going to rebel!"

The guard said in a trembling voice.

Chu Liuzhou did have such an idea. If the Emperor insisted on passing the throne to Chu Liuyue, he would rise in rebellion. But since the Emperor hadn't yet decided, he did not have to usurp the throne. He just made some secret arrangements. Was the situation in the Palace so tense now?

"Your Highness... What should we do?" The guard said in a panic.

Chu Liuzhou turned around a few times on the spot, and his face turned livid under the light. At this time, he must make a prompt decision.

A rebellion? There had been news of rebellion in the Palace, and his mother had been locked up. If he didn't do anything, he could only allow himself to be arrested. But how could he be willing to give up? The throne was about to fall into his hands, but such an unexpected incident happened at this time.

He began wondering what went wrong. Why would people in the Palace get the news before he took action?

"Your Highness..." The guard urged again.

"Let's go to the Palace!" Chu Liuzhou said, determinedly gritting his teeth. He had to dominate the situation before his father took further steps.

"But our people are not ready yet..."

"Forget it!" Chu Liuzhou turned around and went to the wall behind him. From there, he took off the sword hanging on it. Shao Yanru was right: his father preferred Chu Liuyue. He couldn't wait any longer.

"Master, should we inform Princess Zhou of this..."

"No need. She'd better stay in the mansion!" Chu Liuzhou said coldly. He should avoid attracting too much attention. It would be better if Infanta Yuan'an stayed here to protect the mansion.

Prince Zhou had rebelled and been arrested. It was already in the afternoon when the news reached Shao Wanru. Chu Liuchen shared the information with her when he returned to the mansion. What he said considerably stunned Shao Wanru, who remained in shock for a long time.

It was... the same as what happened in her previous life!

"Prince Zhou... Is he okay?" Shao Wanru subconsciously pulled Chu Liuchen by the sleeve and asked.

"Nothing serious. The idiot was scared by himself. In fact, it was not a big deal." Chu Liuchen said, not taking this matter seriously. It was really a farce.

It didn't become a major issue at first. The Empress was set free recently and domineeringly interfered in many matters. Occasionally, she would go to see the Emperor, showing her prominent position as the Empress in the Palace. The Empress bumped into Consort of Virtue that day and pushed her onto the ground. This irritated the Emperor, who then asked some people to take the Empress away and told her to reflect on her misdeeds.

In fact, it was not a big deal. But somehow, Chu Liuzhou got the wrong news: people in the Palace accused him of staging a rebellion, and the Emperor had kept the Empress in close confinement.

“How is Prince Zhou now?” Shao Wanru asked.

“What could he do? My father has locked him up. I come back to change my clothes. Later, I must search Prince Zhou’s Mansion and confiscate his property with Chu Liuyue!” Chu Liuchen said.

A rebellion was a sensational event!

Chu Liuchen did not come back last night. He had been with the Emperor to deal with affairs since the significant change happened in the Palace.

“Have you had lunch?” Shao Wanru asked.

“I ate a little!” Chu Liuchen replied.

“Have some more. I’ve got the dishes ready!” Shao Wanru asked someone to prepare the meal while pulling him to wash up. He had been busy in the Palace since last night, and Shao Wanru had always been very concerned about Chu Liuchen’s health.

After Chu Liuchen briefly freshened him up, the dishes were already served on the table. Shao Wanru was sitting near these favorite dishes of Chu Liuchen. When Chu Liuchen saw her expecting eyes, his heart softened, and he touched her beautiful hair. Then, he sat down and ate some hastily before leaving with his subordinates.

Shao Wanru knew he was very busy, so she didn’t ask him to stay longer. After seeing him off at the courtyard gate, she watched Chu Liuchen striding away with his people. Inexplicably, she heaved a sigh as if relieved of a heavy burden.

Chu Liuzhou rebelled like in her previous life, but he did not die on the spot. There was a difference, at least! Since the results were different, she would certainly have a different ending.

Shao Wanru stood at the gate of the courtyard for a long time and didn’t feel like going back. Seeing her like this, Yujie couldn’t help suggesting. “My Lady, let’s go back. It’s windy here!”

The wind was a little strong here. Shao Wanru nodded and pulled the cloak that Chu Liuchen had put on her before they went out. Then, she turned around and went back to the yard, waiting for news outside.

Not long after she sat down, someone from the Palace came here to summon her. This time, it was Consort Lan who wanted to see her.

At first, Shao Wanru didn't want to go. But when Consort Lan's gentle look crossed her mind, she couldn't help sighing and agreed to see her. She entered the Palace after Qing Mu, who had come here for her.

Unlike before, the entire Palace was on high alert. There were guards at the side door. Seeing Shao Wanru coming over, they bowed respectfully to her and stepped aside.

After that, there were guards almost every three or five steps. Many people hidden in the dark didn't come out to check when they saw it was Shao Wanru. The way to Consort Lan's Shuangxi Hall was heavily guarded.

They walked straight to Shuangxi Hall. Seeing Consort Lan sitting up high there, Shao Wanru stepped forward and bowed.

Consort Lan stood up and reached out to pull her up. Looking at her face, she asked softly, "Are you afraid? Don't panic. I'm here!"

She looked mild and didn't put on airs before Shao Wanru. Consort Lan seemed to have always been tender and amiable, except for the first time she met Shao Wanru with Qin Yiyan. Even her voice sounded gentle and kind.

When staying alone in the mansion, Shao Wanru might feel afraid and anxious, so Consort Lan asked her to come. Deeply touched, Shao Wanru said, "Thank you for your concern. I'm fine."

"Prince Chen is not in the mansion, you should be careful. Prince Zhou suddenly rebelled. Though he was misled, he did have the intention. Otherwise, he would not have suddenly rushed into the Emperor's Imperial Study!" Consort Lan said softly.

Prince Zhou had prepared to usurp the power. In her last life, he also rebelled. Thus, Shao Wanru was not surprised now. But she didn't know the specific situation. When she heard Consort Lan's words, she became curious. Her long eyelashes fluttered as she asked, "Prince Zhou managed to rush into the Emperor's Imperial Study! But where were the Emperor's secret guards?"

There were so many guards and secret guards, but Prince Zhou successfully intruded into the Emperor's Imperial Study. That scene should be very dangerous!

"The Empress has the token to mobilize the secret guards. At that time, it was in Prince Zhou's hands." Consort Lan continued, "The Emperor was boiling with rage. Prince Zhou..."

Consort Lan frowned and didn't say anything more.

Shao Wanru stopped asking. Anyway, she could imagine what would happen to Prince Zhou. She didn't expect the Empress to have such a token. It reminded her of the half tiger token that Consort Lan had given her. The two different things could achieve the same result, but the tiger token might involve more people!

"Let's wait for news together!" Consort Lan said. Then, she ordered others to bring the new pastries prepared for Shao Wanru...

After such a big incident, they were not the only ones waiting for news...

The whole imperial Palace was in the shadow of an approaching storm...

Chapter 1286 I Want a Divorce, Immediately!

Infanta Yuan'an was locked up in her courtyard and was not allowed to go out. Her face was livid, with a few scattered strands of hair on her pretty face — she must be too anxious to put on her picture-perfect makeup.

"My Lady, please sit down and rest for a while," the servant girl said timidly.

Infanta Yuan'an backhanded the servant girl across her face, knocking her two steps back. As the servant girl fell heavily to the ground, she reached out to cover her face but did not dare to make a sound.

"Why was I the last to know about such a thing?" Infanta Yuan'an gritted her teeth and bellowed with hatred. Her face twisted in anger. In the past, Chu Liuzhou would discuss some affairs with her, but this time, she heard about such a sensational event from others. What was worse, it was too late for her to do anything. After all, when she knew it, Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuchen had already come to search the courtyard.

She knew nothing and couldn't do anything.

She picked up the teacup at hand and threw it at the door irritably. A group of servant girls and old maids stood aside with pale faces and trembled, not daring to say a word.

Her trusted nurse was brave enough to step forward and whisper, "My Lady, don't worry. I think there must be some misunderstanding."

"Misunderstanding? How could it be? It's obvious that Chu Liuzhou did such a treacherous thing and left me here to take the blame!" Infanta Yuan'an screamed in a hoarse voice.

"My Lady, maybe he didn't have time to consider you then!" Her trusted nurse advised.

"Is that so? But where is that woman? Where did she go? She had been in the study. Where is she now? He has to protect that woman forever. I mean nothing to him. I'm just the legal wife he had no choice but to marry!" Infanta Yuan'an was screaming at the top of her voice.

Seeing that she was so out of control, her trusted nurse felt distressed, and her heart ached for her. She hurried forward to hug and comfort her. "My Lady, even if His Highness hid you, you would be found later. Your status is different from other women. They would find you at all costs!" She said, trying to appease her.

Losing track of an unknown woman was not a big deal. But if Princess Zhou were missing, it would be a burning issue that could not be neglected.

Infanta Yuan'an suddenly realized that she was crying. Wiping away her tears, she said, "How could he treat me like this? He had promised he would treat me wholeheartedly. I devoted myself to helping him but came to a bad end, but he always gave me the cold shoulder. In the end, he got nothing, and he totally deserves it! Even if he achieved his ambition, I'm afraid I'll be dethroned anyway."

Infanta Yuan'an was full of hatred, not because Chu Liuzhou failed to seize the throne. On the contrary, she even felt Chu Liuzhou deserved it. Since he dared to abandon her, he had to bear such a devastating consequence.

Chu Liuzhou had so many women, but she had drugged all of them. No one but she could get pregnant. Unexpectedly, Chu Liuzhou came to his destruction before she could give birth to any child.

"My Lady, if His Highness shifts the blame to you..." Her trusted nurse suddenly thought of another possibility and panicked. Previously, she was grateful that Chu Liuzhou did not hide Infanta Yuan'an.

Others might not know Infanta Yuan'an and Prince Zhou had a bad relationship, but her trusted nurse was very clear about it.

Infanta Yuan'an screamed out of control, "What right does he have to do that? He shared benefits with other bitches and misfortunes with me! I want a divorce. I want to divorce him!"

She didn't want to bear the crushing blow with Chu Liuzhou. Even if she were not Princess Zhou, she could still be Infanta Yuan'an. Her grandmother could protect her, and she was connected to the royal family by blood. No one dared to lock her up casually.

At this moment, she suddenly came to her senses. She must divorce Chu Liuzhou. Anyway, Chu Liuzhou had never treated her well. She could still live a good life after divorcing him. Why did she have to take the road to ruin with Chu Liuzhou? Chu Liuzhou was doomed. She was very aware of this.

“Go and ask my grandma to save me. I want to divorce Chu Liuzhou. I’m not Princess Zhou. Call me Infanta Yuan’an!”

Infanta Yuan’an gave her trusted maid a hefty shove, and she almost fell over.

“Your Highness... My Lady, I can’t get out at this time. Many people are outside the courtyard searching for the things His Highness prepared for the rebellion.” After steadying herself, the trusted maid said with a sullen face.

She wanted to go out and ask for help, but no one could get out now.

“I... I’ll send you out!” Infanta Yuan’an composed herself and said. Then, she asked a servant girl to dress her up and led her people to the gate of the courtyard.

The officials of the Ministry of Justice stood outside the courtyard. When they saw Infanta Yuan’an coming out, they bowed to her but did not take a step back.

“Get out of my way. I’m going to see my grandma,” Infanta Yuan’an said sternly.

The yamen runners of the Ministry of Justice looked at her and lowered their heads, but they didn’t give in.

Infanta Yuan’an was so angry that she felt dizzy. No one had ever dared to go against her will like this. She stepped forward and wanted to slap one yamen runner who blocked her way.

“Your Highness, you will be punished for plotting a rebellion with Prince Zhou. Are you really going to take action at this time?” An ice-cold voice came from aside. Infanta Yuan’an put down her hand. With a sullen face, she looked toward Wen Xichi, who appeared at the intersection.

“Lord Wen, I want to see my grandma,” Infanta Yuan’an said coldly, withdrawing her hand.

Wen Xichi stepped forward, bowed to her, and said slowly, “You can’t leave now. You can only stay here until the matter is settled.”

“Why? I know nothing about the rebellion of Prince Zhou. Why don’t you let me go?” Infanta Yuan’an was still very dominating.

"Your Highness, take it easy and stay calm. We won't know anything until the end. Well, it saves us a lot of trouble when you are out of the courtyard," Wen Xichi ordered, "Anyone available? I need some people to check Princess Zhou's courtyard!"

"What... Why should you check my courtyard?" Infanta Yuan'an asked, fuming with anger. She was not allowed to get out, and even her courtyard would be searched and confiscated.

"Your Highness, you are the legal wife of Prince Zhou, so you should know it is an inevitable procedure!" Wen Xichi looked at Infanta Yuan'an calmly.

The royal family would always punish those who were related to criminals. Perhaps, not all his family members would be put to death, but Prince Zhou would implicate his close family members.

"I want to divorce Prince Zhou. I want a divorce!" Infanta Yuan'an lost control of her emotions and said with blood-red eyes. Seeing many people from the Ministry of Justice enter her courtyard, she turned around and wanted to rush forward.

But her trusted maid held her tight for fear that she would do anything improper again out of control.

"My Lady, don't worry. It's okay. His Highness didn't tell you before he took action. And you still have Great Elder Princess. You'll be fine." The trusted maid hugged her tightly and comforted her.

She knew Infanta Yuan'an very well. Immediately, her words calmed Infanta Yuan'an down a little.

Infanta Yuan'an took a deep breath and suppressed the anxiety in her heart. Looking steadily at Wen Xichi, she said, "It doesn't matter if I can't go out. Let my trusted maid leave. I need her to see my grandma!"

"I'm afraid it's against the rules!" Wen Xichi shook his head and refused her request.

"That's nonsense. She's just an old maid. I still stay in the mansion. Couldn't you even make the decision for an old maid? Well, you're such a useless official."

Infanta Yuan'an sneered with anger.

Wen Xichi looked at Infanta Yuan'an indifferently and even showed a faint smile. "Even if I'm considered a weak official, I can't let her go. If any principal criminal escapes, I can't explain it to the two Princes."

"How could any principal criminal be in my place? She is just an old maid serving me since I was little." Infanta Yuan'an glared at him in anger.

"It's hard to say. I just heard a lot of weapons were buried in the garden of the courtyard. If we didn't discover these things, we would never know that Prince Zhou buried so many weapons there."

Wen Xichi said with a smile.

"Wh-what..." Infanta Yuan'an was so shocked that her legs went limp. She almost fell. Fortunately, her quick-witted servant girl hurriedly supported her so that she could stand still.

"Don't tell me you don't know it either. The inner court is in your charge!" Wen Xichi looked up and said.

Infanta Yuan'an was in control of the inner court. Usually, men handled external affairs while women dealt with things inside the mansion. In this way, Infanta Yuan'an must have something to do with this big event. She had been comforting herself that it was all Chu Liuzhou's fault. Since she never got involved in it, she wouldn't be implicated. But now, she fell into despair.

Was there anything else in the mansion that she didn't know? Why would she be involved in this kind of thing? She married into this mansion to become the empress, not to suffer hardships with Chu Liuzhou.

"Divorce..." Her voice was no longer sharp. Instead, it sounded low but firm. She cried and screamed but didn't get what she wanted.

Whatever the price she had to pay, she was determined to divorce Chu Liuzhou. She was still young. A lot of great things were waiting for her in the future.

"Lord Wen, look at this!" A yamen runner ran over in a hurry and handed the delicate brocade box to Wen Xichi.

Seeing this, Infanta Yuan'an's trusted maid was stunned, her face drained of color. However, Infanta Yuan'an was standing in a daze before her. Thus, she reached out and pushed Infanta Yuan'an, motioning her to look over there.

Infanta Yuan'an reacted dully, and her movements were not as fast as usual. When she turned around, Wen Xichi had already opened the brocade box. Then, a pair of delicate phoenix hairpins appeared before everyone.

Infanta Yuan'an was stunned at first. Afterward, she screamed and rushed over, trying to snatch the pair of phoenix hairpins back.

Wen Xichi took two steps back to avoid her. His eyes fell on the pair of hairpins, and the corners of his mouth were slightly raised. "Infanta Yuan'an, you said you knew nothing about it. But see? What is this? Who can use such hairpins? Now, how can you say you don't know anything about it? You are known to be very talented and have attached great importance to clothes and jewels by official ranks!"

Infanta Yuan'an was born to the Ruiping Great Elder Princess. Before she married Chu Liuzhou, she had often told others what kind of jewelry she could wear as a Princess. It didn't matter whether these pieces of jewelry were exquisite or not. They were the status symbol. Not everyone could wear anything at will. The dresses or jewels of Misses from other aristocratic families might look stunning. But unlike Infanta Yuan'an, these women without a high status were not allowed to use some things.

For example, only the Empress could wear the phoenix hairpins placed in the brocade box.

If Infanta Yuan'an knew nothing about the rebellion, where did she get this pair of phoenix hairpins with nine tails? How could they end up in her hands? How could they be carefully hidden? All the evidence indicated that Infanta Yuan'an knew Chu Liuzhou was plotting a rebellion and even participated in it.

"It's all over!" This was the only idea that occupied her mind. Infanta Yuan'an rolled her eyes and fainted...

Chapter 1287 Shao Wanru Is in Danger

The things seized in Prince Zhou's Mansion shocked the whole capital.

A lot of weapons were found in the garden of Prince Zhou's Mansion, and all were sharpened. Apparently, they were used for rebellion. The ground had been trodden heavily for a long time. It could be seen that Prince Zhou had plotted on this matter long ago.

Moreover, Infanta Yuan'an also got involved in this matter because of the pair of phoenix hairpins seized from her room. In fact, Infanta Yuan'an knew something about it. Unlike what Ruiping Great Elder Princess cried and begged in front of the Palace gate, claiming that Infanta Yuan'an knew nothing about it. It was obvious that Infanta Yuan'an and Prince Zhou plotted it together.

Since Infanta Yuan'an was involved, what about Ruiping Great Elder Princess? The investigation about if Ruiping Great Elder Princess was also involved was immediately carried out in private. Various pieces of evidence were collected and verified by related parties, including the Ministry of Justice

and the Supreme Court. For a time, everyone was in a panic in the capital, for fear of being involved.

That was a major crime of rebellion, which could result in decapitation.

Infanta Yuan'an and Chu Liuzhou were locked up together. Before the matter came to a conclusion, they were temporarily locked up in a Cold Palace with guards watching outside all the time.

Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuchen were mainly in charge of the investigation of Prince Zhou's Mansion. The Emperor was under the weather. When he got to know the things seized from Prince Zhou's Mansion, he was so angry that he fainted and spat out another mouthful of blood.

The Palace was in chaos.

Shao Wanru had returned to Prince Chen's Mansion. Except for visiting her mother in her grandma's mansion, she did not go anywhere else. Chu Liuchen had been so busy these days that he had almost been absent from home. He had been keeping the Emperor company in the Palace.

The carriage was ready in the morning, and Shao Wanru got on her carriage with Qing'er and Yujie.

The whole capital became much quieter these days because of the matter of Prince Zhou's Mansion. The bustling streets seemed to be quiet all of a sudden. When people came and went, everyone was very careful and did not dare to talk nonsense.

Shao Wanru leaned against the window with her eyes slightly closed. The two servant girls leaned on the other side and looked at the scenery outside the window.

Suddenly, the carriage staggered, and Shao Wanru hit her head heavily against the window with a bang.

Shao Wanru was in so much pain that she burst into tears at once. She reached out to touch her head.

"Your Highness, the horse is startled!" the coachman screamed and tried hard to hold the startled horse.

However, the horse was so frightened that it couldn't stop for a while. Shao Wanru was repeatedly hit inside the carriage, so she had to protect her head and face.

"Your Highness, hold me tight!" Qing'er moved forward and grabbed Shao Wanru by the sleeve. Then she said hurriedly, "Yujie, hold the window to protect your head."

If it went on like this, Yujie would faint after a few more hits. Yujie had great strength, but she didn't know martial arts.

"Got it. Save Her Highness!" Yujie said calmly. She held the window aside, steadied herself, and prevented herself from causing trouble to Qing'er.

"Yujie, hold my hand!" Shao Wanru grabbed Qing'er with one hand and reached out the other hand to Yujie. The carriage was so dangerous that it would probably cause a crash in a while. Staying in it would only lead to death.

"Your Highness, don't worry about me!" Yujie refused to reach out because she was afraid to drag Shao Wanru.

"Yujie, hurry up!" Shao Wanru's hand had been grabbed by Qing'er, and her other hand touched Yujie by the edge of her clothes. "If you keep hesitating, none of us can run away!"

Yujie didn't dare to delay any longer. She reached out to hold Shao Wanru's hand, gritted her teeth, and said, "Your Highness, I got your hand!"

Yujie made up her mind to jump out of the carriage with Shao Wanru first. In case anything was wrong, she would let go immediately, which was more convenient than Princess Chen holding her hand.

Seeing that Yujie was willing to hold her hand, Shao Wanru breathed a sigh of relief.

"Your Highness, get ready. Jump!" Qing'er shouted in a low voice. Then she took Shao Wanru and Yujie to rush to the door of the carriage.

The door of the carriage clanged. Whoever was hit by it, it would be hard to bear the pain. Fortunately, it was Qing'er in the front. Qing'er desperately bumped out and fell down with Shao Wanru and Yujie, and she quickly set her body as a shield for Shao Wanru. After rolling on the ground a few times with Shao Wanru in her arms, Qing'er protected Shao Wanru by lying under Shao Wanru.

Yujie let go of Shao Wanru's hand when she rushed out of the carriage door. She grew up in the mountains and had her own protection method. She covered her head and face with her hands. After rolling twice on the ground, she fell to the ground. Yujie couldn't stand up for a while in pain. She looked up with difficulty and called out, "Your Highness, Your Highness..."

The carriage rushed forward and hit a high wall hard. Seeing that no one was in the carriage, the coachman also jumped down the carriage. His movements were flexible. After falling, he rolled on the ground a few times and immediately stopped. In contrast, he was the least injured among them.

The accident happened too suddenly. When the carriage came to this place, a child fell in front of the carriage in the noise, and then the carriage rushed out in fright and hit the high wall hard. Shao Wanru and her two servant girls, who sitting in the carriage, were all lying in the middle of the street now.

Some people had already recognized the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion. These days, Shao Wanru's carriage always passed through this section of the street at this time, so many people knew that Princess Chen was going to see her biological mother, who lived in Rui'an Great Elder Princess' Mansion.

Just then, a group of people came out from behind the crowd. It was Chu Liuchen who jumped off the horse. When he saw Shao Wanru lying motionless on the ground, Chu Liuchen's beautiful eyes immediately turned red. He rushed over and carried up Shao Wanru. His fingers trembled slightly and touched Shao Wanru's wrist. When he sensed the pulsation of the pulse at the bottom of her wrist, the redness in his eyes faded a little.

"Guards, block this area!" Chu Liuchen said gloomily, "No one is allowed to leave the shops on both sides!"

"Yes!" The guards separated and rushed to both sides of the street.

"Zhuozhuo, Zhuozhuo!" Chu Liuchen called in a low voice while reaching out to check on Shao Wanru. He saw a wound on her hand, from which blood slowly seeped out. Then he closed his mouth hard.

A moment ago, Chu Liuchen had a strong sense of darkness and despair. He almost thought that something had really happened to Shao Wanru. He had always wanted to protect her well, but now she was in such great danger.

If it weren't because of him, even if someone wanted to hurt her, they wouldn't have used such a cruel method.

"Your Highness..." Seeing that Qing'er and Yujie were lying on the ground with their eyes open, Xiao Xuanzi breathed a sigh of relief and reminded Prince Chen, "Your Highness, shall we get an imperial physician here?"

"Go!" Chu Liuchen said sternly.

Xiao Xuanzi did not dare to delay. He took a horse from a guard and mounted it. He whipped the horse to run toward the Palace gate.

The imperial physician came quickly. When he heard that something had happened in Prince Chen's Mansion, he immediately got on the horse and rushed over. When he got closer, he hurriedly got off the horse. He saw Prince Chen sitting on his knees on the ground in the crowd with a pale face. It was not the sickly pale as usual, but as gloomy as white paint.

The imperial physician was startled. He looked at Princess Chen in the arms of Prince Chen and said in a trembling voice, "Your Highness, can you allow me to check Her Highness' wound?"

Prince Chen looked extremely embarrassed. He knelt on the ground without any manners and held the motionless Princess Chen in his arms. It made the imperial physician scared anyhow.

The imperial physician thought, "This Prince has been dealing with the Imperial Institute of Medicine for a long time. If something happens to Princess Chen, it will be a great deal. This Prince is very paranoid and vicious. As an imperial physician, I can only cure physical diseases, but not psychological ones."

"Please come to see her! I... I can't tell clearly," Chu Liuchen said in a hoarse voice and held Shao Wanru's hand over. He was almost drowned by panic and helplessness.

Chu Liuchen had been feeling the pulse of Shao Wanru. At first, Chu Liuchen was calm, and then he panicked. Until now, Shao Wanru had not recovered consciousness yet. Chu Liuchen was so flustered that he did not know how to deal with it. His every move now was just his subconscious reaction.

The imperial physician covered Shao Wanru's wrist with a handkerchief, reaching out to feel her pulse, and his expression gradually softened. He thought, "Fortunately, Princess Chen is still alive. It seems that she has not been badly injured."

"Don't worry, Your Highness. Her Highness just fainted from the fall. She will be fine in a little while. Please rest assured." The imperial physician put down Shao Wanru's wrist and said.

"Are you sure?" Chu Liuchen looked up with his blood-red eyes, which made the imperial physician panic, and he hurriedly lowered his head.

"Yes, Her Highness will be fine," the imperial physician replied with his head down.

"Can I ... carry her up?" Chu Liuchen looked down at Shao Wanru in his arms and asked in a soft voice.

“Yes, you can. Your Highness, it’s okay.” The imperial physician nodded. Now he understood why Prince Chen didn’t get up for such a long time. It turned out that he was afraid that something would happen to Princess Chen, so he didn’t dare to move her.

Chu Liuchen stood up. Unknowing whether it was because he had been sitting on his knees for a long time or because his feet went weak, Chu Liuchen almost fell when he just stood up. Fortunately, Xiao Xuanzi was smart enough to reach out to hold Chu Liuchen’s hand.

After standing steadily, Chu Liuchen asked the imperial physician to see Yujie and Qing’er.

Qing’er hand was injured when falling, for she was protecting Shao Wanru. Except for this, no other injuries. Yujie just sprained her ankle and had many scratches on her, but it was nothing serious.

Chu Liuchen told Xiao Xuanzi to escort Shao Wanru back to the mansion, and he stayed, sitting in front of a shop where the accident happened at that time. The little boy, who fell out and startled the horse, sat on the ground with a pale face. He was lucky. The horse was startled at that time, but it didn’t press him. Now, the little boy was shivering, and the other noisy children around him had already run away.

Chu Liuchen told the guard to bring the child over. It was just a little boy of seven or eight years old. The child did not realize it until he was brought in front of Chu Liuchen. He burst into tears in fear and kept calling “Mom”.

Chu Liuchen looked over the child and fixed his eyes on a ball on the ground, which was held in the child’s hands just now.

“Bring it over!”

The guard went to pick up the ball and then handed it to Chu Liuchen. Chu Liuchen reached out to take it and had a look. His eyes were chill and bloodthirsty, and he curled his lips silently. It felt very familiar. Others might not know it, but he had met it several times, so he knew it very well. He looked up upstairs on both sides.

“Go and check who are upstairs. Bring the ones who are related to the royal family downstairs, if any.”

It had been checked before. The incident happened all of a sudden, and Chu Liuchen also came suddenly. No one had expected that he would come so soon, so no one could leave in a short time even if he wanted to.

Many people had such a mood that they must see with their own eyes whether their plan succeeded or not, and so was this person...

Chapter 1288 Jealousy or Crush?

Chu Liuyue was called here in a hurry, and he did not know why. When he saw Chu Liuchen sitting upstairs lazily with gloomy eyes, Chu Liuyue was stunned.

Usually, the “good brother” of his often put on a gentle smile on his face, which made Chu Liuyue feel disgusted. However, what was the situation now? Especially when Chu Liuyue saw Zhang Qilan standing on the side with a pale face, shivering, he felt something bad.

“What’s going on? Why are you here?” Chu Liuyue strode to Zhang Qilan and asked with a frown.

“Your... Your Highness... I... I just happen to be here... It has nothing to do with me,” Zhang Qilan said while wiping her tears with a handkerchief. Previously, Zhang Qilan was afraid, but she had been holding back and trying to deal with Chu Liuchen. Now when she saw Chu Liuyue, she couldn’t hold back her tears and immediately shed tears with a grievance.

“Third Brother, what’s going on? If your sister-in-law did anything wrong, I would apologize to you.” Chu Liuyue fixed his eyes on Chu Liuchen.

“Eldest Brother, aren’t you curious about what your good wife has done?” Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows, and the blood red in his eyes faded away and was replaced by a little more vicious look.

“What can she do as a woman? She’s just going shopping. What else can she do?” Chu Liuyue said carelessly. He held Zhang Qilan’s hand and was about to sit on a chair aside. In front of others, they were an affectionate couple, unlike Chu Liuzhou and Infanta Yuan’an.

“Since she can’t do anything, what she has done is as per your instruction. Is that right, Eldest Brother?” Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows, and a dark aura made Chu Liuyue look grave. Chu Liuyue took a glance at Zhang Qilan, who was still shivering as if she was frightened. Chu Liuyue thought for a second and put down Zhang Qilan’s hand.

Chu Liuyue asked gently, “What on earth is going on? What did you do?”

Even though they were husband and wife, Chu Liuyue did not fully trust Zhang Qilan. Chu Liuzhou had just gotten caught, and Chu Liuyue didn’t wish to have an accident at this critical moment.

"I... It's not me, I swear. I don't know anything. I just ... just played with a child for a while..." Zhang Qilan's lips trembled a few times, and she said with a depressed look. She could tell from Chu Liuyue's behavior that he was not willing to share the burden with her. Thinking of how Chu Liuchen held Shao Wanru in his arms in a daze just now and seeing Chu Liuyue shrink back, she felt a heavy blow to her heart.

Like Chu Liuchen and Shao Wanru, Chu Liuyue and Zhang Qilan were husband and wife, too, but they only pretended to be a happy couple in front of others, and they would separate once something happened. Zhang Qilan married into Prince Yue's Mansion because she wanted to be good to Chu Liuyue, but why did she end up like this?

"A child? What child?" Chu Liuyue became more and more confused.

"Prince Yue, to put it simply, your wife has Changxing Grass. I wonder where she got it. She secretly rubbed the crumbs of Changxing Grass onto a ball of a child and pushed the child to the front of my wife's carriage. The horse was startled and ran, hit the high wall in front, and the carriage was destroyed."

Chu Liuchen told the whole story briefly and accurately.

"Is Princess Chen alright?" Chu Liuchen asked with a frown.

Zhang Qilan smiled with tears all over her face. As expected, the first person he asked was Princess Chen.

"My wife jumped out of the carriage in time. Fortunately, she escaped with her life. She has returned home to rest. Surprisingly, we have found Princess Yue here. Prince Yue, how will you handle this matter?"

Chu Liuchen skipped the topic of Shao Wanru and said coldly. His beautiful eyes fell on Zhang Qilan's seemingly crying and smiling face with strong disgust.

"Your Highness, please believe me. It has nothing to do with me. I don't know anything about it. It's just that my servant girl saw the child was cute and played ball with him for a while. There is nothing else." Zhang Qilan burst into tears.

"Prince Yue, I have reported this matter to the Palace, and Uncle the Emperor has known about it. What will happen next depends on how Uncle the Emperor deals with it! If you believe that Princess Yue is innocent, let's go to see Uncle the Emperor together." Chu Liuchen stood up lazily and glanced at Zhang Qilan's face coldly.

Zhang Qilan was so scared that she hurriedly lowered her head. She was at a loss about what to do.

Zhang Qilan could not regret more now. Shao Wanru was fine, and Prince Chen arrived so quickly. At that time, she wanted to leave as soon as she saw Prince Chen. Unexpectedly, the guards of Prince Chen's Mansion worked so efficiently that they found out her in a few minutes and even detained her.

"Where did you get the Changxing Grass? Why did you hurt Princess Chen?" After a moment of silence, Chu Liuyue turned to look at Zhang Qilan with an unhappy expression.

"I don't know about the Changxing Grass, and I didn't hurt Princess Chen either. Her carriage had an accident, and it had nothing to do with me. Your Highness, please believe me. I... I have no reason to do such a thing. Princess Chen and I have no conflict of interest. She and I are living in two different mansions. Why should I deal with her?"

Zhang Qilan cried and kept explaining.

Chu Liuyue looked at Zhang Qilan's expression. She didn't seem to be acting. He couldn't figure out whether it was true or not at the moment. It was true that Zhang Qilan and Shao Wanru had no connections. The two Prince Mansions were separate. If Zhang Qilan were not out of her mind, there would be no reason for her to hurt Shao Wanru.

"Third Brother, could it be a mistake?" Chu Liuyue turned to look at Chu Liuchen.

Chu Liuchen said, "Prince Yue, do you think it's a mistake? I don't think so. As I heard, Princess Yue tried to send someone to my mansion. Those who don't know the truth may think that Princess Yue has a crush on me. But even if she does, my wife can only be Princess Chen. It doesn't matter how much Princess Yue does. What's more, I'm really curious about how you got the Changxing Grass? Who gave it to you, Prince Yue or Prime Minister Zhang?"

With that, Chu Liuchen swung his long sleeves and strode away, followed by his guards one by one, leaving the mess here to Chu Liuyue.

Zhang Qilan's face turned red and then ashen. She was scared. She had never thought that Chu Liuchen would be so shameless as to involve her and him. Chu Liuchen was a man, and he was a Prince. Even if he had another woman, others would not care. Instead, they would only say that he was a romantic prince, even if the woman was his eldest brother's wife.

Prince Chen's elder sister-in-law, Princess Yue, fell in love with him, but Prince Chen didn't like her, so Princess Yue schemed to hurt Princess Chen. The passers-by, who heard Chu Liuchen interrogating Zhang Qilan just now, immediately had such an idea in their minds. The way they looked at Zhang Qilan was with some disdain. So what even if she is the daughter-in-law of the royal family? How could she do such a humiliating and immoral thing?

Hearing what Chu Liuchen said before he left and seeing everyone's gloomy eyes on Zhang Qilan, Chu Liuyue had two blue veins bulging on his forehead. "Zhang Qilan, tell me, what the hell is going on?"

If what Chu Liuchen said was true, only Prince Yue's Mansion would be disgraced, that was to say, Zhang Qilan and him.

As Zhang Qilan's husband, Chu Liuyue would also be laughed at for being cuckolded, and this cuckold was given by his wife. Chu Liuyue wished to strangle Zhang Qilan on the spot. He once thought that although his wife was not his favorite, she was at least much smarter than an idiot like Infanta Yuan'an. However, he did not expect that Zhang Qilan was as stupid as Infanta Yuan'an.

No, she might not even compare to Infanta Yuan'an. At least Infanta Yuan'an was sincerely concerned about Chu Liuzhou.

Thinking of this, Chu Liuyue became stern-eyed. Zhang Qilan's lips were trembling, but she did not speak. Seeing that, Chu Liuyue hated her deeply. He took two steps forward, pinched her throat with one hand, and asked in a low voice, "What would you say? Why did you do this?"

If Zhang Qilan did have a crush on Chu Liuchen, Chu Liuyue thought that he would kill her so as not to embarrass himself, even if Prime Minister Zhang intervened.

"Your... Your Highness, don't listen to him. I don't like ... Prince Chen... You are ... the only one..." Zhang Qilan cried and felt so wrong. She took action to hurt Shao Wanru wasn't because of Chu Liuchen at all. It was all because of Chu Liuyue that she did it, of course.

"Where did you get the Changxing Grass?" Chu Liuyue asked through his teeth.

"Changxing Grass? I have no idea what you are talking about. Your Highness, please believe me. You must believe me, please!" Zhang Qilan was still crying, but Chu Liuyue had already lost his patience.

Since Chu Liuchen had done this, it seemed to be true. Chu Liuyue would not speak for Zhang Qilan so as not to get himself into trouble. Even though Prime Minister Zhang was an important official in the court, he would probably be implicated this time. After all, the matter of the Changxing Grass was not simple, involving a great deal.

“Your Highness...” Zhang Qilan wanted to say something more, but she was mercilessly interrupted by Chu Liuyue. Chu Liuyue walked to the door and told his subordinates, “Take Princess Yue back to the mansion. I’ll go to the Palace.”

Chu Liuchen should have gone to the Palace first, so Chu Liuyue couldn’t fall behind at this time.

In Chu Liuyue’s opinion, it was none of his business, and how to deal with it depended on the Emperor. Chu Liuyue was already quite unhappy with Zhang Qilan’s dealing with Shao Wanru. Moreover, he didn’t want to get involved in it. Since what Zhang Qilan had done was confirmed, it was better not to stay with her any longer at this time, lest his father would misunderstand that he knew about it.

Did Zhang Qilan really have a crush on Chu Liuchen?

When Chu Liuchen said this, Chu Liuyue didn’t take it seriously. But now, the more he thought about it, the more possible he felt. Why not? Except for being in bad health, Chu Liuchen was always favored by many young ladies from aristocratic families before. It was possible that Zhang Qilan always had a crush on Chu Liuchen. Now that Chu Liuchen had recovered his health, she was jealous of Shao Wanru and started to deal with Shao Wanru.

Probably, that was the case.

Chu Liuyue cursed in his mind, “What a bitch! I actually misjudged her. I thought that even if she was ordinary, at least she was Prime Minister Zhang’s daughter, who was gentle and dignified. I didn’t expect that she was a slutty woman.”

Chu Liuyue had never thought he had something to do with this matter. Zhang Qilan was jealous of Chu Liuyue’s mind on Shao Wanru, pursuing but failing to get. Therefore, she tried to kill Shao Wanru.

After Chu Liuyue told someone to take Zhang Qilan away, he went straight to the Palace, ignoring Zhang Qilan’s crying. Since things had come to this extent, it was not up to him to decide whether to keep Zhang Qilan as Princess Yue or not. Now it depended on what the Emperor could find out to judge whether it was a fact or just a guess...

Chapter 1289 Prime Minister Zhang Makes Gaffes

“Your Highness, please wait!”

Chu Liuchen stood still, turned his head, and saw Prime Minister Zhang running over with sweat all over his head. Unlike his behavior usually, Prime Minister Zhang, who had always been steady, looked panicked. Prime Minister Zhang entered the Palace gate from outside, lifting a corner of his robe. Apparently, he was chasing Chu Liuchen.

Chu Liuchen thought, “It’s been delayed a lot of time in the street. If Prime Minister Zhang is well-informed, he must have known something roughly. Now he tries to stop me at the gate of the Palace.”

“Your Highness, greetings!” Prime Minister Zhang ran up to Chu Liuchen, tidied up the robe in his hand, and bowed to Chu Liuchen.

“Prime Minister Zhang, you’re welcome,” Chu Liuchen said lightly with clear eyes.

“Your Highness, I heard that something happened to Princess Chen on the street ahead. Is she all right now?” Prime Minister Zhang got his breath back, took a handkerchief out of his sleeve, wiped the sweat on his forehead slightly, and asked Prince Chen.

It seemed that Prime Minister Zhang was going to plead for mercy for his daughter. What a cunning guy! No wonder he could mingle in the officialdom for many years. He was quite skillful in asking questions. If the answer was that Shao Wanru was fine, would everything be easy to say?

“My wife is still in a coma.” Chu Liuchen put on a straight face, and his eyes immediately became cold.

When he saw Shao Wanru lying on the ground, injured, Chu Liuchen almost stopped breathing. He couldn’t imagine what he would be if he saw Shao Wanru had an incident one day! There was only one thing he was certain of, and that was to destroy everything. If she were dead, no one else could survive.

The thick dark color seemed to have invaded his eyes. Prime Minister Zhang had seen various people, but he had never seen such a vicious one. The feeling of dragging everyone into the deep dark abyss almost suffocated him.

Prime Minister Zhang took a step back involuntarily, and his expression changed slightly. Just now, he could actually feel the emotions of Chu Liuchen, which was as if an ancient fierce beast was being released and destroying everything, and his heart couldn’t help beating wildly a few times.

"Your Highness, I heard that my daughter happened to be at the scene when the incident occurred. I wonder if she was involved?" Prime Minister Zhang had been a high-ranking official for many years, so he could immediately calm down. He took a step back and cupped his hands to salute Chu Liuchen.

"The matter of Princess Yue might be complicated. I need to go to the Palace for some business now. Would you like to go with me?" Chu Liuchen squinted at Prime Minister Zhang and said.

"I happen to have something to report to His Majesty, so I'll go in with you, Your Highness," Prime Minister Zhang said.

So they went to the Imperial Study together.

Not long after they left the Palace gate, Chu Liuyue also arrived. He got off his horse and hurried into the Palace.

When Chu Liuchen and Prime Minister Zhang arrived at the Imperial Study, Derong walked out with a smile. He bowed to Chu Liuchen first and then to Prime Minister Zhang. Then he stepped aside and said with a smile, "Your Highness, the Emperor asks you to go in."

Chu Liuchen nodded and walked inside. Derong turned around and was about to catch up with Chu Liuchen, but Prime Minister Zhang reached out and pulled his sleeve.

Derong turned his head.

"Why does His Majesty ... want to meet Prince Chen alone?" Prime Minister Zhang and Derong were quite familiar with each other, so he asked.

Prime Minister Zhang thought, "Prince Chen and I came together. In this case, His Majesty often summoned us together before. Why is it different this time?" It was not like Zhang Xiang overthought, but he had to think much at such a moment.

The Emperor's health declined with each passing day. He relied more on the two Prime Ministers than on the several princes, but what did he mean now?

"Prime Minister Zhang, the affection between the Emperor and His Highness Prince Chen is beyond that between a monarch and a minister," Derong said with a smile, but his eyes were not as kind as before.

Prime Minister Zhang made gaffes now. If it were before, he would not have asked such a question. As a minister, he should not inquire about the reason for what the Emperor did. Otherwise, he would inevitably get into big trouble.

For the sake of their many years of friendship, Derong gave Prime Minister Zhang a piece of advice.

However, Derong's advice didn't work today. This matter was related to his daughter. As a father, Prime Minister Zhang was deeply troubled, and he had already panicked earlier. Therefore, he didn't get the point of what Derong meant. Instead, relying on his good relationship with Derong, Prime Minister Zhang continued, "I also have something important to report to His Majesty. Would you please inform him?"

Derong was going to leave, but he stopped when hearing what Prime Minister Zhang said. The smile on his face faded, and he said in a cold voice, "Prime Minister Zhang, say no more. I have to go serve His Majesty."

After that, Derong turned around and went in, leaving a view of his cold back to Prime Minister Zhang.

Prime Minister Zhang's face turned gloomy, and he was unhappy inwardly. He was the Prime Minister, but he was ignored by such a eunuch. This feeling made him quite uncomfortable, but he knew that he couldn't pester Derong at this moment. He had to take a few steps back and stood outside the Imperial Study quietly, waiting for the summons inside.

After a while, he heard footsteps from outside. He looked back and found that it was Chu Liuyue. Prime Minister Zhang felt relieved and greeted Prince Yue with a smile, "Your Highness."

"Father-in-law!" Seeing Prime Minister Zhang at the door, Chu Liuyue revealed a smile and greeted politely. "Why are you here?"

"I came here with His Highness Prince Chen at the Palace gate just now. His Majesty has summoned His Highness Prince Chen to the Imperial Study," Zhang Xiangyi said meaningfully.

He was just a minister, but Prince Yue was different. He was the eldest son of the Emperor, so he was much closer to the Emperor than Prince Chen, who was the nephew of the Emperor.

A hint of a smile appeared on Prime Minister Zhang's face. He didn't believe that the Emperor would treat his nephew better than his son. Everything was just a show made by the Emperor for others to see.

The Emperor was really capable, for he could make so many people believe that he doted on Prince Chen out of his heart.

On the surface, Prime Minister Zhang also believed it, and he even sighed with others together sometimes. But in his heart, he didn't believe it.

The reason why the Emperor raised Prince Chen was to prove to the world that he did not intend to seize the throne of the deceased emperor. Could anyone believe that?

"Then let's just wait." On the way to the Palace, Chu Liuyue had thought of various negative possibilities, and he also guessed that Chu Liuchen would inevitably report it to the Emperor first. Therefore, he was not surprised. Instead, he was a little more steady than Prime Minister Zhang.

"Your Highness, Prince Chen has been inside for some time. Why don't you have the eunuch report to His Majesty about your arrival?" Prime Minister Zhang was a little anxious and reminded Chu Liuyue.

"Father-in-law, no rush. I'll just wait for His Majesty to summon me." Chu Liuyue cast a glance at Prime Minister Zhang. He could tell that Prime Minister Zhang was anxious, so he hinted at Prime Minister Zhang.

"Is Qilan all right?" Prime Minister Zhang also knew that it was inappropriate to disturb before the Emperor summoned him, but he was really worried, so he couldn't help asking.

"She is okay. She has returned to the mansion," Chu Liuyue said implicitly. If it was considered a good thing not to have been injured, Zhang Qilan was indeed a lot better than Shao Wanru.

"That's good. That's good as long as she is fine. I heard some bad rumors before I came here, and I thought Prince Chen had captured Princess Yue," Prime Minister Zhang said with lingering fear on his face.

Chu Liuyue looked at Prime Minister Zhang speechlessly, thinking, "Prime Minister Zhang, who has always been calm, seems to have changed into another person today. Not only did he behave unusually, but he also came to the Palace. He even stands with me here together, waiting for His Majesty to summon him. What would Father think of me? Would he say that Prime Minister Zhang is omnipotent or me?"

"Prime Minister Zhang..." Chu Liuyue was about to remind his father-in-law again. Just then, Derong came out of the Imperial Study with a smile and bow to Chu Liuyue. "Your Highness, His Majesty summons you in."

"Thank you." Chu Liuyue stopped talking. There was a slight smile on his face. Then he nodded to Prime Minister Zhang and followed Derong into the Imperial Study.

Prime Minister Zhang tried to say something, but when he saw they had left, a trace of anxiety appeared on his face. He stamped his feet, but he did not dare to say anything more in the end.

In the Imperial Study, the Emperor's face was paler than before. Although there was sandalwood to calm the mind, the Emperor was not in better spirits. When he saw Chu Liuyue come in, his cold eyes fixed on Chu Liuyue's face.

"Greetings, Your Majesty." Chu Liuyue stepped forward carefully and bowed to the Emperor.

"Tell me what's going on with your Princess Yue? From where did she get the Changxing Grass?" The Emperor went straight to the point.

"Father, I don't know. I don't even know what she is doing there. When she went out today, she said that she was going back to Prime Minister Zhang's to visit her parents." Chu Liuyue knelt down with a thud.

"Are you saying that the matter of the Changxing Grass has nothing to do with you?" The Emperor gazed at Chu Liuyue.

"It absolutely has nothing to do with me. Father, if you don't believe me, you can send someone to investigate Zhang Qilan," Chu Liuyue said decisively. He would swear to God if needed.

Of course, even if he swore, the Emperor would not believe him. When did the royal family swear to God to distinguish the authenticity of what they said?

"I heard that Prime Minister Zhang is also here, right?" The Emperor didn't answer him but changed to another topic.

"I saw Prime Minister Zhang when I entered the Palace. Prime Minister Zhang inquired about Princess Yue just now," Chu Liuyue said. He meant to clarify that Prime Minister Zhang entered the Palace by himself, which had nothing to do with him, and he didn't contact Prime Minister Zhang.

Chu Liuchen didn't say anything. He leaned against his wide chair and listened to Chu Liuyue's explanation quietly. His eyes flickered a few times and then slowly returned to gloom. His long eyelashes fell, leaving irregular shadows on his pale face, which enabled him to look like he was resting with his eyes closed.

"The matter of the Changxing Grass is related to the Xu State..." The Emperor said slowly in a low voice. Then he tilted his head and coughed a few times. He gently wiped his mouth with a handkerchief before turning around again with a weak look. "Many things happened before, and all have something to

do with the Changxing Grass. We have been looking for spies from the Xu State.”

“Father, I really don’t know anything about the matter of the Changxing Grass. I didn’t go there until Third Brother asked me to, and it was Third Brother who told me what happened.” Hearing what the Emperor said, Chu Liuyue panicked. Chu Liuzhou had just got caught. Chu Liuyue was supposed to be very happy, but now he got into trouble. If he got involved in this matter, it would be a big deal that he couldn’t bear.

“Can we investigate it?” the Emperor asked.

“Sure. Father, please take Zhang Qilan away and interrogate her carefully,” Chu Liuyue said with a righteous face, “If it’s her problem, I will never cover her up. But if it’s not, please let her come back... After all, she is Princess Yue, my wife!”

Chapter 1290 Find Out the Truth

Chu Liuyue said in a fair and reasonable way, and even a trace of fault could not be found. Meanwhile, he looked natural and graceful, without any panic because Zhang Qilan was caught.

In this way, Chu Liuyue not only distanced himself from this matter but also pushed Zhang Qilan out.

Chu Liuchen slowly raised his eyelids and took a gloomy look at Chu Liuyue, without a word.

“Okay, then I’ll send someone to investigate the people around Zhang Qilan and take all of them away,” the Emperor said.

“It’s all up to you, Father.” Chu Liuyue nodded without any intention of disobeying. Of course, Chu Liuyue knew about the Changxing Grass, and he did have no idea where Zhang Qilan got the Changxing Grass. Was it given by Prime Minister Zhang? That was also impossible.

Anyway, it was impossible for Prime Minister Zhang to have the Changxing Grass. Even if he had it, he couldn’t have given such an important thing to Zhang Qilan and asked her to murder Shao Wanru.

The ball in the hands of the child was stained with the crumbs of Changxing Grass. Before the child was accidentally pushed out to the front of the startled horse, the servant girl by Zhang Qilan’s side had played the ball a few times with the child. Back then, it was also the child who rolled the ball to Zhang Qilan’s feet. Zhang Qilan particularly picked it up to have a look, and then gave it to her servant girl, asking her to amuse the child a few times.

When the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion came over, the servant girl had just gone upstairs. Later, the child was accidentally pushed out by someone, and the ball in his hands hit the horse in front of the carriage. The horse was startled and out of control. It ran wildly with the carriage. Shao Wanru was pulled out of the carriage by her servant girls. The carriage hit the wall and broke into pieces...

Everything pointed to Zhang Qilan, and even when the guards from Prince Chen's Mansion took immediate action to block that section of the street, Zhang Qilan was about to quietly leave from the back door with her servant girl.

Then the crumbs of Changxing Grass on the ball were found out.

The kind of crumbs had no smell and were tiny. If it had been rolled a few more times, it might have been gone. That was to say, if Chu Liuchen had arrived there a little bit later back then, the matter would have been over just like that. The child would not have been found, the ball would have been gone, and Zhang Qilan would not have been on the scene...

The Emperor did not summon Prime Minister Zhang until Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuchen left. By the time Prime Minister Zhang walked out of the door of the Imperial Study, he was in very low spirits.

The Emperor sent guards to Prince Yue's Mansion to detain all the people around Zhang Qilan. Instead of taking them out, the guards interrogated those people outside the garden. The screams and the sound of sticks hitting on their bodies could be heard clearly in the room.

In the room, Zhang Qilan sat quietly. She lowered her head and clenched the handkerchief in her hand. The people outside were all her trusted subordinates who had followed her to come into Prince Yue's Mansion from Prime Minister Zhang's Mansion when she got married.

Hearing the screams, she felt like the sticks hit on her body, tearing her heart. Suddenly, tears were full in her eyes and then rolled down her cheeks.

One drop after another, tears kept sliding down!

Just then, the beaded curtain was lifted, and Chu Liuyue strode in with a gloomy face. He glanced at Zhang Qilan and sat on the chair beside her. "Zhang Qilan, you are so bold that you dare to do such a thing!"

"Why wouldn't I dare?" Zhang Qilan said without looking up.

“Don’t you think for me or your father?” The veins on Chu Liuyue’s forehead throbbed. No matter how far he tried to distance himself from her, he couldn’t cut off all ties with Zhang Qilan. As everyone knew, Zhang Qilan was his wife.

“Have you thought for me, Your Highness?” Zhang Qilan suddenly raised her head and looked at Chu Liuyue excitedly.

“If I haven’t, do you think you can still be sitting here safe and sound? The status of Princess Yue has saved you a lot of punishment,” Chu Liuyue said sarcastically.

“Really? If you think for me, you won’t just give me the position of Princess, but keep an ambiguous relationship with another woman, entangling with her!” Zhang Qilan suddenly screamed emotionally and glared at Chu Liuyue. At this point, she didn’t think too much and no longer cared about what Chu Liuyue thought.

Chu Liuyue was startled by Zhang Qilan’s crazy look, and then a strong disgust appeared on his face. “Even if I am entangled with other women, it’s better than a crazy woman like you.”

“It doesn’t matter if this woman is someone else, but she is your third brother’s wife!” Zhang Qilan shouted with tears falling drop by drop. When her voice faded, she murmured, “She is your sister-in-law!”

“What nonsense are you talking about?” Chu Liuyue stood up angrily and shouted sternly.

“See, I was right. You feel guilty, aren’t you? Who would have thought that Your Highness Prince Yue has always wanted to marry Princess Chen? Others might not have thought of it, and even Prince Chen didn’t either. If he knows that his wife has an ambiguous relationship with you, will he be crazier than me?” Zhang Qilan cried hard. At present, she had no hope, and she didn’t want to hide her thoughts anymore.

“Zhang Qilan, do you want to die?” Chu Liuyue glared at Zhang Qilan fiercely with a gloomy face, and his eyes flashed with killing intent.

But even so, Zhang Qilan could see clearly, thinking, “He wants to kill me? He wants to kill me!” This realization almost made her collapse in an instant.

“So not only does he care about me, but he also wants to kill me.

“Is it just because I say right about his secret?

“As Princess Yue, how pathetic I am! I am just a decoration placed in this position. What is the daughter-in-law of the eldest son of the Emperor? What is an extremely noble status? As a matter of fact, I am just a decoration.”

“She is your sister-in-law! You... Do you have any ethics?” Zhang Qilan sobbed on the table.

“Nonsense.” Seeing that Zhang Qilan was no longer shouting, Chu Liuyue looked a little better. He sat down again, looked at Zhang Qilan coldly, and said, “You went crazy, but don’t implicate me and your father. Prime Minister Zhang was reprimanded by my father, and he just came out of the Palace.”

“Chu Liuyue, do you ... do you really like her?” Zhang Qilan continued to ask as if she didn’t hear what Chu Liuyue had said.

“I have an innocent relationship with any woman...”

“Innocent? Then why did you go to plead with Her Highness the Empress to allow you to marry her back then? Later, she got married, and a large number of women, who looked similar to her, entered the mansion. Some of them had similar eyes to hers, some had a similar shape of mouth to hers, and some had a similar back to hers. Your Highness, I am your wife. As Princess Yue, I can’t bear it.”

Zhang Qilan had seen everything with her own eyes and confirmed it again and again. Every new concubine looked a little like Shao Wanru. That was why they were favored by Prince Yue, while she was the one who was out of favor.

Zhang Qilan choked with sobs.

Chu Liuyue looked very cold, and his gloomy eyes fell on Zhang Qilan. After a long while, he said, “So that’s why you wanted to murder her?”

“Except for this, I have no other reasons to deal with her!” Zhang Qilan cried. There seemed to be a scene appearing in her sight. Back then, they were besties and close to each other. Usually, they pulled Luo Xiaowan to hang out. Zhang Qilan didn’t know when she began to look at Shao Wanru with disgust in her eyes.

Was it when she was confirmed to be Princess Yue? It didn’t seem to be. There should still be some time...

Since when were there only those who spoke ill of Shao Wanru around her? Zhang Qilan didn’t know. She only remembered that everyone around her seemed to be talking about Chu Liuyue and Shao Wanru. Each matter found

out showed that Chu Liuyue had an ambiguous relationship with Shao Wanru. Zhang Qilan couldn't bear it, and she really couldn't bear it anymore.

"You're crazy. Only with these reasons, you think that she and I..." Chu Liuyue said, "Even if I have any thoughts about her, she and I have nothing to each other. You have a vicious heart, and you murdered people because of jealousy. However, you take such an excuse to make stories. You're really stupid. You don't even realize that you've fallen into the trap set by Infanta Yuan'an."

"You... Do you have a crush on her?" Zhang Qilan looked up and asked in a trembling voice. This was the most important sentence she had heard.

"Yes, I have some thoughts about her, but what does it have to do with her? She doesn't know anything. You did such a thing just because I have a little crush on her. Zhang Qilan, if I hadn't married a vicious woman like you back then, I wouldn't have been implicated by you now."

Chu Liuyue said with his cold gaze falling on her, "If you succeed this time, at least no one will find out about you. But you did it and let others find out about it. You deserve it. The position of Princess Yue can only be left to a virtuous woman. You don't deserve it! If you wish to survive, you need to make it clear how Infanta Yuan'an deceived you. Don't get your father and I involved in this matter."

After saying that, Chu Liuyue turned around and left. He came here to warn Zhang Qilan not to get him involved in this matter. Chu Liuzhou had an accident, and now it was his chance to make a big name for himself. If it was frustrated because of Zhang Qilan, Chu Liuyue would not spare Zhang Qilan even if she died.

The curtain fell heavily, and the bead strings flew in all directions, reflecting bits of crystal light. In the end, the beads slipped down one by one, and then all connected together, which was very beautiful. Looking at the beaded shadows in a daze, Zhang Qilan suddenly laughed.

She laughed so crazily that she bent over and almost be ill-mannered with her hands on her belly.

She laughed so hard that her tears could not stop streaming down.

Why did she firmly believe that Shao Wanru had an affair with Chu Liuyue like crazy? How could Chu Liuyue have an affair? What he cared about most was himself. He could fall in love with a woman secretly. However, once this woman stood in his way, he would not hesitate to kill her to clear the way for himself.

She was wrong. She was totally wrong!

In fact, it was not only because Infanta Yuan'an had misled her, but also because of her own idea. If she hadn't thought so, she wouldn't have thought that Infanta Yuan'an's words were right, and she wouldn't have been crazily trying to kill Shao Wanru so that Shao Wanru could never compete with her for Chu Liuyue.

But why would Shao Wanru fight over it?

Apparently, Shao Wanru had a better Prince Chen. On that day, Prince Chen knelt in the dust and held Shao Wanru tightly in his arms. This scene appeared in Zhang Qilan's mind again. Such a noble and elegant man was so panicked like a lost child, and later, his despair was gloomy and terrifying. If Shao Wanru died, Zhang Qilan knew that she would have no chance to survive at that moment.

Back then, Zhang Qilan was already scared and regretful. And now, she saw it clearly, and she was desperate. Her body slid down heavily...