

Medical Princess 101

Chapter 101 The Suppressed Duo

Yujie and Qing Yue glanced at each other, and they didn't understand!

"So she can handle everything when she has the opportunity to go out!" Qin Wanru smiled slightly, and her mouth curved.

The harder it was to go out, the more she really wanted to get all the things done. The big things needed Nanny Zhou to deal with, but the small things could let other little servants handle. Nanny Zhou couldn't go out, but those little servants could.

Informing a person or finding a seller could be done by little servants!

When she heard that Madam Di wanted to send her back to her hometown, Madam Di must want to sell all the shops she had. Of course, she would also ask for help from her own family in the capital city.

"Yes, miss. I'll go now!" Qin Wanru's words immediately reminded Yujie, who smiled, respectfully saluted, and looked at Qin Wanru with admiration before she turned to find Nanny Duan.

Although the miss was younger than her, the miss was smart and could think of anything.

"Wait a minute. Qing Yue, after you go to Nanny Duan tell her, go back to the yard. I will go out with Yujie! Also, give Yujie a few purses which are used for rewarding people. We will use it later!" Qin Wanru suddenly called her.

Compared with Yujie, Qing Yue was more familiar with the people in the mansion.

The purses which were used to reward people were filled with silver. She suddenly remembered an important thing, which must be done before leaving Jiangzhou.

This was a big help for her in the future!

Calculating the time, that person should be in Jiangzhou right now!

"Miss, be careful then!" Qing Yue nodded and took a few purses out of her sleeve and handed it to Yujie. She said something again before leaving.

"Yujie, can you go up to this wall?" Qin Wanru looked up at the high wall around while narrowing her eyes. She left Yujie not just because Qing Yue was familiar with the people in the mansion.

"This... I am afraid it is a little difficult. Although I have great strength, I am afraid I can't jump up to the wall!" Yujie looked up at the wall and estimated the height. She felt that it was very difficult for her to do that.

"What if the swing flies over, can you jump up then?" Qin Wanru touched her hand which was completely recovered. No more accidents!

"Miss, what is your plan?" Yujie looked at the wall and then Qin Wanru, and asked worriedly. Mingqiu Nun asked her to take care of the miss, and she should not let anything happen to the miss. Those big misses were quiet and steady. Why would she want to get up to the wall?

"I just want to go out shopping, and I don't want people in the mansion to know." Qin Wanru looked like it's taken for granted. She had done this kind of things many times, and it was easy for her to say this.

"Is it dangerous?" Yujie was still worried.

"It won't be dangerous. I'll just hang around. Even if someone finds me, Qing Yue knows how to deal with it." Qin Wanru laughed.

Qing Yue had been with her for so long and had long understood her thoughts, so Qing Yue just told her to be careful.

"Miss, how will you up?" Yujie was also smart enough to know that Qin Wanru had done such things many times in the past. She thought it should not be dangerous. She looked at the high wall and said.

"I just jump up when the swing goes up!" Qin Wanru raised her head and pointed at the top of the wall.

Yujie said after estimating the height, "If miss can go up, I can also go up like you!"

"That's not true. Qing Yue can't go up with my method!" Qin Wanru remembered the awkward look of Qing Yue in the past and laughed.

"If the miss can, I definitely can!" Yujie said with certainty.

"Okay, then watch me!" The smile on Qin Wanru's face was getting brighter and brighter. "You stand behind first!"

Yujie listened and retreated. After a certain distance from the swing frame, Qin Wanru began to swing the swing. She tramped the tree every time in the same position, and she swung higher and higher.

At this time, her attention was all on the swing's frame. However, she did not pay attention to the teenager standing outside the wall. The teenager looked at her body which was a bit higher than the wall. She swung really high!

The last time she swung to the same position, Qin Wanru loosed her hand and jumped to the top of the wall, grabbing the tile of the wall. Her body shook a bit, which scared the teenager outside the wall and Yujie inside the wall as they both rushed to the wall in fear that she would accidentally fall down.

Qin Wanru relaxed and stabilized her body. She turned her head and looked inside, whispering, "Yujie, can you do it?"

Seeing that Qin Wanru was stable, Yujie was relaxed and nodded. "Miss, you can rest assured that I can!"

Although she hadn't done this, she saw what Qin Wanru did and thought it was not difficult. She was more flexible than average people and had great strength.

Sitting on the swing, she pulled the fiber rope above and felt it. She then looked up at Qin Wanru, who was still on the high wall. "Miss, you go down first or move aside. I'm afraid to hit you later!"

"Okay, then wait a minute and let me go down first!" Qin Wanru looked around and thought it was safer to go down.

She took a few steps aside to the trunk that stretched out the wall. She held the branch carefully and slid down.

"I saw it for the first time that a big miss went over a wall and climbed a tree. Good job. Well done!" Before she landed, she heard someone talking.

Qin Wanru was startled and almost fell from the tree. She calmed down and slowly slid down. She turned her head, and her unfriendly eyes fell on a little boy who was leaning against the wall with a face of bystander.

Although the young boy still had a grass in his mouth, his luxury clothes and his extravagance showed that he was not an ordinary people.

Behind him was a little servant who looked the same age as the young boy. At this time, he looked and smiled at Qin Wanru. Like his master, he was also a bystander.

Qin Wanru puckered her pink and tender lips. She didn't know this person, but she knew that this person was not ordinary.

In her last life, she had seen some young masters. But the one in front of her seemed to be born with extravagance. He definitely was not a young master from a normal family.

"Who are you?" Under the long eyelashes, a pair of big black eyes looked at the teenager who suddenly appeared in front of her with alert.

"How are you not afraid? Why don't you fall off the tree? I have already made the stance to pick you up!" The young boy looked up at the tree aside Qin Wanru and looked at Qin Wanru. He sighed and looked as if it's a huge pity that Qin Wanru didn't fall down and let him catch her!

"Who are you?" Qin Wanru was not happy.

"Who are you then? Second Miss of Ningyuan Army General's Mansion?" The young boy tilted his head and did not answer her. Instead, he sized her up curiously.

It's not just because she turned over the wall, and he had never seen big misses in other families doing "heroic" things such as climbing a tree. She also looked good at such a young age. What kind of beauty would she become when she grew up?

It was a little too far before, and he didn't see her clearly. At this time, he found out that this beautiful girl in front of him was one of a kind. The pink and cherry-like lips and the jade-like skin were just touching. Even if it was just a girl's look, it was amazing.

"What's your business?" Qin Wanru's eyes calmed down, and the long eyelashes flicked twice.

"Just watching you turning over the wall here. I'm curious!" The young boy raised his head, threw the grass in his hand, and strode over.

Qin Wanru did not know what he was going to do and carefully retreated.

He went under the tree, reached out his hands and hugged the trunk. After trying two times, he moved his legs and climbed up swiftly. After getting the top of the wall, he turned back and sat on the wall

proudly. He said to Qin Wanru below, "What do you think? Awesome, right? When it comes to climbing trees, none is better than me!"

When he hadn't finished boasting himself, he felt that his back was hit by something heavily. He could not help but fall down. Xiao Liuzi rushed over and tried to catch him.

Xiao Liuzi moved swiftly, and the boy also reacted quickly. He reached out his hand and grabbed a branch on the side to slow down his fall so that he would not fall too heavily.

But when he fell to the ground, he found out that it was different from what he thought. Although Xiao Liuzi was under his body, he couldn't get up for a moment.

The young boy also felt very embarrassed in front of such a beauty.

He tried hard to hold himself up with his hands when he was heavily pressed by something. He had just held up a bit and was actually pressed down again. Xiao Liuzi, who was like the flesh pad below, groaned heavily and wailed, "Master... Please don't move now. If you press me again, my body would be gone!"

Qin Wanru looked at this in shock. Three people stacked up badly because of the fall. Then she saw that Yujie struggled to get up with hands supporting her waist, and the two faces below looked twisted. She could not help laughing.

The suddenness of this incident was really surprising. How could the timing be so wonderful when Yujie jumped on the wall!

"Yujie... You... are you okay?" Qin Wanru laughed and went forward to help supporting Yujie who stood up from the young boy.

"I'm okay... Um... Who are these two? Why are they so stupid and hit under my back?!" Yujie moved her waist and found that she was not hurt at all. When she was relieved, she looked at the duo who was just pressed under her body. She also saw their twisted faces and could not stop laughing.

Felling the weight on his body became light and hearing what Yujie said, the young boy understood the situation. It turned out that he was used as a flesh pad. No wonder he couldn't get up before. He tried hard to get up with his hands on the waist, and then gnashed his teeth to pull up Xiao Liuzi on the ground.

Xiao Liuzi stood up and twisted his body. He found that it was just some pain, and there was no other injury. Then he hurriedly patted the dust on the young boy's clothes and said, "Master, are you okay?"

"I'm fine!" The young boy touched his waist where withstood the most pressure before. Fortunately, he could move, and it didn't matter at the moment and looked fine.

"Really? Master, do you want to go back and let the accompanying doctor check you out? If there really is a problem, it's not good!" Xiao Liuzi said worriedly.

"Don't be afraid. It's not that I have not fallen before. That girl is even fine, and what problem do I have!" Xiao Liuzi said such things in front of two girls, so the young boy felt awkward. He patted his clothes and pushed Xiao Liuzi away with some anger. He then looked at the person standing behind him.

Then, he was immediately stunned!

Chapter 102 The Delicate Embroidery and Toggle-And-Loop Button

"Where are they? It is only a moment before I hear the laughter of both of them. Where did they go in just a moment?"

"Eunuch Liu, where are they?" The little boy blinked his eyes and asked.

Eunuch Liu also turned, looked around and said confusedly. "They... They are gone!"

"Go to find them!" The little boy trod with force and turned to run forward. It was only a moment. He believed that he could catch up with them.

Seeing his master run out, Eunuch Liu also hurried to follow.

After the two men went away, Qin Wanru appeared and clapped her hands with Yujie.

In fact, they were just in the corner of the parapet. The neighbor seemed to be a rich family. At first sight, the gap between the two households looked very small and was hardly available to hide people. However, Qin Wanru, who once saw Qi Baiyu hiding there, knew that the gap only looked small but could really hide someone!

After avoiding the strange master and servant, Qin Wanru left in the opposite direction, and then naturally went around the busiest street in Jiangzhou Prefecture.

There were a lot of people in the street. The shops on both sides seemed to be doing excellent business, but Qin Wanru didn't stop but went straight to a satin store.

The satin store was very large. Yujie looked at it and thought it might be the largest satin store in Jiangzhou Prefecture. It was larger than the ones she saw just now. There were many people entering and leaving the store, and most of them were females.

After entering into the satin store, Qin Wanru began to select. There were various beautiful silks and satins, which were dazzling at first glance.

Instead of staying at the door of the store, Qin Wanru went inside. There was also a tailor shop. It was convenient for people here to select material and get tailor-made clothes.

Qin Wanru stood at the material in front of the tailor shop.

A shop-boy ran out at once. Seeing Qin Wanru, he guessed that she was either rich or respectable. He respectfully said, "What would you like, Miss. Would you like to take your measurements first before selecting the material?"

Qin Wanru picking up a few pieces of material and took a look. She seemed to be not satisfied with them. She said critically, "Are all your materials here?"

"Miss, if you don't like the material here, you could go upstairs. There are something like embroidery and toggle-and-loop buttons of the clothes upstairs. If you like, you could also choose some." The shop-boy reached out and pointed to the stairway, which was at the end of the room and looked not very big.

"Is there enough good cloth upstairs? Or they just look like these materials? Qin Wanru put down the material in disgust and raised her head proudly. She looked around the store. Obviously, she was not satisfied with all the material at present.

"My Miss only buys exquisite materials and doesn't care about money!" Yujie astutely continued saying and looked at the material around her in disgust.

So, she was a potential customer.

The shop-boy laughed happily and pointed to the stairs. He directed them vigorously. "Miss, this way, please. There must be some material you like. Please go up and have a look!"

As he spoke, he first took a few steps up, and then turned back respectfully, stretching out his hand politely. He nodded and bent down with a smile!

Qin Wanru nodded and then went upstairs with Yujie.

The shop-boy led them to a room and called a responsible supervisor on the second floor. Since she was a potential customer, he could not treat her rudely.

Therefore, at this time, the one who served Qin Wanru was no longer a shop-boy!

There was indeed a lot of material upstairs, which were placed differently from those pieces of material piled casually downstairs. Each piece of material here occupied the same room and was separated by category with delicate packaging.

In a corner, there were many accessories for ready-made clothes, including exquisite toggle-and-loop buttons and embroidery. They were very beautiful and expensive.

However, as the accessories for ready-made clothes, there were only a few which were placed on a counter in the northeast.

Because of the inconspicuousness and the high price, there were very few people in front of the counter and no one was looking at them.

Qin Wanru was standing in front of this counter right now. She asked the shop-boy beside the counter to take out some toggle-and-loop buttons and embroidery and looked at them carefully on the counter.

"Miss, this kind of button is the best here. There is no such a button in the whole Jiangzhou. Even our shop doesn't have many such buttons." The supervisor said with his hand pointing at the toggle-and-loop button which was taken out by a shop-boy at Qin Wanru's request.

There were four types of buttons: plum, orchid, bamboo, and chrysanthemum. All of them looked delicate and poetic. At first glance, she could tell that they were made by unordinary people.

"Miss, look at these kinds of embroidery. They are beautiful, aren't they? If you have such embroidery on your clothes, it will be elegant and beautiful just like the fairy's clothes in the sky.

The portrayal of the supervisor was so vivid that it was almost possible to fly to the sky!

He conveyed a feeling that their material was the best and the people who wore it must be more beautiful than fairies.

Qin Wanru smiled faintly and thought, “The supervisor is indeed a glib talker whose praise can make people fly.”

“How many toggle-and-loop buttons do you have? And this kind of embroidery?” Qin Wanru liked these accessories taken out and asked with a smile.

“There are ten pairs of this kind of buttons. If you like, Miss...” The supervisor smiled and thought that she was indeed a potential customer. None of these things were touched and today, he could finally sell them.

“It’s not enough!” Qin Wanru shook her head.

“No... It’s not enough?” The supervisor was stunned for a while. Each kind had ten pairs, and four kinds meant forty pairs. She really wanted to use these buttons until she was old!

“Are there more buttons?” Qin Wanru asked softly.

“This... I’m afraid it’s going to take some time!” The supervisor said with embarrassment.

“Why? I also want these kinds of embroidery. They are beautiful! How many do you have?” Similarly, there were four patterns of embroidery, including plum, orchid, bamboo, and chrysanthemum, which had different charm.

“This... I’m afraid that’s all here. If you want them all, you can take them, but we don’t have more.” The supervisor said with hesitation. The embroidery was different from the toggle-and-loop button and it took a lot of time for each piece.

Yujie said after Qin Wanru, “Can you make more embroidery? My Miss likes them, and money is not a problem!”

Even the girl servant was ostentatious, the lady was indeed rich.

The supervisor felt embarrassed. He looked at the master and servant who were “rich and generous” and told the truth. “These embroidery items and toggle-and-loop buttons are made by an embroidered maid. But the contract between the embroidered maid and our shop will expire soon. We have made it clear that we will not renew it!”

Qin Wanru looked at Yujie who nodded while taking out two wallets from her sleeve and handed to the supervisor. “Tell us about the embroidered maid. Why are you going to stop hiring such an excellent embroidered maid?”

Having received two wallets, the supervisor touched them and felt relieved. He looked around and found no one was around before he said in a low voice, “She can make delicate toggle-and-loop buttons, but the price is too high and few people buy it. So our shopkeeper doesn’t think it’s cost-effective, so we fired her. It happened recently!”

Qin Wanru asked, “Where does she live?”

Because of the two wallets, the supervisor was very active and didn’t feel that Qin Wanru’s question was rude. “She lives at the corner of Tangdong Street. You can ask around. Many people know Madame Dong, who made toggle-and-loop button and embroidery!”

He was talking about the store's secrets, so his voice became lower and lower.

Fortunately, he was a supervisor. If he were a shop-boy in the store, he would know nothing.

"Thank you very much!" Seeing that Qin Wanru was about to turn around and leave, Yujie said with a smile and followed Qin Wanru downstairs.

Qin Wanru knew Tangdong Street, which could be found after turning two intersections. The two people walked and asked an old woman in a grocery store at a turning who directed them the way.

They turned into a small alley.

The alley was not wide, and the ground was covered with scattered bluestone slabs. Several places had been broken. There were several small courtyards on both sides with the doors open. Many people came in and out. It could be seen that several families were living together, and the environment looked not good at all.

Fortunately, Madame Dong lived in a small separate courtyard at the entrance of the alley. After asking passers-by, Qin Wanru was sure and Yujie went forward to knock at the door.

They waited a long time before someone opened the door. A middle-aged, thin woman was surprised to see a lady in beautiful clothes standing outside the door.

"Is this Madame Dong's house, please?" Yujie came forward to greet with a smile.

"Yes, I am. What can I help you, young lady?" Madame Dong stopped at the door and looked at Qin Wanru. She was not sure who the young lady was, but she was sure that she had never seen her before. Otherwise, she could not have forgotten such an excellent face.

"Could we talk inside?" Qin Wanru smiled slightly and said softly.

Madame Dong looked at them again and did not find malice on their faces. Then she let them in and closed the door of the courtyard.

The courtyard was very small, with three bungalows, and it was full of clutter which looked a bit dilapidated.

Madame Dong led them into the room. There were a table and a few benches at the front door. Another table near the window with some unfinished embroidery, cloth for buttons, and brackets on it. They looked undone and were piled up in disorder.

"Miss, sit down, please. It is a little humble here. Please forgive that!" Madame Dong invited Qin Wanru to sit down, picked up a teapot with a broken corner on the table, and poured Qin Wanru a bowl of tepid water.

The water was put in a large porcelain bowl and she handed it to Qin Wanru!

"Mom, is there a guest? Who is it?" Suddenly, a woman's voice came from the right compartment who sounded surprised.

Half of the curtain which was made by figured cloth was flipped and a girl came out of it!

Chapter 103 Conditions Are Agreed and Everything Is Ready

A 17-or 18-year-old lady stood at the door with a somewhat delicate appearance. She was shocked to see Qin Wanru in the room. She had heard her voice and wanted to help serve her. To her surprise, she didn't expect to see such a young lady.

"This is my daughter Dong Xiuer!" Madame Dong saw her daughter come out and said. Then she asked Qin Wanru, "Excuse me, lady, who are you..."

She still had no idea of Qin Wanru's identity.

Yujie saw Qin Wanru nod and before she stepped forward and answered, "She is the Second Miss of the Ningyuan Army General's Mansion."

"Miss Qin?" Madame Dong said uneasily, while Dong Xiuer looked up and down at Qin Wanru with curiosity. There was such a furor in the Ningyuan Army General's Mansion lately.

Qin Wanru smiled slightly and said frankly, "Yes!"

"I don't know why Miss Qin visits me." Madame Dong did not think that she had anything to do with the Ningyuan Army General's Mansion and she had never seen the Second Miss Qin before. So, she was even more confused.

"I do have something to do with you. I heard that Madame Dong rescinded your contract with the store before." Qin Wanru asked directly.

"Yes, I did!" Madame Dong said after a silence.

"Would Madame Dong like to sign a contract with me?" Qin Wanru smiled. She had checked the time. Madame Dong and her daughter should stay in Jiangzhou for some time in the last lifetime before they went to the capital city in the end. If they went there at this time, which was at least two or three years earlier than the previous life!

"Does Second Miss Qin open a clothing store?" Looking up and down at Qin Wanru who seemed to be a child, Madame Dong felt incredible.

"I am going to, so I want to employ you as my shopkeeper. Do you agree?" Qin Wanru smiled slightly and her meaning was simple.

In fact, it was hard to believe that she was such a young lady who could open a shop on her own initiative, but her identity was true, and the name of Ningyuan Army General's Mansion was quite prestigious.

"You mean you want me to help you?" Madame Dong was still hesitant. The childish lady wanted to open a shop on her own initiative. What did she know? Would she know nothing and make decisions arbitrarily? Would she mess the shop and blame her for everything?

She couldn't expect a child who hadn't grown up yet, to be very sensible. What's more, she was the favored miss in the General's Mansion.

It would be good if she was not willful or outrageous!

"Yes, all the business in the shop will be entrusted to Madame Dong. You can also buy shares with your skill." Qin Wanru said with a slight smile. She blinked her eyes and raised her delicate and pink face, with a calm and decent look, which did not conform to her childish appearance.

Looking at her bright and peaceful eyes, Madame Dong could not help but believe in the Second Miss Qin.

"Mom, please promise her. It seems that Second Miss Qin really wants to open a shop!" Dong Xiuer did not think a lot. She was young and more candid. Looking at Qin Wanru, she felt that the young lady was cordial, who not only looked beautiful but also seemed to have a good temper. She should be sober.

She was much better than those older ladies who were fragile and still pretended to know.

Madame Dong's former owner also had a young daughter, who often messed the things in the shop, and enjoyed commanding people like knowing the business. At last, she arrogantly scolded the people in the shop as if she was very capable.

She was just a daughter of a businessman and could be so proud, not to mention the miss of an official family!

But the Second Miss Qin before her eyes looked incredibly mature.

"Fine!" Since her daughter had agreed and she was thinking of finding a job originally. Her contract would be terminated, and she had to find something to do.

"Madame Dong, I'd like to invite you to the capital city with me. I want to open a clothing store in the capital city." Qin Wanru said with a gentle smile and her eyes were peaceful.

"You want to open a shop in the capital?" Before Madame Dong said anything, Dong Xiuer became excited. Her eyes lit up immediately, and her voice enlarged unconsciously.

Ordinary people had not been told that the Ningyuan Army General was going to leave Jiangzhou.

"Yes, my Miss is going to follow our general to the capital. We are sorting things out and leave soon!" Yujie said methodically.

"Mom, we can go to the capital city. We can go to the capital city!" Dong Xiuer turned to Madame Dong with an exciting smile and red eyes.

Madame Dong lowered her head as if she was considering silently.

Qin Wanru gracefully picked up the big porcelain bowl and took a sip of water. She did it naturally and elegantly, without any grievance or discomfort as if she was drinking tea brewed from the first-class tea-leaf.

The soft sunshine sprinkled on her face from the window, which made people peaceful.

It was unknown when Madame Dong raised her head. Seeing Qin Wanru put down the porcelain bowl, she nodded with determination. "Second Miss Qin, I promise you."

“Well, we will leave recently. You can get all your things done. Five days later, I will let Yujie take you into the mansion. Then we will leave for the capital city together.” Qin Wanru nodded and carefully continued saying, “Are five days enough?”

“Yes, they are enough!” Madame Dong thought for a while and answered. She didn’t have many things here. Even the courtyard she lived in was rented.

Qin Wanru stood up and looked at Yujie who took out three wallets from her cuff. They were all the wallets that Qingfeng gave her.

Qin Wanru took over the wallets and put them on the table personally. “The money is for Madame Dong to settle down your staff. When you come to the mansion, I’ll make negotiate payment. You can be assured that I will pay you well. As for the shares, I am making it clear to you first. I will divide the shop into 100 shares, and you can get five shares by craftsmanship!”

It would be satisfying that she could get a share through becoming a shareholder by craftsmanship. More so, it was a shop in the capital city.

Not to mention how big the store would be, even in the corner, it was also in the capital city. Taking rent and purchase cost into account, she couldn’t open a store without 10,000 taels of silver. So, five shares were equivalent to 500 taels of silver. Madame Dong used to make a few taels of silver in a month, and it was impossible for her to have so much money to buy shares.

Madame Dong never thought that she could obtain 5% of the shares. When she saw the wallets Qin Wanru put on the table personally, she felt her sincerity.

“Second Miss, you can rest assured that I will not let you lose money!” Madame Dong was touched by her. She had been desperate for going to the capital city since she could not have enough money to support them. She didn’t expect that she not only was able to go to the capital city but also got such luck. So, she was very grateful to Qin Wanru.

As the matter had been settled, Qin Wanru took Yujie to leave. Dong Xiuer and Dong Madame accompanied them to the door. When Dong Xiuer walked, Yujie found that one of her legs was abnormal and she was slightly lame. Yujie did not know that it was congenital or recently injured.

But since Qin Wanru did not ask, she politely pretended not to see it.

After coming out of Madame Dong’s house and leaving the alley, Qin Wanru felt really tired. She looked around, trying to find a place to rest when she saw a teahouse opposite.

“Miss, shall we go up and have a rest?” Yujie found she was tired at first glance, so she looked at the teahouse opposite and suggested.

“Good!” Qin Wanru nodded and replied.

They entered the teahouse one after the other. A waiter came out to welcome them. When he saw a young lady come with her girl servant, he directed them to the second floor. There were many private rooms on the second floor. They were very suitable for those young ladies to have a rest and see the street view.

The waiter took them into a small private room with windows. He lifted the window slightly, and the warm and bright sunshine shone to the table next to the wall.

After they ordered tea, the waiter walked out. Soon he brought refreshments and a pot of brewed tea.

Looking at Yujie standing next to her, Qin Wanru said, "Yujie, sit down. There's nobody now!"

"Miss, I'm not tired. In the course of staying in Jingxin Monastery, when I was busy, I ran around all day long and had no time to stand, not to mention to sit!" Yujie shook her head. She really didn't care about it. When it was busy in Jingxin Monastery, she had to help, picking up things and moving things. She was used to it.

She really didn't feel tired after such a short walk!

"Well. Miss, I remember that I have been here before. There is also a pastry shop nearby. It is said that the pastries there are the most delicious in Jiangzhou. Would you like to try them, Miss?" Yujie looked out of the window, thinking of the scenes she visited in Jiangzhou, and her eyes suddenly lit up.

Seeing Yujie's eyes full of desire, Qin Wanru laughed. Knowing that she was the one who wanted to eat, Qin Wanru nodded instantly. "Okay, go to buy some delicious pastries. I'll have a try!"

"OK!" Yujie said happily, then turned around and went out. When she came to the door, she suddenly hesitated again. "Miss, if I leave at this time, is it all right?"

She worried that someone would offend Qin Wanru.

"It's okay. It's nearby. It won't take much time!" Qin Wanru said casually.

"Well, I will come back quickly!" Yujie thought she was right. It wouldn't take much time before she returned. It looked very quiet here!

After thinking for a while, she went out of the door. After she walked outside, she closed the door especially. Then she turned to the stairs and hurried to buy pastries.

Several guests came up downstairs and brushed past her when she heard a surprising sound, but she didn't care. It was the first time she went out after resuming secular life. No one could possibly know her.

However, the sound was not because of her!

Chapter 104 She Was So Bold

"What's wrong? You met someone?" the young man with a cold face asked without stopping.

"I seemed to see someone I know!" The quirky boy, who was younger than the man, stared at the room upstairs. If he was right, the girl came out from that room.

The cold-faced boy didn't care about what he just said.

The waiter continued to take them to their private room, but when they just walked past Qin Wanru's room, the younger boy suddenly opened the door of the closed room.

The grim-faced boy stopped unpleasantly and rebuked him in a low voice, "Stop it."

"Big brother, I met a friend! Let's share a table with her!" The younger boy was not so fastidious, pointing at the room inside.

In the private room, Qin Wanru was still holding a cup of tea in her hand. She was startled by the movement of the door being opened. But she quickly regained her composure. Her eyes fell on the face of the grim-faced boy, then she lightly frowned. She thought that he was familiar somehow. But she didn't know him!

When she looked at the young boy striding in recklessly, she couldn't help frowning.

"Second Miss Qin, may I share a table with you?" The little boy walked straight in before Qin Wanru had said anything. He just pulled up a chair next to her and sat down.

So, he was just asking. That didn't mean anything even if she said no.

"How can you be so rude? Come out of there, little brother!" said the young man in a cool, dignified voice. Then he glanced at the delicate face of Qin Wanru, thinking that this young lady looked like she came from a well-off family. Why didn't she have a servant by her side? Then it hit him that her maid might have just walked away because his fourth brother had seen her maid outside the room, he said he met someone he knew.

Then he moved, wanting to leave the room.

"Big brother, this is Second Miss of Ningyuan Army General's Mansion. We've met her before!" The younger boy laughed loudly.

"The second daughter of Qin Huaiyong?" The grim-faced boy stopped and thought for a while. Then he walked into the room and even sat down in the chair in front of Qin Wanru.

Qin Wanru pursed her pink lips with her big bright eyes falling on the brothers. Anyone could see that she was not in a good mood.

"Second Miss Qin, you can call me Mr. Xin. This is my eldest brother. Since we knew each other before, I think it's fine that we have some tea together." Mr. Xin spoke as if they were old friends. He didn't take himself as a stranger at all, pouring himself a cup of tea and taking a sip.

A servant standing behind the grim-faced boy came forward and poured a cup of tea for them, and then respectfully moved backward.

"Where have you been? I've been chasing you for a long time. I didn't expect you to run so fast for such a little girl like you. It's amazing. I've never seen such a lady from a well-off family who can climb walls and run so fast!"

Mr. Xin gave Qin Wanru a thumbs up and praised her.

The Capital City, Mr. Xin and the man who looked familiar in front of her. Qin Wanru was suddenly reminded of a name, then it made her blood run cold!

Mr. Xin had to be the fourth son of the emperor.

Her hand firmly holding the handkerchief was shaking slightly. Fortunately, she put her hands under the table. She had already died once and now possessed the memory of a second life. Otherwise, she would have stood up uncontrollably, turned around, and run away.

She remembered who he was.

The eldest brother was Prince Yue, Chu Liuyue, the current emperor's first prince. He was once appointed as the Prince of the East Court. But he was deposed after two years. And Chu Liuchen became the new prince. Most importantly, it was Chu Liuyue who had given the order to cut her body in half at the waist!

The child... the sixth prince, who had been left for her to take care of, died when he was put in her arms. That woman handed him to her and immediately accused her of strangling the child to death. And everyone around her claimed that the woman was telling the truth.

On that day, it was clear that he was standing on a pavilion not far away and saw everything. But he didn't help her. He said nothing and made her sacrifice her life and become the first person to be put to death through the torturous punishment of cutting the body in half at the waist. He even drugged her and made her dumb, depriving of her chance to defend herself.

At that time, she didn't understand. But after she was cut and had one breath left, she suddenly realized it. That woman was with Chu Liuyue. They strangled the child to death and needed someone to take the blame. Without that child, the only remaining bloodline of the emperor would be him. He could also use the emperor to deal with Chu Liuchen!

She was just a pawn to cover up his crime!

She felt that she was in such tremendous pain. Of course she hated him so much.

Subconsciously, she raised the cup in her hands and spilled it on Chu Liuyue's face with madness in her eyes.

The tea was not hot, because it had been in her hand for a while. But it did startle Chu Liuyue. He saw the tea coming from right above his head and wet his fastidious clothes.

"How dare you! How could you harm the prince? Kneel!" The eunuch who followed Chu Liuyue immediately yelled at her. His face turned pale. Then he hurriedly came over to help Chu Liuyue clean the tea on his head.

"Who do you think you are? Go away!" Qin Wanru pressed down her disgusted feeling and shouted back at them. She fiercely glared at Chu Liuyue with her bright eyes and wasn't frightened at all.

No wonder she felt that face was familiar. The day she saw him, he was wearing a formal crown and drooping small pearls covered up part of his face.

The room was extremely quiet. Everyone was shocked by the scene!

Then Chu Liuxin seemed to come to his senses. He suddenly laughed out loud. "Big brother, she takes you as a rogue! This girl is not just a young lady from a respectable family. She is really bold. I've seen her climb walls and trees. And she even could run away under my watch. Now she even thinks that you are a rogue. She's so funny!"

Chu Liuyue took the little handkerchief from the eunuch and wiped his face. His eyes fell on Qin Wanru's face. She had long and curly eyelashes, big eyes full of anger, a fair and pink little face with delicate features, and pink lips without any lipstick on. He had never seen a girl who was so beautiful and delicate.

He didn't look carefully at her before. Now when he took a deeper look, he was amazed by the way she looked.

But this little girl was too bold. When he thought that she even dared to spill a cup of tea on his face, his face turned cold.

"No matter where you come from, this is Jiangzhou, no one can be outrageous here!" Qin Wanru said coldly and turned around to leave. No one noticed the murderous coldness in her angry eyes.

If there was a dagger just now, Qin Wanru thought that she would stab him, regardless of anything. All the memories flashed back. She was set up and cut to death. All this hate was about to drive her crazy. She couldn't stay here anymore.

She was afraid that if she lost control of herself, there would be no excuse for her to use as a cover.

"Hey, hey, wait, this..." Chu Liuxin froze when he saw Qin Wanru run away without hesitation. He took a look at his brother, who was all wet, so he didn't chase after her.

"Big brother, this girl is really bold, but that's her only problem. Didn't you see her on the swing before? The young ladies in Jiangzhou are more interesting than those in the Capital City. There are no so many rules for them. They can just do whatever they want. That's great!"

Chu Liuxin smiled.

"The second daughter of General Qin?" Chu Liuyue raised his eyebrows and asked in a cold voice.

"Yes, she's so young. I guess she was only 10 years old. She's fun, bold and good at climbing. Bro, you didn't see that. She was so proficient when she got down from the tree. She definitely did that a lot. She is so funny!" Thinking of the scene before, Chu Liuxin laughed again.

She really surprised him back then. But today, she also startled him again!

"Let's go back," Chu Liuyue stood up and said coldly.

"Hey, I thought we decided to have tea, take a rest here, and enjoy the view of Jiangzhou..." Chu Liuxin's voice became lower and lower. Then he finally just shut up because it wasn't convenient for Chu Liuyue to stay here to drink some tea with that messy look.

"You can stay!" Chu Liuyue said, then turned around and strode away.

"You'd better hurry up to change your clothes and have a rest, bro. Be careful not to catch a cold!" Chu Liuxin was so happy when Chu Liuyue let him stay here, so he showed his concern for him and walked him out.

It was incredible that his brother could let him stay. He would be more comfortable without him by his side. But it was a pity that he didn't know where the girl was going. She must have taken him as a rogue as well.

It was fine. When General Qin came to the capital, he still got a chance to meet her. When Chu Liuxin put things this way, he was also not so anxious to see Qin Wanru.

Chu Liuyue ignored his hooting, striding downstairs with his men.

"Your Highness, should I ask someone to grab her?" a guard hurried to Chu Liuyue and said in a low voice.

"No, it's OK." Chu Liuyue shook his head.

"Right." Although the guard felt a little weird, he still moved backward.

"Miss, why did you come?" Yujie was surprised when looking at Qin Wanru. She rushed back while carrying a cake and came across Qin Wanru on the road.

"Let's go home." Qin Wanru looked behind her. No one was chasing her, she was so relieved and she sneered.

She only looked like a child now. Chu Liuyue cared so much about his reputation, so he would not do anything to her. Besides, it was them who were being impolite. And they even barged open the door of her room. With all that, he couldn't say anything if she misunderstood them and spilled water on his face.

When returning home, Qin Wanru went to Qin Huaiyong's study first, but she didn't expect that she would meet Nanny Zhou at the door of the study.

Chapter 105 Soup with Blood

"Second Miss, Second Miss!" Nanny Zhou seemed to have hovered in the door of the study for a while, then she had to break in. Her eyes flashed when she saw Qin Wanru. She quickly rushed over.

"Nanny Zhou, what's the matter?" Qin Wanru stopped and asked her.

"Miss, this... Can you help madam take it to the General? This is the soup Madam made for the General in the kitchen." As she spoke, Nanny Zhou opened the basket she was carrying. It was really a bowl of thick soup. It smelt really good.

"Can't you take it yourself?" Qin Wanru raised her head and looked at the servant who guarded the study, then asked in confusion.

"This... The servant won't let me go in, so I have to ask you for help, Miss. Madam had spent a lot of energy cooking this soup. She picked all the materials by herself. She even injured her hand cooking this soup." Nanny Zhou smiled and kept asking her for help.

"Have you found a doctor for her?" Qin Wanru was worried when she heard that, so she asked softly.

"Hmm... No, I haven't. I want to tell the General about it and then go find the doctor." Nanny Zhou suddenly avoided eye contact with Qin Wanru.

"How can you wait for this? I'll ask someone to find the doctor right away!" Qin Wanru said.

A trace of panic flashed through Nanny Zhou's eyes. She hurriedly put down the basket and waved her hands. "Second Miss, you don't need to worry about that. Now you need to take the soup. It's more important. It won't taste good if it gets cold. Please help me take it to the General."

"Madam's hand is quite urgent." Qin Wanru looked around, then saw a maid coming toward her. She told Yujie to stop her. "Go find a doctor right now to help Madam and take a look at her injury. She got hurt while cooking."

"Yes, Miss!" said the old maid.

She was so fast that Nanny Zhou couldn't get the chance to stop her. Then the nanny suddenly turned angry. She pointed at the old maid who was walking away, trying to accuse Qin Wanru. "What kind of doctor is she going to get? Miss, does she know the doctor who always takes care of Madam?"

"Didn't the Madam just lightly hurt her hand while she was cutting vegetables? Does Madam really need a doctor who always looks after her to take care of such a small wound?" Yujie blinked, asking in confusion.

That made Nanny Zhou so angry that her face turned red because of anger. But she couldn't say anything. This was not what she had planned and discussed with Madam Di.

They wanted to deliberately bring the soup with blood to the General. When he saw the soup, he would need to ask what happened. Then she could explain to the General that Madam had hurt her hand while cooking the soup, so she accidentally stained the soup. The General would definitely ask to get a doctor for her.

She could also take the opportunity to go out of the house. But now, what Qin Wanru did just ruined their plan. There was no way that she could go out now. So, of course Nanny Zhou was angry.

"How can a little maid like you know about Madam's health?" Nanny Zhou was angry, so she spoke in a cold tone. Now she lost her chance, so she would not have some kind attitude toward Qin Wanru.

"We did need a doctor to tell us Madam's condition. You should go back, Nanny Zhou. If the doctor comes, he may need someone there to tell him what happened to Madam," Qin Wanru said calmly.

Nanny Zhou took a look at Qin Wanru. She knew that it wouldn't help even if she stayed here. She snorted, picking the basket up, and left.

The servant who guarded at the door saw the scene in front of him, and he could not help laughing. Nanny Zhou did keep bothering him to let her in. And she wouldn't give up, which made him so sick. But the General had given the order earlier. He said not to let Nanny Zhou enter. Now she finally left.

"Is Father inside?" Qin Wanru walked toward him and said.

The servant hurriedly greeted her. "The General is dealing with official business inside. Does Second Miss have something to talk to him about? I'll inform him right away."

"No, it's OK. I just came back from outside and I brought some delicious cakes for my father. You can just take them in for me." Qin Wanru smiled.

Yujie got them out from her behind her, then gave the servant the cakes in her hands. The servant took them immediately.

"Father won't let Nanny Zhou go in?" Qin Wanru asked.

"The General has said to not let the servants of Madam Di come and bother him. If they really have something important to say, they can go talk to Madam Shui. Now Madam Shui is in charge of everything in the inner court," the servant replied.

So the Old Grandma had discussed it with Father. That was why Nanny Zhou did this. They made up the thing about hurting the Madam's hand.

Qin Wanru smiled slightly. It was great that they were so anxious. Once she got the chance to go out, she would definitely find the buyers for the shops and negotiate the price with them.

The price to sell a shop was quite high. So the first time she went out, she could only find the buyers and set the price, but she wouldn't be able to receive the money.

Then the second time Nanny Zhou went out, she would have to go to take the money.

When Qin Wanru came in from the Chuihua Gate, the old maid was surprised that she got out. But she had come back like this so many times, so the maid didn't take it seriously, thinking that maybe she didn't see that she went out.

Now Madam Shui and Second Miss were in power. No one would be so dumb as to come and question her.

Back in the courtyard, after freshening up, Qin Wanru sat down by the window. She took out a pile of paper and wrote down what she needed to bring to the capital this time, as well as some necessary items and medicinal materials.

There was some unique medicine that she could only find in Jiangzhou. Actually, she could also find them in the capital. But that wouldn't be so nice and suitable. So she just wanted to just bring them all to the capital this time.

When she finished, she put down the pen and dried the paper off. Then she looked over the paper again to check every detail.

"Qing Yue, please help me give this to Nanny Yu and help her pick up these things for me." Qin Wanru pointed to the papers on her left. She had these things in her yard, they just needed to help her pack it up.

"Yes, Miss!" Qing Yue nodded. She took a look and then put it away. Nanny Yu was illiterate. But Qin Wanru wasn't, so it would be better that she helped Nanny Yu to pack.

"Yujie, could you help me take a look? Do I need to add more medicine?" Qin Wanru pointed to another pile of paper. Compared with Yujie's understanding of the medicinal materials in Jiangzhou, what Qin Wanru knew was not enough, so she asked Yujie to help her.

Yujie picked up a few other pieces of paper and looked at them. "Miss, it is indeed a few more. I'll add something when I go to the pharmacy. If I see something good, I'll also buy it. Although Jiangzhou is far from the central city, it has plenty of precious medicine."

"Great!" Qin Wanru nodded her head and replied.

Over the next few days, things went well. In particular, Nanny Zhou had gone out and sold the eight shops in Madam Di's hands with great efficiency, and Madam Di stopped making any more trouble as if they were also preparing to go to the capital.

Madam Dong and her daughter also got into the house because of Qin Wanru. Qin Wanru had directly told Old Grandma that she wanted to open a shop in the capital. Although the old lady thought she was too young to open a shop, she was convinced because Shui Ruolan agreed and told her to let go.

The old lady also thought that Shui Ruolan would help Qin Wanru if she couldn't handle it. And they also needed to open some shops in the capital. Then they could also take care of Qin Wanru.

Qin Wanru was finally relieved when Madam Dong and her daughter entered the house. In her last life, the embroidery and toggle-and-loop buttons made by them were quite popular in the Capital City. The price rose again and again. Even the queens in the palace would love to use their embroidery and toggle-and-loop buttons.

This also made the ordinary tailor shop become the biggest tailor shop in the capital. Many highly custom supplies were made from this shop.

And Madam Dong also won the heart of the Empress Dowager.

But in her last life, Madam Dong didn't come to a good end. Her boss threatened her with her crippled daughter. When she entered the palace, she had to pass things unto others that she shouldn't have. In the end, both mother and daughter died.

Qin Wanru didn't know who was doing this to Madam Dong. She had already gone into the palace to paint portraits for the girls at that time. She only heard from others that Madam Dong, the Empress Dowager's most valued woman, was involved in something big and serious. And they couldn't find out the truth about why she did that. The last thing she knew was that Madam Dong and her daughter were pushed out from the palace.

What surprised her most was that when Madam Dong met her in the palace, she seemed excited and wanted to say something to her. But every time she did, someone happened to be there.

So up until when Madam Dong and her daughter died, Qin Wanru and Madam Dong had no chance to speak privately!

At that time, she vaguely felt that Madam Dong and daughter's things were not simple. It seemed to have something to do with her. Then she heard that they were from Jiangzhou. And they went to a tailor shop because they couldn't find their relatives.

Since it had something to do with herself, in this life, Qin Wanru had to strike first. When she came to the capital, she needed to take Madam Dong and her daughter with her. As for Dong Xiuer's leg, she

also saw that it was not congenital. It was when Dong Xiuer was traveling in a carriage two months ago that she was hit by another carriage and fell off the carriage and hurt herself.

Although she had been seeing doctors, she didn't recover. And the injury seemed to worsen.

Madam Dong urgently looked for many doctors. They all said that they could not do anything. But they all said that there might be doctors in the capital city who could cure her. Doctors in Jiangzhou couldn't help her at all. The doctors' words made Madam Dong and her daughter have more expectations of the capital city. But with no money in hand, they had to wait.

Qin Wanru's invitation to them was great news. Then Qin Wanru said that she could cure Dong Xiuer's injury, which made them take her as a lifesaver.

Madam Dong took Dong Xiuer's hand, kowtowing to Qin Wanru. They even decided to get to the house to serve her, but Qin Wanru refused.

If Madam Dong was only a servant, she would not be able to meet the Empress Dowager in the future, and she would not be valued by her. Qin Wanru needed someone to be valued by the Empress Dowager, someone to speak in front of her, and someone to deal with the outside world. But it could not be a servant because there were so many limits for a servant. And a servant couldn't do things that made others feel that it was not fair.

On her way to the capital, she had to be well-prepared.

Over the next few days, her life was quiet and peaceful, but then Madam Di broke that.

When Madam Di was making trouble like a madwoman, Qin Wanru was taking care of Old Grandma and treated her. With Qin Wanru by her side, the old lady's condition improved.

"Old Grandma, Madam Di took a group of people to rush to Madam Shui's courtyard!" When they were talking and laughing, a maid came in anxiously and informed the old lady.

Chapter 106 Talking Nonsense, Checking Through the Ledger!

"What's she going to do?" with a frown, Old Grandma asked unpleasantly.

"I... I don't know. Nothing can stop her! I heard that they'll fight together soon!" full of sweat, the little girl servant ran over there and said nervously.

"I'll go to have a look!" Old Grandma stood up with rage and Qin Wanru hurried to hold her up.

When they arrived at Shui Ruolan's yard, people of the two yards had already been jostling and fighting. Fortunately, although Shui Ruolan was standing under the corridor looking pale, she was fine and was protected by several girl servants and old women.

"How dare you! Everyone, stop fighting! Old Grandma is coming!" at the sight of this scene, Nanny Duan shouted.

The people of the two yards all quietly returned to their teams upon seeing Old Grandma coming here.

"Mother, mother, you must decide for your daughter-in-law. I won't mention that Shui Ruolan had had illicit sexual relations with the general before she married into our family, but she dares to rob me of my

money. That's my dowry and it's hardly justifiable to put that sum of money anywhere else. She... she dares to rob me of the money. Mother, if you don't decide for me, I'll kill myself here today!"

Madam Di rushed out from one side with her hair disheveled. Before getting close to Old Grandma, she fell to her knees and began to cry while holding Old Grandma's lap.

She looked really mad as she shouted herself hoarse.

Shui Ruolan also came over, giving a deep salute to Old Grandma. Pale as her face was, she said nothing.

Both Old Grandma and Qin Wanru knew the reason for this matter. Nanny Zhou had been out of the house today. She had to help Qin Huaiyong to stop all the money from flowing outside at the moment when entering the door. Madam Di didn't dare to create a disturbance in front of Qin Huaiyong. So, she ran to make trouble with Shui Ruolan with an air of making it serious.

"Stand up to speak. You are also a Madam of the general. Why do you have no manners?" seeing Madam Di talking nonsense, Old Grandma said coldly as her face clouded over.

"Mother, today, I would rather die here if this matter isn't clear to everyone." Madam Di was distressed. All that money was hers, how could she bring benefit to that b*tch Shui Ruolan?

"What are you talking about? Stand up, go inside, and tell me what's going on." Old Grandma didn't expect Madam Di to make trouble here because she had said something remarkably unpleasant.

"Madam, stand up first. Let's go in. What's going on? If it's unfair to you, grandmother and father will decide for you!" Qin Wanru stretched out a hand sideways to take Madam Di, trying to help her up.

Unexpectedly, Madam Di didn't want to pay any attention to her, still clinging to Old Grandma's legs.

Qin Wanru caught a glimpse of Yujie, and Yujie immediately knew what she meant. Yujie stepped forward to pry Madam Di's hands while persuading her. "Madam, don't be angry. Old Grandma is old. How can she stand it? Just listen to Young Madam. Come inside and talk!"

Although what she said was gentle, her hands were not gentle at all. With a sudden force, Yujie immediately pried Madam Di's hands away and took advantage of the opportunity to hold her.

Madam Di, who knelt on the ground toughly, was immediately pulled up by her.

Madam Di still refused to stand up, only to find that half of her body had gotten numb because Yujie pressed somewhere she was unaware of on her waist. When she got rid of Yujie's hands again, she was already in the room.

"Madam, sit down and talk, please!" Qin Wanru put Madam Di in a chair with a conciliatory look!

"Get out!" Madam Di shouted grumpily while pushing Qin Wanru off. If Qin Wanru and her girl servants hadn't meddled in it, she would have brought time with Old Grandma in the yard. She would not believe that Qin Huaiyong and Old Grandma would still stand fast when she lost her dignity to make a scene. However, she was being held into the room at that moment, she was suddenly less imposing than before.

When one decided to go the whole hog, they would fail after running out of energy. This was different from her expected plan, which made Madam Di grind her teeth in anger secretly.

Qin Wanru was pushed back two steps and nearly fell. Fortunately, Yujie responded quickly and reached out to hold her.

“What’s wrong? Can’t you talk properly? What did Zhuozhuo do to you? You treat her like this!” Black with rage, Old Grandma at the head of the table snorted coldly while placing her teacup heavily on the table.

“Mother, that’s my dowry...” Madam Di covered her face with her sleeves and stood up, ready to rush to Old Grandma and kneel.

Qin Wanru leaned back to one side, getting out of the way for Yujie. Yujie stepped forward and firmly held Madam Di, pulling her back to sit on the chair. “Madam, please take a seat!”

“B*tch!” Madam Di stretched out her hand to slap Yujie. She had restrained her fury all the time, so she directly vented her anger on a girl servant at that moment.

Yujie was beaten and fell to the ground, and she happened to fall in front of the foot of Madam Di.

“Madam Di, why did you beat Yujie? She just helped you to sit down and talk? You didn’t come here to reason to settle problems today, but to make grandmother angry?” Qin Wanru said with rage while stepping in front of Yujie and looking up at Madam Di.

The position she stood exactly got in the way of Madam Di so that Madam Di couldn’t stand up.

“Madam Di, Zhuozhuo is just a girl. She has just been single-minded to protect you, but you even don’t trust a good girl servant by her side. Why are you so cruel?” Old Grandma cursed in rage, pointing at Madam Di with her index finger.

“Madam!” Nanny Zhou pulled Madam Di’s clothes behind her, hinting that it would not work if she was so rude and unreasonable. She couldn’t even stand up, let alone make an unreasonable scene. And even if she could stand up, she was wrong to beat the kind-hearted girl servant sent by Qin Wanru!

She failed to make an unreasonable scene after several interruptions.

“Mother, please decide for your daughter-in-law. Those stores are mine. Why did the general rob me of my stores to Shui Ruolan? This was originally my dowry!”

Madam Di cried while covering her face with her hanky.

Seeing that Madam Di had run out of her energy, Qin Wanru stepped back to hold Yujie and told her to go back to apply the medicine first. Yujie shook her head, unwilling to leave at this critical time for fear that Madam Di would vent her anger on Qin Wanru.

“The stores of your dowry aren’t in the capital city? Those stores aren’t managed by our magistrate? Why do they become your dowry?” Old Grandma said coldly.

“Mother, I bought them with the money in my dowry. Why aren’t they mine? Mother, I’ve been working for the general for so many years. While in charge of the back yard of the General’s Mansion, I’m also

responsible for the daily life of so many people in the mansion. I never slack off, but why does the general forget the old one when he has a new one, and send me back to my old home?"

Madam Di cried sadly.

"Who told you to send you to your old home?" Old Grandma said with dissatisfaction. "Where did you hear it? Huaiyong is going to the capital city. Why does he send you to your old home?"

It was not easy for Madam Di to answer Old Grandma's question. The news originally came from outside, and even Nanny Zhou was uncertain about it. It didn't look plausible to her at first, but now that so many things had happened recently, she was not quite convinced. Perhaps it was Shui Ruolan, that b*tch, who urged Qin Huaiyong to send her to her old home.

"As for those stores you mentioned, I remember when we just arrived in Jiangzhou, I gave you the money to buy some stores. So, why did you pay for them by yourself?"

The repeated refutations by Old Grandma ended her crocodile tears. Madam Di wiped her tears.

"Mother, you did give me some money at that time, but it wasn't enough. I later paid out of my pocket. I was afraid that you would be worried, so I didn't tell you."

Anyway, she insisted that she also paid out of her pocket.

"How much did you pay for those stores?" Her face darkened with disbelief, Old Grandma sneered coldly. When they came to Jiangzhou, the mansion was indeed short of money. She did try to move some of the money from Madam Di, but Madam Di kept crying that she had no money.

After that, she had no choice but to sell some of the stores in her old home to raise money. But at such a moment, Madam Di had the nerve to say that she paid out of her pocket secretly.

"At least 100,000 or so! I don't remember the exact number! After that, for the turnover of funds in our mansion, I paid another sum of money out of my pocket," Madam Di replied after doing the calculations.

She had just sold those stores for about 200,000 pieces of silver. But it was indeed Old Grandma who took the money. She dared not say that all of the money was hers. Therefore, she said reluctantly that half of the money was hers.

"You invested in all stores later?" Old Grandma said coldly.

"Yes, I invested in all the stores. The business wasn't good at the previous time, so I had no choice but to invest money. Otherwise, we couldn't run those stores. Mother, you must decide for me!" Madam Di cried again while holding her hanky.

It was many years ago. Could the old woman have something on her? She would take half, if not all, of the money. And the old woman had to grant her several terms!

Thinking of this, Madam Di complacently caught an evil glimpse of Shui Ruolan. She had to get revenge on that b*tch severely.

“Madam Di, how greedy you are! You’re talking nonsense. Okay, okay, I’ll let you drop the idea forever today!” Old Grandma sneered. Had it not been for Zhuozhuo’s warning, she would not have been able to show her evidence and she could do nothing but listen to Madam Di talk nonsense.

However, there were not many stores that kept their ledgers for so many years, so they only found two stores. But these two were actually enough to prove that all Madam Di had said was sheer nonsense.

“Ruolan, take all the ledgers of these years!”

“Yes, mother!” Shui Ruolan turned her head to order Qionghua standing behind her. Qionghua called two old women to go outside. After a while, they moved a few boxes full of dust, which looked ancient.

As soon as Madam Di saw this, her facial expression greatly changed and she had a bad feeling.

“Madam Di, there are the ledgers of the store of silk goods in the west of the city. The shopkeeper was a sincere person, so the ledgers were also well organized. He hasn’t thrown them away over the years. You can see exactly how much we put in, whether we followed up, and how much profit we made. Madam Di, you’ve got a lot of profits from previous years, haven’t you?”

Chapter 107 Flogged 10 Times per Person

Madam Di panicked because there were such accounting books remaining from previous years.

“Actually, apart from the Satin Store, there are also a few stores whose shopkeepers keep the old accounting books from years ago. So when there is a situation that is hard to explain, they can check the accounts directly. Nanny Duan, open the box to let Madam have a look.”

Old Grandma lifted her eyes and spoke indifferently.

“Yes, Old Grandma.” Nanny Duan came over and reached out to open a box. She picked up an accounting book randomly and handed it to Madam Di, saying, “Madam, please check if there is a seal of you. Are there any mistakes?”

Madam Di took it involuntarily. She flipped through the pages and immediately found her seal. She staggered to her feet and almost fell down when she realized that the accounting books were not false.

“Why haven’t I ever known about these accounting books kept by the owners? What’s worse, I have never expected that the old woman should have known that I would take such a step and waited for me to step in here!” Madam Di thought.

“If you want to do some more checking, I can ask the other shopkeepers to give all their accounting books to you. When they get the journals packed in boxes, they will send them all of them to you. We can tell exactly from the records whether we have put in money again or not along with the expenses of our General’s Mansion during these years!”

Old Grandma spoke coldly, almost word by word, with her scorching eyes fixed on Madam Di’s face.

“Madam!” Nanny Zhou reached out and pulled Madam Di’s sleeves gently with an air of panic on her face.

“Mo-mother, since you don’t believe me at all, what should I check these for...” Madam Di covered her face with her handkerchief, appearing heartbroken and anguished. But she dared not wail and cry crazily like she had the first time, and her spirit faded away.

“The truth turns out to be like this. Madam Di, do you still want to say something?” Old Grandma continued to ask.

“Mother... But I have managed the backyard of General’s Mansion for so many years. Even though I have not been rewarded, I should get credit for my hard work at least! Mother, if you take all my money away, how could I live my life with my child?” Madam Di wept and wined with her head drooped down, unwilling to leave, looking so pathetic!

She was so shrewish today and created such a fracas, only to find that she had gained nothing! How could she be satisfied!

“We will use the money to purchase some stores when arriving at the capital. At that time, there will be two stores given to you.” Old Grandma said slowly, “You have your dowry stores in the capital yourself from before. Taking these into consideration, you have a lot already. Moreover, you share a portion of everything in the mansion. Should you haggle over every ounce?”

When Madam Di got married, there were several stores listed on the manuscript of her dowry. After Madam Di left the capital with Qin Huaiyong, the stores were left in the capital and kept by the mansion of Duke Yong. Old Grandma once leafed through the list of her dowry and there were quite a few stores included.

“Mother, will my stores still managed by me?” Madam Di said, wiping her tears. Although she was unwilling, at least she had some hope.

“Of course, it is you who will run the stores. The two stores that will be given to you along with your dowry stores will not be governed by the mansion. Since you have left the capital so many years ago, if you take over your stores, I’m afraid you will have a busy time,” Old Grandma said calmly.

“Yes, ma’am. Your daughter-in-law will manage her business of the stores well and then help Mother with the affairs of our mansion,” Madam Di grumbled.

Qin Wanru’s gaze swept across her face and she knitted her arched eyebrows a little as she suddenly recalled a past event about Madam Di’s dowry.

However, since she lived like a good-for-nothing in her previous life, she only heard a rumor but did not know whether it was true or not.

“Mother, then please excuse your daughter-in-law.” Madam Di knew that Old Grandma had made the greatest concessions for her, so she stood up and stopped crying, asking for permission to be excused.

“Grandmother, those servant girls and the old women following suit are so disgusting! Madam was angry and made mistakes, fine. But those people? They added even more troubles here! Fortunately, Grandma came quickly. If not, they would have hurt Mother!”

Qin Wanru went up close to Old Grandma and reminded her of it in a low voice.

"Mother..." Madam Di was panic-stricken and cried out nervously, glaring at Qin Wanru fiercely. "Qin Wanru is going to convict the servants I brought with me of a crime!"

"If they are declared guilty, who will dare to follow me and obey my order afterward? In this whole mansion, everyone will regard Shui Ruolan as the higher one!"

Old Grandma's eyes glinted a little, but Nanny Duan said, "Old Grandma, what our Second Miss said does make sense! To deal with these affairs, rules come first. When the master misunderstands something or does something unreasonable, the servants should persuade the master and prevent the master from doing so rather than doing silly things. Otherwise, if even a servant can stir up trouble, there will be no peaceful day in our mansion!"

Nanny Duan gave her words as the helpful supervisor of Old Grandma. She was originally the manager of the servants in the courtyard, and her words, which came out from the perspective of an outsider, accorded with the rules very much, unimpeachable in everyone's position.

If Shui Ruolan wanted to punish the servant that Madam Di brought, she would not sound so fair as Qin Wanru and Nanny Duan. Since they had said in this way, it was good!

"Madam Di, no rules, no justice. Those who came with you that smashed the items in this yard or hurt anyone here should be flogged 10 times. You have been a ruler and manager yourself. I guess you do not need me to teach you how to do it." Old Grandma nodded.

"Yes... Your daughter-in-law will do as you say." Madam Di gritted her teeth but had to accept it.

After saluting Old Grandma, Madam Di turned around and left with the agitated Nanny Zhou.

Nanny Zhou walked away in haste and she even walked very closely to Madam Di, being afraid that Old Grandma and Shui Ruolan would put their focus on her. Although she didn't do anything herself, as the closest henchman of Madam Di, she would be the most vulnerable to suffer if they wanted to warn Madam Di. Therefore, she dared not say anything more and closely followed Madam Di to leave there.

"Grandmother, does mother have a lot of dowry stores in the capital city?" Qin Wanru asked curiously with her eyes wide open after Madam Di had left.

"She is the laureled firstborn daughter of Duke Yong. Her dowry included a lot. Apart from the stores in the capital, everything else should be in her hands," Old Grandma nodded and said.

"A lot? Then how many are there exactly?" Qin Wanru appeared more curious. She laid her fair and soft chin on her hands and looked at Old Grandma interestedly.

Old Grandma felt a little better as she looked at her pink and lovely little granddaughter and said at without thinking, "Maybe 10? Your grandma has forgotten the exact number!"

"That's quite a lot!" Qin Wanru sighed in surprise.

"She was the only laureled daughter of Duke Yong at that time, so it's no wonder that she had an excessive dowry. The income you gain in the capital city will be much higher than that in Jiangzhou," Old Grandma said carelessly then turned to Shui Ruolan, saying, "Ruolan, are you OK? It wronged you!"

Although it concerned the taels of silver that Qin Huaiyong had taken from Madam Di, Madam Di actually vented all of her resentment upon Shui Ruolan.

"Mother, I'm fine!" Shui Ruolan gently shook her head. Since she had insights about it, she had known that Madam Di would cause a disturbance here already.

Madam Di dared not annoy the general and Old Grandma, so she would definitely come to Shui Ruolan herself. Qin Wanru had also warned her beforehand to be more careful.

At the thought of it, she looked at Qin Wanru tenderly and found the little girl in a daze. She couldn't help but smile. "Wanru is still a child. Are you scared about this?"

"Mother, I'm all right!" Qin Wanru said with a slight smile.

She was not scared at all for sure. She thought that even in her previous life, the Dis didn't have so much money. With the respectable income gathered from the stores in the capital through the years and the newly purchased stores from the General's Mansion, even if the General's Mansion was not loaded, there should be enough money from the mansion since there were not that many people there.

But why did she hear about the Dis borrowing money from a loan shark secretly when Qin Yuru got married? At that time, were the Dis so poor?

All the stores of the General's Mansion had been sold out. The news that the Ningyuan Army General would be transferred to another position and leave Jiangzhou went around as the stores sold out.

Many government officials, as colleagues for so many years, had started to ask Qin Huaiyong to engage in social activities and gave him a farewell dinner. Therefore, Qin Huaiyong had not been in the mansion recently.

Madam Di made trouble before, so she behaved herself quite well recently and did nothing wrong. Meanwhile, Shui Ruolan supervised sorting out the servants. Time flew so quickly and half a month passed.

It was also the time that the Ningyuan Army General would leave Jiangzhou officially.

Early in the morning, a series of horse-drawn carriages had already prepared to bring all the packages. After these, there were the carriages to carry people. Old Grandma and Qin Wanru got in one carriage while Madam Di and Shui Ruolan took another. As for the other servants who would leave together, they also took a few carriages to go along with them.

As for the servants who had not signed an irrevocable hard contract, they were provided some taels of silver to let them go home.

None of the closest servant girls of Qin Wanru left. Qing Yue, Yujie, and Qing Xue, who was not thought highly of but still looked well-behaved, all came along. The second-class servant girl, Qu Le, as well as Tang Qianyan who Chu Liuchen had asked her to keep, went together with them as well!

Before they left, Qu Le asked Qin Wanru for leave to go back to her home. She came back with a little parcel, which was said to be some gadgets of her childhood given to her by her parents, and a piece of sad news that her two little sisters had also been sold.

Qin Wanru could not help her with the situation of her home, she could only let Qing Yue pack a little more silver for Qu Le. She did respect Qu Le's father, a meritorious servant who had always been faithful over 10 years. But it was quite a misfortune for his family!

Since ancient times, loyalty and filial piety were hard to combine. Qin Wanru only wished that he could find his master soon and redeem his daughters and reunite his family, rather than sell his daughters out and ask about his master's whereabouts from every mansion. One who had been out of touch for such a long time might have suffered from some unexpected misfortune!

Even though he was once standing on the ground of Jiangzhou, his bones might have been decaying now!

Qi Baiyu and Qi Rongzhi followed them to go to the capital city as expected. There were also a few carriages of Magistrate Qi which had joined the team of the Qin Mansion's carriages, heading to the capital city in a long fleet.

In a yard in the capital, an extremely beautiful young boy, who was dressed in a thin fur coat and lying weakly on a warm couch with his head slightly leaning against the cushion on the other side, looked at the scrolls in his hands with a look of tenderness and harmlessness.

"Have they come to the capital?"

Chapter 108 An Encumbrance That Cannot Be Thrown Off

"Yes, Your Highness. They went to the capital city at noon today without fanfare. And they went to the imperial palace as soon as they arrived there!" Xiao Xuanzi respectfully reported to Chu Liuchen.

Chu Liuchen moved his thin lip cape without raising his head. "They don't want anyone to know that they followed me to the imperial palace. But so what? I'm a casual person, so I go wherever I want at will. What are they trying to find out?"

"Your Highness, what do you mean?" Xiao Xuanzi looked at the innocent smile of his master, unsure of what he meant for a short while.

"I mean nothing. Hasn't Prince Zhou been looking for them all these days? Just let him see that they go out without taking him!"

Chu Liuchen spoke lazily, with a bigger smile than before, which made him look a little more wicked than he had just looked.

Prince Zhou, who called Chu Liuzhou, was the second son of the emperor. Besides, he also was the legitimate son of the queen, but he hadn't the primogeniture. However, with his personality, he had never been compatible with Prince Yue, Chu Liuyue, or Prince Xin, Chu Liuxin.

"Yes, I understand!" Xiao Xuanzi knew what he meant. It wasn't a secret in the capital city that Prince Zhou and Prince Yue had fought for the throne. It was nothing but a spurious brotherhood when they got together.

The two brothers were designated as the eldest son and the legitimate son respectively, which was very difficult for the emperor to select a crown prince. Moreover, the emperor had a son called Chu Liuchen, whose identity of the prince was deposed.

The reason why Chu Liuchen was deposed at that time was simply that he was young. He didn't do anything wrong. There even had been some secret rumors that the emperor had promised the deceased emperor to pass the throne to his nephew, Chu Liuchen.

These were certainly some rumors but no one had solid evidence.

But even so, many people still held a wait-and-see attitude in private. After all, the deceased emperor was the previous emperor, who had established the country with heroic bearing. Even after so many years, there were still some old courtiers, secretly supporting the deceased emperor and his son, Prince Chen.

"Ningyuan Army General's Mansion hasn't left yet?" After finishing one book, Chu Liuchen picked up another one. But as he picked it up in his long hands, he spoke gently while raising his head, with a slight pause.

"I really don't know about this!" Xiao Xuanzi did not think it was a big deal.

"Stupid!" he said coldly as the smile fled from Chu Liuchen's face and his face clouded over. He looked down at the files in his hands, looking even paler with his hair hanging down. With his thin and colorless lips closed firmly, he thought for a while, as if about to say something. Raising his long eyelashes, he squinted at Xiao Xuanzi with his black eyes. This made one feel a surge of fear.

He totally wasn't the handsome young man who had been so quiet and calm.

"Go to find out when they arrive!"

"Yes, I got it!" lowering his head quickly, Xiao Xuanzi replied respectfully. Xiao Xuanzi was a little bit frightened by Chu Liuchen, wondering when he had offended his master because his face didn't look good. Have they really developed a friendly relationship like that of childish playmates after his master got along with that little young madam for some time?

In all these years, he had never seemed to see the childish side of his little master.

Ever since Xiao Xuanzi had followed Chu Liuchen, the man had always been very steady with people. No matter how angry, evil, or enchanting he was, he would never show his childish side.

Had he really developed a true friendship with that little young madam of the Ningyuan Army General's Mansion?

Xiao Xuanzi was puzzled because he had no playmates.

"Get out. Out of my way!" looking at Xiao Xuanzi's stunned look, Chu Liuchen said without a good mood and looked down again.

"Yes, yes, I'll go to check it immediately. When they arrive there, you can play with the Second Miss of the Qin's Mansion," Xiao Xuanzi came back to reality suddenly and said hurriedly. Then he backed out of the room and smiled at the door at the thought of it.

For so many years, his master didn't even have a good playmate. He was an exquisite boy like a porcelain doll when he was young, and he was even a more delicate porcelain doll after he had grown up.

Porcelain dolls were beautiful, but they had no vitality!

Qin Wanru was unaware that someone had kept thinking about her before she went to the capital city. Old Grandma's carriage was so large and spacious that there was plenty of room left, even if Old Grandma and Qin Wanru lay in the carriage.

The carriage was covered with thick cushions, so they felt warm and soft.

Qin Wanru chatted with Old Grandma every day and took a nap after lunch. She lived a rather comfortable life.

It was far from Jiangzhou to the capital city. Besides, it was hard to walk fast with such a large team of carriages and old people! Fortunately, with Qin Wanru's care all the way, Old Grandma was in good health and even looked better. This was a great relief to Qin Huaiyong.

With Old Grandma's consent, the carriage moved faster.

Qi Baiyu rode with Qin Huaiyong, and he would also pay respect to Old Grandma together with Qin Huaiyong from time to time. Compared with other people of the Qi's Mansion, Old Grandma was satisfied with Qi Baiyu, feeling that he was the most promising son of Magistrate Qi. Even though he was not the legitimate son of Magistrate Qi, his prospect was beyond measure because he had such a good manner.

They finally arrived in the capital city after traveling a long way. As soon as Qin Huaiyong entered the capital city, he reported to the Ministry of Personnel. And Old Grandma took them to their house in the capital city.

The Qin's Mansion had a house in the capital city. At that time, Qin Huaiyong's father was also an official in the capital city, so he made an engagement with the family of Duke Yong. But then he was demoted for being involved in some affairs. Thanks to Qin Huaiyong's efforts, it was also a great blessing for him to return to the capital city.

When the carriages of the Qin's Mansion left for the capital city, Qin Huaiyong had already sent a supervisor with a few capable people to the capital city to clean up their house.

When Old Grandma's carriages arrived there, the supervisor sent someone to meet them at the door and greeted them into the house.

Qin Wanru got out of the carriage, sending Yujie away to rent a house with a few people for her without being noticed. Then she held Old Grandma to go inside. She was slightly stunned at the sight of both Qi Baiyu and Qi Rongzhi getting out of the carriage suddenly.

What were they going to do here if they didn't go to their houses?

"Old Grandma, as for my elder sister, sorry to bother you!" Qi Baiyu came over and bowed to Old Grandma.

Old Grandma stopped her steps while turning her eyes from Qi Baiyu to Qi Rongzhi. Her eyes were dim. "No problem. Our two families used to be on good terms. Your father hasn't come to the capital city yet, and your eldest brother was busy with the imperial competitive examination. You were young, so it's rightful for your sister to live at my house! No problem!"

“Old Grandma, thanks a lot!” Qi Baiyu gave her a sincere salute and then raised his head. “Old Grandma, I’ll go back to my house and offer thanks to you with my brother tomorrow!”

“You’re welcome. Go back first. The journey is really tiring!” Old Grandma said gently.

Qi Baiyu gave a salute to Shui Ruolan and Madam Di respectively and then left.

Qin Wanru blinked and looked at Qi Rongzhi, who looked docile with low eyebrows, to her side. So this meant that Qi Rongzhi would live in her house?

It should be the negotiation result between her father and Magistrate Qi, and it was also the compensation after the General’s Mansion owed Magistrate Qi.

There had been no such thing in her previous life. So, it hadn’t occurred to her for a moment.

On second thought, she felt that as for the Qin’s Mansion, he wasn’t a man who could suffer losses. Since the General’s Mansion owed the Qin’s Mansion over and over again, they had to give something. Qi Rongzhi, an encumbrance, was thrown to the Qin’s Mansion.

And they had no choice but to accept her.

A flicker of coldness went through her beautiful eyes. Setting her eyes on Madam Di, who was full of astonishment and anger, Qin Wanru wore a smile on her pink lips. That was a good idea!

Madam Di was very surprised and angry, not only because she was unwilling to have Qi Rongzhi live in the Qin’s Mansion, but also because as Madam of the Qin’s Mansion, she was totally ignorant of this matter.

“Mother, this thing...” Madam Di’s face fell. She took a cold look at Qi Rongzhi and stopped Old Grandma. “What’s going on?”

Old Grandma stopped, setting her cold eyes on Madam Di. “Just what you see!”

“Mother, why didn’t I know about it?” Madam Di looked pale. She wanted to regain the right of managing the family after going to the capital city, only to find that she made a fool of herself, which made her extremely embarrassed.

“It’s not a nuisance you made? Our family has taken responsibility for you. What more do you want?” Old Grandma said coldly with a snort, increasingly feeling unpleasant about Madam Di, “If it were not for you and Yuru, Magistrate Qi would not let the Young Lady of Qi live in our house.”

What Old Grandma said was indeed unkind, and it not only frustrated Madam Di, but also frustrated Qi Rongzhi.

Qin Wanru looked at Qi Rongzhi calmly, only to find that the Young Lady of Qi, who used to be irritable and arrogant in Jiangzhou, still humbly lowered her head, as if she didn’t hear what her Old Grandma had said.

She looked like a different person!

“Mother, I...” Madam Di felt very embarrassed, and she could do nothing but to stay away. Suddenly, she remembered what Old Grandma meant.

"Go inside, you're all tired. Ruolan, have the courtyards been arranged?" Old Grandma was unwilling to pay attention to her, continuing to go inside.

"Mother, everything is arranged properly," Shui Ruolan said softly.

"All of you are tired. Go back to your courtyard first and don't pay much attention to it. We'll have a reunion dinner in the evening!" Old Grandma nodded, with a trace of weariness.

Although Old Grandma was still in good health the whole way, she was ineluctably full of tiredness. Just like everybody here, she simply wanted to have a good rest and had no mind for anything else.

In the capital city, their house could be said to be big, having many courtyards. Old Grandma lived in Xinning Yard, and Madam Di in Yulan Pavilion. Shui Ruolan lived in Liufeng Yard, and Qin Yuru in Yalan Xuan. Qin Wanru lived in Zhifang Xuan, and Qi Rongzhi in the guest house.

Now, no one was in the mood to say anything. After having some food, they all had a rest. In the evening, everyone woke up and refreshed themselves for the reunion dinner.

Qin Wanru got up early. She asked Yujie to go to the outer courtyard to take away the coachman who had plotted against her in the Jingxin Monastery and shut him in the room she rented. The magistrate was in such a mess that no one would notice it.

He was a pawn she had deliberately kept. The reason why she left the coachman was that he was related to the Princess of Duke Yangqu. Therefore, the coachman was a hidden pawn.

Old Grandma had not come yet when she arrived at the flower hall. From a distance, she heard a charming voice, as clear as a silver bell with a little bit of affection, and she couldn't help slowing down her pace.

Was there anyone else? When she got a clear view of the man standing between the two women in the hall, a flicker of gloom showed in her eyes...

Chapter 109 Two Women Fighting Over One Playboy

In the flower hall, Di Yan, the eldest son of Duke Yong, arrived with Qin Yuru. At that moment, looking at Qi Rongzhi in front of him with great interest, he wore a smile with a gentle and delicate look while cocking his head.

He looked very gentle and good-looking, with the air of a son of a noble family. However, the corners of his eyes were highly raised, making him look a little frivolous and pompous.

Full of attention and interest, he was watching Qi Rongzhi talking about something. With a smile on his face, he looked very attractive.

Suddenly, the voice of a female servant came from the door. He looked up and saw a girl standing at the doorway!

She looked much smaller than Qi Rongzhi and Qin Yuru, but somehow, this girl inexplicably caught his eyes!

The girl charmingly standing at the door stopped as if she had no intention to come over. Her jade-like face was as clear as crystal, with her long black lashes fluttering several times. When she looked up, her beautiful eyes looked attractive and charming, and then she slightly pressed her delicate pink lip. Young as she was, her dark hair set off by the bright pink was amazing. Pretty, very pretty!

Even though she was just a little girl who had not yet grown-up, she amazed Di Yan at first sight. The wind at the door blew her dress, so she bent over to press it down. There was a flicker of coldness in her beautiful eyes, but it didn't stop her from being the center point in a stunning painting.

Di Yan was stunned and amazed.

"Cousin, what's wrong with you?" Qin Yuru's face was pale with anger, but she still suppressed the hatred in her heart and took Di Yan's hands intimately.

"Is this my little cousin, Wanru?" Di Yan looked at Qin Wanru intently. He had seen Qin Wanru before, but she had been so young, just a child, at that time—quite different from what she was at present.

"She is my second sister. Sister, come here and greet my cousin!" Qin Yuru raised her head and waved to Qin Wanru, without a trace of envy on her face.

She had been living in Duke Yong's mansion. At the moment, all the people of Qin mansion had gone to the capital city, so she came here with Di Yan.

However, Qin Wanru did not go up to them, simply giving a nod from a distance before entering the door. But she didn't intend to come over when she was at the doorway.

Di Yan, how could she not know him?

A year ago, she had almost died in Di Yan's hands!

In her previous life, Di Yan and Qin Yuru had framed her many times. Then he repeatedly flirted with her whenever he saw her in private. On one occasion when he accompanied Qin Yuru to the Qin mansion, driven by alcohol, he had broken into her room planning to do something impolite to her. Fortunately, she and Qing Yue were able to push him aside, after which he fell unconscious to the floor.

When Madam Di and Qin Yuru learned of this, instead of blaming Di Yan, they had asked Qin Wanru to kneel in Qin Yuru's yard and apologize to him. While she knelt in the yard, Qin Yuru was so jealous that she even slapped her until she was knocked out.

No one but Qin Yuru would regard such a playboy as a sweetheart in order to pursue riches and honor.

"She is really cousin Wanru? Isn't she eleven years old? She looks like she hasn't grown up yet!" Having recovered from his amazement, Di Yan was astonished again. He curiously asked Qin Yuru while looking at Qi Rongzhi on one side and then back at Qin Wanru.

She was really eleven years old, almost twelve in nominal age. Most girls who were twelve years old have already grown up, but she still looked younger than a ten-year-old peer!

When Di Yan came to Jiangzhou the year before last, he had met Qin Wanru once. Instigated by Qin Yuru, he had pushed Qin Wanru into the river and she had nearly drowned. From then on, Old Grandma had kept him from meeting Qin Wanru, who was such little girl at that time.

"She's already eleven, I don't know why she hasn't grown. Maybe she was born a short girl!" Qin Yuru pursed her lips and gave him a fake smile.

"A few years would be enough. A few years from now, sister Yuru will be great beauty!" Qi Rongzhi covered her lips with a hanky and explained in good faith.

With that explanation, Qi Rongzhi sounded much softer than Qin Yuru. Di Yan could not help but set his eyes on Qi Rongzhi again. Comely as Qin Wanru was, she was still a girl who hadn't grown up, and she looked much younger than most people her age. Therefore, she was not so attractive to Di Yan.

The daughter of the magistrate of Jiangzhou in front of him was very much to his liking. Although he heard that she was only thirteen years old, she had begun to show her charm and attraction to people and was even as beautiful as Qin Yuru, who was fifteen years old. She even looked more like a grown girl, slender and enchanting, with great affection in her eyes.

No one believed that she was only thirteen when it came to her plump figure.

"Miss Qi and my cousin, Yuru, both can be called great beauties, and cousin Wanru is also a pretty girl. Jiangzhou seems to be the home of beauties, having produced countless beautiful women. Before, cousin Yuru thrilled descendants of the rich families in the capital city with her beauty, but Miss Qi seems to look prettier!"

With a genial smile, Di Yan moved his eyes from Qi Rongzhi's face to her chest, and then he slowly left with a gracious smile.

Qi Rongzhi started to blush. With her head slightly down, she said shyly, "Sir, you're so kind. I can't compare with sister Yuru!"

Qin Yuru looked pale at first, but when she heard what Qi Rongzhi had said, she chilled out with a snort. Qin's mansion wasn't Jiangzhou Prefecture, so there was no such thing that the magistrate of Jiangzhou and her father treated each other with courtesy. If Qi Rongzhi dared to treat her as she had done in Jiangzhou Prefecture, she would come to no good end.

"Cousin Yuru is beautiful. We haven't seen each other for just one year, and she looks so beautiful!" Di Yan spoke lovely words. "When I first saw her, I couldn't believe that such a beautiful girl was my cousin. Later, I'll take cousin Yuru out to visit my friends so they will envy me."

"Cousin!" full of happiness, Qin Yuru grumbled in a flirty manner, satisfied with his performance.

"Cousin, I'm serious. There will be a party at my grandparents' house in a few days. I'll take you there, okay?" Di Yan and Qin Yuru had feelings for each other. Looking at her bashful face, he could not help but show great interest and tease her.

"Just me? Will you take my second sister and Miss Qi?" Happy as Qin Yuru was, she was showing that she was considerate of others.

"I... Just forget it. I have a scar on my forehead and it hasn't healed yet." Qi Rongzhi lowered her head, her long bangs falling. When she looked up, the scar was not apparent for she had parted her hair slightly, but when she lowered her head, however, her bangs fell, looking a little bit greasy and heavy.

The scratch on her forehead had actually healed, but what couldn't heal easily was the long pit caused by the scratch. Fortunately, as long as she covered it with her bangs, the scar on one side of her forehead was completely invisible.

When she recalled why she had a scar on her forehead, she twisted the hanky in her hands.

"Miss Qi is hurt? What happened? Who did you quarrel with this time?" Qin Yuru smiled and asked curiously, with her eyes wide open. Although she asked as if she was concerned about Qi Rongzhi, she was actually giving the impression that the Young Lady of the Qis was not a good person in Jiangzhou, and that she would quarrel with people over nothing.

It was a shame for the Young Madam of a noble family to behave like a shrew and even get scratched on the face by someone.

Qi Rongzhi was so embarrassed that she wanted to rip Qin Yuru's face off. A sense of heavy gloom flickered in her eyes. If it wasn't for Madam Di, would her face get hurt? If it wasn't for Qin Yuru, would her reputation be ruined? It was exactly Madam Di and her daughter who had ruined her marriage and her future.

They had hurt her and were now trying to be at peace with her. Forget it!

Moreover, they not only hurt her but also her eldest brother, who was always mature and calm in front of her. She could never forget her eldest brother's embarrassment as he cried on the ground drunk that day.

"I... I didn't fight with anyone. I was set up!" Qi Rongzhi's eyes clouded with tears and turned red! The aggrieved look she showed made her look extremely pitiful.

"Who is so vicious as to hurt Miss Qi?" Di Yan asked as if he had shared the experience with her. Just as the old saying goes, beauties are like jade. He hadn't been enlightened until he came to Jiangzhou. This time, he finally understood, feeling exceedingly angry at the sight of her femininity and sentiment.

Qin Yuru grew sullen again, squinting at Qi Rongzhi coldly and pulling Di Yan's clothes impatiently.

"Cousin, let's go to see why my mother hasn't arrived yet, okay? It's been so long. Hasn't mother had a rest yet?"

"Hum, okay!" Although Di Yan still wanted to make a good impression on the beauty, and he was aware that he had to be patient. Thus, he smiled at Qi Rongzhi and said something to comfort her. "Miss Qi is a strikingly beautiful girl, and the wound on your forehead is not visible at the moment. As long as you take good care of it, you'll be even more beautiful!"

Qi Rongzhi gazed at Di Yan full of tender affection, but when Qin Yuru turned around, she hurriedly lowered her head to hide it.

"Let's go, cousin!" Qin Yuru was relieved to see nothing unusual with Qi Rongzhi. She tugged on Di Yan's sleeve to drag him out again.

"What's wrong?" Qin Huaiyong strode in. His face clouded over when he saw that Qin Yuru had unscrupulously pulled on Di Yan's sleeves. "Where are you going? How can you do this?"

Upon seeing Qin Huaiyong, Qin Yuru looked pale and hurriedly let go. Then, she said in a low voice. "Father!"

Di Yan felt distressed again as soon as he saw his cousin's pitiful look, thus he rushed forward to come to her rescue. "Uncle, I was going to see you with my cousin, but I didn't know where you live. So, I asked my cousin to take me over!"

He took all the responsibility!

Qin Yuru smiled with satisfaction.

"Sit down first. They'll come soon!"

Qin Huaiyong walked in with a swagger. Catching sight of Qin Wanru, who was standing on the side, he waved her over. "Wanru, why are you alone? Come over to us."

Qin Wanru nodded. Staring blankly ahead, she came up behind Qin Huaiyong with Qing Yue. She then sat down on a chair on the side.

Later, Old Grandma, Shui Ruolan and Madam Di also came in one after the other. When everyone was present, the dishes were served. With both Qi Rongzhi and Di Yan around at such a time, the whole family had a pleasant talk together and looked so harmonious. They finally had a reunion dinner.

Qin Wanru sat quietly and replied to nothing, setting her eyes on Qi Rongzhi as if deep in thought. Noticing that Qi Rongzhi had made eye contact with Di Yan several times, she took it all in with her observant eyes.

With Qi Rongzhi's personality, what she saw was just the beginning.

She lowered her head slightly, and there was a small lump on her neck...

Chapter 110 Fenghua Glazed Cup, Impossible

The lump was the bluegrass seal that she wore around her neck. It was said that this was originally hers, that is to say, it had something to do with her life experience!

"Mother, is your Fenghua Glazed Cup still around? Why don't you just take it as a gift to Di Yan's grandfather at the Marquises' Mansion of Fengyang!" Madam Di suddenly laughed.

What Madam Di said set Qin Wanru's heart pounding. She slowly lowered her eyes to hide the coldness in her eyes, thinking that Madam Di actually took a fancy to the Fenghua Glazed Cup.

"That thing, forget it!" Old Grandma said faintly while shaking her head.

"Why not? Wanru and Yuru can also take advantage of this opportunity to visit them together. They have grown up and they should go out. We should show our girls to others, we can't keep them indoors all the time. And then... It's..... It's hard to say. It doesn't matter for Yuru, but Wanru..."

Madam Di smiled, the eyes she set on Qin Wanru kindly and amiable. She looked at Qin Wanru's clothes with a smile as she addressed Nanny Zhou who was standing behind her. "She isn't a little girl anymore. It's time to start dressing her up whenever she goes out. Nanny Zhou, please take the plum blossom hairpin from my dressing table and give it to Second Miss."

“Yes, Madam!” Nanny Zhou went away with a smile.

Qin Wanru bit her lip. “Thank you, Madam, but I’m still young!”

“You’re so shy. Okay, okay. I won’t mention it!” Madam Di smiled, but she did not stop Nanny Zhou. Then, she turned back to look at Old Grandma and asked, “Mother, do you think so? Wanru looks so beautiful and we must choose a handsome guy for her carefully. We can’t let anyone waste her youth!”

What Madam Di said seemed to be considerate of Qin Wanru, and she had talked about nothing but the marriage of the girl. In front of so many people, Qin Wanru could only lower her head with a look of shyness. What Madam Di said seemed to be considerate of Qin Wanru, and she had talked about nothing but the marriage of the girl. In front of so many people, Qin Wanru could only lower her head with a look of shyness.

However, there was a flicker of coldness in her eyes that nobody saw.

When they had just arrived in the capital city, Madam Di was unable to hold herself back from saying something because she was keenly aware that Qin’s mansion was dependent on Duke Yong’s mansion, and Old Grandma got little respect among noblewomen in the capital city. They still had to rely on her to keep up the appearance though.

In her previous life, it was Madam Di who had ruined her marriages repeatedly!

Everyone in the capital city had made fun of her for her disrepute from Jiangzhou and there was no good marriage for her. Thereafter, Madam Di pretended to care about her and chose someone with a poor background for her. Madam Di put her into more dire straits!

Madam Di had managed to betroth her to a seemingly creditable libertine the first time. However, the libertine had an affair with her cousin and even got her cousin pregnant. After the engagement was broken off, she was in derision with a more tattered reputation. Qin Wanru originally thought that she was just unlucky, but later she learned from Qin Yuru that Madam Di had done it on purpose because the man who had broken off an engagement with her was the nephew of Duke Xing, and Madam Di only took this opportunity to put herself under the patronage of a higher-up, Duke Xing.

As for her second marriage, Madam Di claimed that considering that Qin Wanru had suffered a great deal from the previous experience, she had to choose someone who would be nice to Qin Wanru this time no matter what family background he had. Therefore, Madam Di took fancy to a scholar who had been a successful candidate in the imperial examination not long ago. Though the scholar was already married, he still wanted to marry Qin Wanru, so as to help him rapidly rise up in the world.

The scholar’s wife went to the capital city searching for him only to find that the scholar was planning to abandon her along with their kids to marry another woman. The result was that the wife jumped off a tall building. Her marriage failed again, but rumor had it that it was Qin Wanru who had hounded the scholar’s wife to death.

Actually, the scholar that Madam Di had chosen for her was a distant nephew of the madam of Duke Xing whom Madam Di wanted to please.

The third time, she chose a widower in his thirties, tricking her into believing that an older man would be considerate of his wife and wouldn’t give her the cold shoulder in spite of her bad reputation. With

the intention to marry her, the widower also privately gave Madam Di a large sum of money. In the end, however, the madam of Duke Xing served as a matchmaker in order to select one woman to drive off misfortune for the youngest son of the Deputy Prime Minister's Chambers. Madam Di annulled the engagement on her initiative and married the Deputy Prime Minister's Chambers for the sake of driving off misfortune.

Her engagement was called off again and again. These were such good marriages Madam Di had chosen for her in her previous life!

However, in her previous life, Madam Di was her nominal mother. In this life, however, she was just her "Madam". There was a hint of a ghostly smile on her lips. After several unsuccessful plans, Madam Di still plotted against her.

Qin Wanru was uncertain if the madam of Duke Xing, who was congenial with Madam Di in her previous life, was present in this banquet.

In any case, she didn't want to attend it because she was not ready.

"You'll go there with Wanru and Yuru?" Old Grandma looked up and asked Madam Di after a short silence.

"It's natural to visit them. It has been many years since we left the capital city. Even if we still have some childhood best friends there, all of us have become a little unfamiliar because we haven't connected with each other for a long time. It'd be difficult to ask for help from them when we need help!" Madam Di said with a brighter smile and a flicker of pride.

She had a great impact on the capital city. What if Shui Ruolan was in charge of the family's affairs? No one would care about her outside the house.

"Zhuzhuo, do you want to go there?"

Turning back to look at Qin Wanru, Old Grandma asked her apprehensively. They were new in the capital city, so it was best to let Madam Di introduce her into the circle of noblewomen. Shui Ruolan was indeed inferior to Madam Di in comparison, but Old Grandma didn't trust Madam Di.

"I'll take your advice, grandma!" Raising her head and lifting her beautiful eyes slightly, Qin Wanru looked innocent and mild. She didn't say that she was willing to go, nor did she turn down it. She acted as if she was indifferent.

Seeing Madam Di's eagerness this time, it seemed that she had already conceived a plan. However, Qin Wanru would not take the initiative to refuse her because there was a ready spoiler in the house.

She would expose herself to the life of noblewomen in the capital city, but she was unwilling to make it with the help of Madam Di. Shui Ruolan would actually be helpful to her.

Qi Rongzhi bit her lip with a trace of coldness and gloom in her eyes. She wanted to go, but she had no reason to! She could not accept it at all!

"That settles it, Mother. I'll go there with Yuru and Wanru. Give me the Fenghua Glazed Cup as a gift!" Madam Di smiled.

"Fenghua Glazed Cup?" Old Grandma frowned. "Is that a good gift?"

"Mother, why wouldn't it be? The Fenghua Glazed Cup isn't that special, but it's rare. We'll gain face if we give it as a gift. We'll also show others that we aren't bumpkins from Jiangzhou. The gift we give is very unique and respectable!"

Madam Di continued to persuade Old Grandma with a smile.

Old Grandma was silent, not saying anything for a while.

"Mother, for the reputation of Yuru and Wanru, just give the Fenghua Glazed Cup to them!" Madam Di wore a brighter smile.

Qin Wanru silently swept over Madam Di, keenly aware that Madam Di was eager for the Fenghua Glazed Cup. Did she really think it was expensive and delicate or was she plotting something else?

"I left it in the Jingxin Monastery!" said Old Grandma as she looked up.

"What? Mother, this...when?" Madam Di was so shocked that her eyes widened in anxiety.

"A long time ago!" Old Grandma glanced at Qin Wanru as she replied lightly.

"This... this, mother. The Fenghua Glazed Cup is very important. How can you give it away so easily?"

Perhaps she really had not thought that Old Grandma would give the Fenghua Glazed Cup away, so Madam Di blurted out something to blame Old Grandma, but it was too late for her to take it back when she realized that she had misbehaved.

Slamming his chopsticks down on the table, Qin Huaiyong scolded acidly. "The Fenghua Glazed Cup was my mother's. Does she have to ask you for advice if she wants to keep it or give it to others?"

"Mother, no... but ... it's too important!" Madam Di looked very pale and had an embarrassed smile. What was important about the Fenghua Glazed Cup was more than its value. She had wanted to get the Fenghua Glazed Cup ever since Nanny Zhou reminded her of its importance that day, but she had had no excuse.

On the pretext of taking it as a gift, she had asked Old Grandma for it, only to find that the Fenghua Glazed Cup wasn't there anymore.

"No matter how important it is, it's not yours. It's no use thinking about it. Just think about what we can give them as a gift. If the money isn't enough, you can ask Ruolan for some money. There are many items in the capital city. Can't we find a gift for them there?"

"Yes, mother!" although Madam Di felt extremely upset, she dared not mention it anymore, she could do nothing but to rub the hanky in her hand nearly into pieces with her head down.

"Second Miss, here's the hairpin that Madam wants to give you. Please look at the fineness of the gold. It's the best one in Madam's dowry, and it will be given to you, Second Miss!" Nanny Zhou happened to come in at this time. Feeling the depressing atmosphere in the room, she walked to Qin Wanru diplomatically and handed the hanky to her with a smile.

“Thank you, Madam!” Qin Wanru asked Qing Yue to take it and stood up to give Madam Di a bow respectfully.

She had already finished eating, so she seized the opportunity to ask to leave the dinner.

“Sister Wanru, I’ll go with you. I’m done!” Qi Rongzhi also stood up. As she spoke to Qin Wanru, she bowed to everyone as if they had a perfect relationship.

It looked as if their relationship was better than what she had with her elder sister, Qin Yuru.

“You’ve had a long day. Go home and rest early!” Old Grandma narrowed her eyes and nodded. It was inconvenient to say something in front of Qin Wanru, let alone Qi Rongzhi, who was only a guest.

The two girls walked out of the room one after the other. It was getting dark and the lights on the road outside were already on.

“Sister Wanru, wait for me!” Qi Rongzhi took a few steps and caught up with Qin Wanru.

“Young Lady of Qi, do we have a very good relationship? Young Lady of Qi, call me the Second Miss of Qin, please!”

Qin Wanru stopped and suddenly raised her head to look at Qi Rongzhi, who was wearing a smile and trying hard to please her. She spoke bluntly, “I’ve been bullied by you, and I don’t want to call you sister Qi again!”

“You... Qin Wanru, why are you speaking like this?” Qi Rongzhi’s lips trembled with anger. “After all, we grew up together. I’ve called you sister Wanru since childhood. Do you look down on me ever since you arrived in the capital city?”

Having said this, she felt wronged and almost cried with red eyes.

Qin Wanru quietly gazed at Qi Rongzhi acting with a smile. “Young Lady of Qi, I almost died at your hands several times. Last time, you weren’t in good faith again and even tried to disfigure me. Shall I still get along well with you and regard you as my sister foolishly? Young Lady of Qi, I don’t care what you do, but remember, don’t plot against me!”