

## Medical Princess 111

### Chapter 111 Calculation, the Son of an Aristocratic Family with a Soft Spot for Women

Qin Wanru laughed. The lamplight set her face off to advantage, but in the shadow of the light, her snowy skin and red lips, together with her weird smile, gave a sense of gloom and horror.

Qi Rongzhi was so scared that she took two steps backward and her heart started thumping like crazy.

This Qin Wanru involuntarily made her feel scared.

"Qi Rongzhi. If I hear you call me sister Wanru one more time, don't blame me for being rude!" Qin Wan said coldly and then turned away.

Qi Rongzhi opened her mouth slightly behind her and tried to stop her, but no sound came out. She swore at herself inwardly for being easily discouraged and then composed herself. With a trace of irritation and anger in her eyes, she gritted her teeth and held back her anger.

"Miss..." Chun Yi looked behind and alerted her in a low voice. There was a voice behind her. Someone was coming.

"Let's go!" Qi Rongzhi had returned to her senses. She looked around and ensconced herself behind the rockery on one side. She didn't believe that there was no chance for her!

"Cousin, can I go back with you?" The footsteps came near. There was a large number of people. The foremost ones were Di Yan and Qin Yuru. Qin Yuru seemed unhappy with her head slightly turned down.

"Cousin, listen to me. You can't go back with me today. Don't worry, I'll ask my mother to send someone to pick you up next time." Di Yan promised.

"But... but I want to live in Duke Yong's mansion. I don't want to live here, I don't know if I've unpacked. I haven't lived here for so long. Can I live there?" Qin Yuru stopped and looked around with great dislike.

Although Qin's mansion was not bad, it was still inferior to the house of Duke Yong. It had not been fully decorated, and many parts weren't laid out and fixed, waiting for the day the master moved in. Therefore, the house looked more dilapidated and shabby.

"Cousin, now that my aunt and uncle are in the capital city, it's improper and unreasonable to live outside. Actually, I want you to stay at my house, and I hope you'd never go back. But not now. You know, my mother was a little upset because of what happened before, and she said she wanted to fix a new marriage for me."

Di Yan appeased Qin Yuru.

As soon as Qin Yuru heard what he said, she felt grieved and her eyes turned red. "Doesn't aunt like me?"

Di Yan could not bear a beauty to shed tears, so he took the hanky from Qin Yuru's hand to wipe her tears immediately. "Why won't my mother like you? But you know, someone is secretly spreading the news that you've been engaged to someone before. I don't know who spread the news. Although there is no evidence, my mother wasn't happy after hearing it."

“Will aunt really arrange an engagement for you?” Qin Yuru felt worried about this. This time when she went to the capital city, she did everything carefully and was dramatically more respectful and docile in front of her aunt for fear that someone would get something on her. Luckily, Madam Shi of Duke Yong was satisfied with her.

However, without any apparent reason, Madam Shi didn’t promise Qin Wuru that she would make an engagement for her and Di Yan. She had previously promised to make an engagement for them as soon as Qin Wuru arrived in the capital city when Madam Shi sent a letter to her before.

Qin Yuru was clearly aware of those things, fearing that Madam Shi would hear something and she wouldn’t get engaged to Di Yan. She was really worried after hearing what Di Yan had spoken.

“Don’t worry, she won’t. My mother just said it casually. I don’t know where she heard the rumor that day. It’s okay, listen to me. And it’s nothing serious even if she really heard something. You’re the most innocent one!” Di Yan actually didn’t know the truth of the matter. What he knew was nothing but what Qin Yuru had told him. She mentioned that Qi Tianyu was fond of her and sought marriage in front of Qin Huaiyong.

Qin Huaiyong agreed because he was ignorant of the relationship between her and Di Yan.

But she would never agree. When she was about to break off the engagement, Qi Wanru came out, saying that she was willing to marry Qi Tianyu. Therefore, Qin Wanru naturally took responsibility for the marriage. At that time Magistrate Qi merely asked for marriage for his son with the daughter of Qin’s mansion, he didn’t clearly point out that he wanted Qin Yuru to marry his son.

However, Qin Wanru went back on her word. She had feelings for the Second Young Master of Qi’s mansion and was unwilling to marry the First Young Master of the Qi Family. Thus, she blew up the affair, asserting that the one Qi Tianyu wanted to marry was actually Qin Yuru. So, Qin Wanru implicated her with disrepute.

In the whole process, Qin Yuru portrayed herself as one who was innocent and soulful, whereas Qi Wanru was born with wanton behavior. She couldn’t be a good girl!

“Okay, cousin, I will listen to you!” Qin Yuru said obediently. “Come and play when you’re free.”

“Okay, okay, okay!” Di Yan was still rather satisfied with Qin Yuru’s dependence on him with such airs and graces, thus he was willing to coax her patiently. He thought that it would be fine to marry his cousin who was as pretty as a flower and jade and was affectionate. With her mild temper, she would have no objection if he eventually intended to marry some more concubines.

His elder cousin seemed not as beautiful as his younger cousin!

“Cousin, I feel that my second cousin is so young. Does she really know what it means to get married?” having said something to amuse Qin Yuru, Di Yan involuntarily asked her, with a delicate but childish face crossing his mind in an instant.

“Cousin, don’t you trust me?” Qin Yuru bit her lip with tears trickling down her cheeks.

“Why won’t I trust you? Who are you and what is our relationship? Why would I trust an outsider!” Di Yan reached out to wipe Qin Yuru’s tears, saying to himself that he must be kind to such a delicate cousin in the future and not allow others to bully her.

Seizing the opportunity to bury herself in Di Yan’s chest, Qin Yuru pulled his clothes and said with a grievance, “My second sister always seems like a charming girl, but it’s a facade. You see, she’s arrogant now. She calls my mother not mother but madam. Mother raised her for so many years, and she’s worked really hard to do so but she does not get any credit!”

Di Yan agreed with what she said. “Your family is quite out of order. Though Shui Ruolan is my uncle’s concubine and my second cousin has been entrusted to her, my second cousin should be warmer when meeting my aunt. At the very least, my second cousin can call your mother her aunt.”

He was blind to what was going on, feeling that it was a little out of order unless his aunt had done something. However, he did not consider that his aunt had done something wrong in this matter! Besides, before he came here, his father has warned him against talking nonsense even when he saw that his uncle didn’t like his aunt. His father would settle the matter.

“Cousin!” Qin Yuru felt increasingly wronged, directly throwing herself into Di Yan’s arms!

Di Yan was both distressed and excited. It was difficult for him to calm down when Qin Yuru, who was pretty and had such a nice hourglass figure, buried herself into his arms. After a while, he realized that this was Qin’s mansion, thus he choked down the desire in his heart and patted her back to appease her in a low voice. “It doesn’t matter. Now you’re in the capital city, Duke Yong’s mansion will shelter you. Uncle can’t treat you badly!”

“Well, it’s late. I’ll go back!” Looking up at the sky, Di Yan felt that it would be a good time to go out. He had a date with someone.

During this period, because Qin Yuru had come to Duke Yong’s mansion, she was always pestering him. But the fact that she could also be called a beauty didn’t make him take unkindly to her, and he coaxed Qin Yuru on purpose sometimes. However, it took away his time to flirt with other women, and several of his close friends had already complained to him in private.

He couldn’t break this appointment anymore!

“Cousin, be careful on your way!” Qin Yuru said softly while wiping her tears and extricating herself from Di Yan’s arms.

“Okay, don’t worry. You go back first. I’ll watch you go, and then I’ll turn here and go to the outer courtyard!” Di Yan said with deep affection. They were indeed standing at a junction.

“Cousin, I’m going!” Hearing that her sweetheart would actually wait for her to leave first, Qin Yuru was full of happiness. She bashfully pulled back her hanky from his hand and walked inside gracefully and charmingly. On the half-way, she turned back to give Di Yan a winsome smile.

Seeing Di Yan wave at her made her reluctant to leave him.

She had to find a way to ask her mother to settle their engagement in case some harsh words came to their ears. Although she felt it was unlikely to be greeted with that news because Jiangzhou was far from the capital city, she had to be careful, especially since Qi Tianyu was also in the capital city.

She had to look for a chance to meet Qi Tianyu so that they could be united in what they would say. She couldn't settle down because it was inconvenient for her to handle Qi Tianyu while she lived in Duke Yong's mansion before.

Di Yan kept his word and didn't leave until Qin Yuru was totally out of his sight. He didn't expect that someone would be standing behind him, thus knocking the person down by accident when he turned around.

Before he could see who it was, Di Yan had reached out to hold the person in his arms.

He was the son of an aristocratic family in the capital city, after all. After a short while, he quickly put out his hands to help Qi Rongzhi up politely. "Miss Qi, why were you behind me?"

"Mr. Di, I'm lost. I can't find my way. I saw you here, so I wanted to ask you the way, but you turned around so suddenly!" Qi Rongzhi said with her face reddened all over while her head was lowered as she wrung the hanky in her hands.

"I didn't notice someone standing behind me just now." Di Yan replied while he set his eyes on Qi Rongzhi's delicate face. Qi Rongzhi and Qin Yuru were actually equally matched for their delicacy and beauty, but because she was much smaller than Qin Yuru and had a little bit more childishness, he could not help glancing at Qi Rongzhi several times.

He had always been a man with a soft spot for women, and he could not bear to see such a little beauty saying something with misgiving. Gazing at Qi Rongzhi who was too shy to ask something, he said softly with a thud in his heart. "Shall I take you to the guest house?"

He had accompanied Qin Yuru here several times when the supervisor cleared up Qin's mansion, so he had a general idea of the layout of Qin's mansion.

"Then... I'm sorry to trouble you, Mr. Di!" Qi Rongzhi answered shyly.

"It doesn't matter. Since you live in Qin's mansion now and grew up with my cousin, you're also my sister!" Di Yan turned around to show the way and even waited for Qi Rongzhi for a moment at the crossing. With a smile, he looked at Qi Rongzhi with her blushing face and teased her.

"Thank you very much, Brother Di!" though Qi Rongzhi spoke in a low and soft voice, it sounded clear on such a quiet night.

Behind the rockery, Qin Wanru watched the scene with Qing Yue with a cold smile on her face. Qi Rongzhi did manage to do something...

## **Chapter 112 A Patient's Visit at Midnight**

When Qin Wanru returned to her place Zhifang Xuan, Nanny Yu had organized the room for her. Before that, knowing everyone had been tired, Qin Wanru had specially told Nanny Yu to inform all the servants of early sleep.

Nanny Yu and Yujie stood at the doorway, waiting for the return of Qin Wanru, who sent Qingyue to sleep and also asked Yujie to push Nanny Yu, who was unwilling to leave, to sleep. In the yard, she was inwardly thinking, "Lots of people have been brought, but the number is obviously not enough. Grandma is likely to buy some from the servant trader tomorrow, and then I can ask Nanny Yu to pick a few suitable ones from them."

Qin Wanru was a newcomer in the capital, and it was impossible for Madam Di to expand her power that much.

But it would be impossible if the family bought servants next time because Madam Di could ask the wife of Duke Yong to help her after all. In her beforelife, the wife of Duke Yong had pushed others forward from behind many times.

There were so many things for her to do as a newcomer in the capital. After refusing Madama Di as her guide, she must work out ways to attend parties with Shui Ruolan as quickly as possible. Now, her appearance was still as small as a child. Although the rumors from Jiangzhou came in the future and Madam Di brought them to her secretly, the rumors would also be considered ridiculous and unbelievable by others because of her child-like appearance when she arrived in the capital.

But if she grew mature, it would not be easy for her to explain her situation!

Shui Ruolan had no relations in the capital, and she was also a remarried woman after being a widow. If she were not guided by others, she would not have the chance to receive invitations to parties. But she could get an opportunity from Qin Wanru. It seemed that she and her mother should visit the temple to burn incense once recently.

In the temple, there was a person who could take Shui Ruolan and herself to the circle of the noble families.

"Clap!" Qin Wanru, who was waiting for the return of Yujie under a tree, was hit by something from above. Looking upward, she saw nothing but the treetop under the dark heaven.

"Twigs fall in the winter, right?"

She lowered her hand in confusion with her hands holding it. Suddenly, she was hit by something from above once again. It was even harder than last time, so she gave out an "ouch" because of the pain. As she looked upward again to find it out, she suddenly heard a few giggles. Giving a sidelong glance, she saw a shadow sitting on the sidewall of the yard.

Unexpectedly, it was Chu Liuchen.

Qin Wanru held her head, blinking her eyes. In the lamplight, a porcelain doll's tender face was covered with perplexity, and it seemed that she hadn't realized what had happened.

But she hadn't expected this Child to appear on the wall of her family.

Was it really suitable for an unhealthy young man like him to climb over walls or climb trees? She slightly skewed her head, looking at his face color with the help of some dim light. She didn't think his face color was healthy!

Out of the room of Nanny Yu, Yujie saw what had happened. After a moment of being stunned, she kept alert as she went to her with a worried face. Qin Wanru gently pressed back her hand to signal to her to remain calm and take no action.

Chu Liuchen jumped down the tree and squarely and arrogantly walked to Qin Wanru, studying her from head to foot while playing several stones in his hand. No doubt, the stones that hit her head just now were among them. In the lamplight, the color of his face was not well indeed, and his lips were as pale as his face. He looked not vigorous, either, but his eyes were interestedly staring at Qing Wanru.

"Prince, don't you feel tired to climb this wall with your unwell physical condition?" Qin Wanru looked upward at the tall wall, which was obviously much taller than the walls in Jiangzhou. A wall of this kind was truly the one that could be used for the aim of defense.

"Tired!" Throwing the little stones in his hand to his side, Chu Liuchen suddenly fell down like one who lost his strength toward Qin Wanru, who hurriedly reached out her hands out of fear. Her little figure backed two steps, and she finally caught him. Fortunately, behind her, there was a tree, which supported her from behind.

Yujie wanted to go to her as her feet moved, but she was stopped by Qin Wanru. This prince was haughty, and who knew what he cared about. It was okay for her to support him.

"Prince, are you well now?" Qin Wanru whispered. She really needed to support him with much strength, but she couldn't let go of him now. Just now, his condition was not obviously shown when she looked at him. Once they were close together, she could feel his high temperature. He was in fever now!

"I am not well!" he murmured in Qin Wanru's ears. Chu Liuchen even closed his eyes at the moment, and the exhale of his nostrils, which was coming from him to her, was really hot.

Qin Wanru felt with her hand his forehead, which was extremely hot. At this time, she couldn't care about too many manners, waving her hand to ask Yujie to come to her, and they supported him together as they moved him into the room.

After they let him lie on the bed in the room and raised his head with cushions, Qin Wanru instructed Yu Jie to fetch a basin of cold water, and then took out of a small bag of powdered medicine from her medicine bag after a moment of thinking. This powdered medicine was the simple anti-cold powder that she had made herself. Its function was not comparable to the ones that were directly boiled, but it also had its effects at least.

The reason why she made the powder was that it was simple to use.

Poured some water into the medicine, and the smell of it came out. Then, a bowl of medicine was made!

After cooling it for a while, Qin Wanru carried it and sat on the edge of the bed, spooning it several times. The medicine soup was not dense, nor was it hot, and it should be good.

"Child, please take the medicine!" Qin Wanru whispered.

On the bed, Chu Liuchen blinked and opened his eyes, looking at Qin Wanru. Surprisingly, he submissively took the bowl and drank the medicine up in a gulp, and then he put the bowl into her hands, very naturally demanding, "Candied fruit!"

He merely opened his mouth just as he finished his words.

The handsome young man shut eyes tight, the wavy shadow of his eyelashes under his eyelids being in fact very beautiful. Unfortunately, he merely opened his mouth, which really made his beholders generate a kind of strange feeling. Was this man really the Chu Liuchen who finally succeeded in becoming the crowned prince once again?

Befuddled, Qin Wanru looked at him, but she couldn't think of a place where there was candied fruit. Yujie who entered while carrying a basin of water reminded her, "Miss, isn't there a jar of candied fruit which had been used by Old Grandma on the way in your place? Let me fetch it for you!"

Qin Wanru nodded as she stood up to place the bowl on the table. Then, she took out a clean towel, soaked it in the cold water, and spread it on the forehead of Chu Liuchen.

Yujie came in with a jar of candied fruit. Qin Wanru carefully picked one and put it into the mouth of Chu Liuchen, who chewed it several times, showing that he was seemingly very satisfied. His head skewed to one side, and he quietly fell asleep while the towel was dangling down his forehead.

"Miss, this..." Yu Jie hadn't found out what was going on even until now and became shocked as she saw the young man quietly and truly fall asleep.

"Yujie, everything is done. You can go to bed!" Qin Wanru yawned, whispering. Fortunately, she had slept in the afternoon.

"Miss, I don't go to bed, for I need to accompany you!" She would be worried if she left Qin Wanru alone in the room.

"It doesn't matter. This is Prince Chen of the capital. I know him. You are also tired today. Go to bed now, and there are still lots of things to do tomorrow!" Qin Wanru said, waving her hand.

Indeed, there were lots of things to do tomorrow. She was but a newcomer in the capital. If she didn't make arrangements quickly, she would face awkward conditions in the future because of the pressure from Madam Di.

"Miss, I sleep outside the room. You can call me if you need help!" Yujie thought about it and decided that she should sleep outside the room to be her company. Otherwise, she would not leave her.

Learning that she was determined, Qin Wanru had to nod yes.

Yujie retired to the outside after pouring her another cup of tea. Closing the door behind her, she was still worried and dared not go to sleep, and then she directly sat down at the door, leaning against the door frame and shutting her eyes.

Qin Wanru didn't know that Yujie hadn't gone to sleep yet, but she herself was also a little tired at this moment. After sitting at the table for a while, she bent her back, stuck her forehead on the table, and also fell asleep in a few moments.

Since she moved fast on the road, she was also in fact very tired. Although she had slept in the afternoon, she had not recovered because of the tiredness caused by her fast move on the road. Her last strength was finally spent after busying herself with the work just now, and now she fell asleep on the table without realizing it.

After sleeping for some time, Qin Wanru woke up and sat up. Her long feather-like eyelashes fluttered twice, and then she opened her eyes, dazedly staring at the pair of handsome and elegant eyes in front of her. She lost herself for a moment and even generated the feeling that she didn't know where she was.

That pair of eyes was very beautiful and also very clean, and its cleanness would never make their beholders suspect that the person lying here had any evil ideas. Qin Wanru reclosed her eyes. Her head heavily fell again, and she was ready to continue to sleep.

Unfortunately, her head didn't fall on the table as it went down, but it fell on something soft. Feeling that something was not right, Qin Wanru reopened her eyes with difficulty, dazedly staring at the clothes that swarmed into her eyes. She realized that it was a man's shoulder after a long time of confusion, and she was about to sleep on his shoulder.

Pushing the corner of her pink, tender lips forward, she raised up her head once again, seeing a juvenile coming out of a landscaping painting: His hair was very dark, his skin was very white, his nasal bridge was very tall, and his eyelashes were very long as if they were just in front of her eyes. She extended her hand to them almost subconsciously. But when she touched his warm face, she was stunned.

The long butterfly tail-like eyelashes fluttered twice, and he woke up!

"Prince, do you feel better now?" Qin Wanru sat up straight at once, calmed herself down, and turned to her side to look at his face, which was still pale but obviously looked much better than a while ago. She couldn't help feeling relieved in her mind, for she was so afraid that he wouldn't get well in her residence.

"I'm leaving!" Chu Liuchen lazily stood up and said after he massaged his shoulders. Surprisingly, he didn't make any trouble for Qin Wanru this time.

"Prince, how can you leave at this time?" Qin Wanru shockingly looked from side to side and didn't think there was any possibility for this Child to walk out of the room by himself.

He was better but was not completely well, and she felt it just now when they conversed.

"Since I want to leave, I can leave!" Chu Liuchen rose his eyebrows, glimpsing Qin Wanru with somewhat evil air. He went to the window and randomly knocked on the crossbar of it with rhythm, and two guards in black suddenly appeared at the window out of nowhere.

"I am leaving now, but your yard has one disadvantage," Chu Liuchen said unsatisfyingly as he squinted at Qin Wanru.

"What is it?" Qin Wanru widely opened her eyes and looked at him, and she was not surprised to see the guards appear outside the window.



"It lacks a big fish tank!" Chu Liucheng lazily said, "I will send you one tomorrow lest that you shouldn't hide in it to see the sky!"

Once he finished, he reached out his hand to press the window edge and then lightly and gracefully landed outside the window, before Qin Wanru could speak anything. Then, he disappeared in the dark of the night with his two guards.

Qin Wanru was astonished with her mouth wide open, blinking with somewhat perplexity. When did she fall in love with fish tanks and must move a fish tank into her yard? Was what Chu Liuchen said sincere or did he mean something else?

She couldn't figure it out for now...

### **Chapter 113 The Purpose of Being Hypocritical**

The servant trader came soon on the second day. Because they needed to pick girl servants, Old Grandma asked them to go to Xinning Courtyard.

When Qin Wanru came over, it was still early. In the yard, only Shui Ruolan accompanied Old Grandma. After making a salute, she sat down next to Old Grandma with her eyes fixed on the girls brought by the servant trader.

All the people brought by the servant trader were girls, and there were more than one hundred of them. They lowered their heads and stood in the yard without making any sound. Old Grandma was very satisfied with them as a whole.

"Ruolan, Zhuozhuo, since you've come, just pick your girl servants first!" Old Grandma picked up the teacup and took a sip, and her face darkened. Madam Di and Qin Yuru had not shown up at this moment, which indicated that they didn't respect her at all.

The residences of Madam Di's and Shui Ruolan's were obviously the closest.

"Wanru, pick your girl servants first." Shui Ruolan said softly.

Qin Wanru nodded and stood up. She really had to pick a few girl servants first, lest Qin Yuru and Madam Di arranged girl servants in her place as scouts. A girl servant arranged by Madam Di was enough.

"Mother, you should pick a few more girl servants with me. If another servant trader comes here next time, you may not be able to pick agreeable girl servants!" Qin Wanru said.

Her words were quite meaningful. Shui Ruolan smiled and understood.

Qin Wanru had picked not a few girl servants this time, but most of them were second-class and third-class girl servants. After finishing picking, she was still worried. Thus, she specially asked Nanny Duan to have a look at them and kept those whom Nanny Duan considered not bad.

Shui Ruolan also picked not a few girl servants. She didn't mean to pick so many girl servants. But at the thought of Qin Wanru's words, she felt that she was more reassured to pick them now.

Old Grandma didn't care about that much. She just picked two girl servants to work in her yard.

Old Grandma told Nanny Duan to gather these girl servants they picked to train them and tell them the rules of the General's Mansion. After these girl servants were taken away, Madam Di finally showed up with Qin Yuru.

After making a salute separately, Madam Di and Qin Yuru also sat aside.

"Mother, why are there so few girl servants?" Looking at the remaining girl servants in the yard, Madam Di asked disdainfully with an arrogant sneer on her face, "Mother, let's change a servant trader. The capital is different from Jiangzhou. This servant trader brought a few girls indeed, which makes our Qin's mansion look petty."

"Grandma, this servant trader brought too few girls indeed. Last time I saw my grandma from my mother's family pick girl servants, and there were at least 50 of them. See, there are only a few girls. How can I choose from them?" Glancing over the girls' faces, Qin Yuru became increasingly dissatisfied.

They had just arrived in the capital, Madam Di and her daughter Qin Yuru had already become extremely pretentious. They did not forget to talk about the Duke Yong's Mansion even in this case. There was a hint of sarcasm across Qin Wanru's slightly drooping eyes.

Madam Di thought that she could do whatever she wanted with the support of the Duke Yong's Mansion! She was even suppressing Old Grandma with the power of the Duke Yong's Mansion.

They meant to suppress everyone with the power and put on airs in front of everyone by coming late!

She would slowly tear off this so-called guarantee from the Duke Yong's Mansion...

"You are late, and we have picked!" Old Grandma said with a blank face which enabled no one to tell her mood.

"Mother, why did Wanru and younger sister pick before me? We should respect for seniority. It's irrational!" As Madam Di's face darkened, the smile on her face became slightly stiff.

"Why is it irrational? We've waited for so long, but you didn't come. Can't they pick girl servants without you? Besides, I asked them to pick first. Do you have any problem with that?" Old Grandma said while frowning, "I asked someone to tell you to come over, but you haven't come for so long. What were you doing?"

"I... I didn't sleep well last night because I first arrived in the capital last night. So I got up late. The servant sent by you saw me still asleep and didn't wake me up. I just don't have a satisfactory servant upon arrival in the capital." Madam Di secretly hated Old Grandma for her partiality but had to explain.

She originally intended to put on airs in front of the old lady, but unexpectedly she didn't buy it.

"Pick on your own!" Old Grandma waved her hand impatiently, pointing at the girl servants in the yard.

"Grandma, I don't want them. All... of them are leftover girls and must be not good." Qin Yuru was so aggrieved that her eyes turned red. She turned her head and wiped her tears with a handkerchief, as if she had been bullied.

"Yuru, don't cry. If... you don't like them, you can pick next time. After all, you should pick some satisfactory girl servants to serve you." Madam Di stood up to appease Qin Yuru, and then turned her

head, "Mother, since they are leftover girls, we can ask the servant trader to bring another bunch of girls next time, and Yuru can pick her girl servants then. We can't let her pick the girl servants left by her sister!"

"Suit yourself!" Old Grandma stood up and turned back into the house. She really didn't like Madam Di's arrogant look. Besides, Qin Yuru reminded her of the former concubines in the mansion. As a decent Young Lady, she just cried with grievance after saying a few words, which was really disappointing.

Qin Wanru and Shui Ruolan followed Old Grandma into the house.

After appeasing Qin Yuru, Madam Di also walked into the house, seemingly intending to stay and have a talk. "Mother, we are now in the capital city, so we must follow some rules in the capital city. Otherwise, we'll be ridiculed by others, and even be separated from the aristocratic families circle of the entire capital and be ridiculed everywhere."

"What do you mean?" Upon arrival in the capital, Madam Di dared to play tricks on the strength of the Duke Yong's Mansion. Old Grandma was not in a good mood. She looked up at her and said.

"I naturally mean that our mansion should integrate into the circle of the capital sooner. This is also good for the general's career. Mother, do you think that it makes sense?" With a bit of pride on her face, Madam Di said, "We should strictly observe the rules in our mansion. First of all, it's the rules of the servants. To take what happened today as an example, if the servant from your courtyard observed the rules, she must wake me up today and I could come over early. How could she let me sleep unconsciously for so long?"

"Madam mean to accuse grandma's servant of not observing the rules?" Qin Wanru blinked her watery eyes and asked in puzzlement with a trace of coldness across her eyes. Madam Di seemingly intended to start from grandma and then inevitably speak of her and her mother. Did Madam Di really still consider herself the Madam with overwhelming power in the backyard of the General's Mansion? She had no idea of her current status at all!

Although Madam Di meant it, she expressed it in a tactful way. Unexpectedly, Qin Wanru directly pointed out what she meant. She moaned in her heart and looked up to see Old Grandma. As expected, she saw Old Grandma's gaze seemed to be a bit gloomy. She was alarmed and hurriedly glared at Qin Wanru and said, "Wanru, what are you talking about? How can I blame Mother's servant? I just started the topic with this matter and meant that Mother's servants also need to be trained!"

"Second sister, it is the capital here, not Jiangzhou. You can't act absurdly. You and Aunt Shui are disrespectful by picking servants before us. Now you dared to talk nonsense to my mother. Who gave you the courage?" Qin Yuru sneered and involuntarily became tough at the thought that she had caught Qin Wanru tripping.

"Big sister, I just take the matter on its merits. Why did you say that I took advantage of someone's power? I don't have anyone to take advantage of, which disappoints you. However, whose support makes you dare to be so impolite in front of grandma? Do people act according to these rules in the capital?"

Qin Wanru looked up slightly and said coldly to Qin Yuru.

Qin Wanru had no one to rely on indeed, but Qin Yuru and Madam Di were different. Now they were obviously putting on airs with the support of the Duke Yong's Mansion, and everyone in the house knew that.

On hearing Qin Wanru's words, Qin Yuru blushed and glared at Qin Wanru with her pretty eyes, wishing she could stand up and slap Qin Wanru to vent her anger.

"Wanru, talk to your Big Sister politely. You should be close to each other both outside and in the mansion. We cannot make people think that our Qin's mansion lacks rules and rituals." Madam Di rebuked Qin Wanru with a smile. She didn't say that very seriously, plus the smile on her face and the meaning in her words, so she sounded kind to Qin Wanru.

Although Old Grandma did not speak, she looked slightly relieved.

"I used to misjudge what happened in Jiangzhou. Now we are in the capital, and those things are no longer important. I hope that you and your Big Sister can be close to each other from now on. You are the only two Young Madams in the Qin's Mansion, unlike those aristocratic families each of which has nearly 10 Young Madams. Sisters are related by blood. You can establish yourselves in the capital only with the mutual help between you."

Seeing her words have an influence, she talked in an increasingly earnest tone. She even "frankly" mentioned what had happened before and looked regretful. She then picked up the teacup at hand, stood up and walked to Qin Wanru.

"Wanru, I only hope that you and Yuru can be close to each other. Your Big Sister and I are to be blamed for what happened before. I hope you can be generous enough to forgive us. I will definitely think of a way to compensate you!"

After finishing her words, she handed the teacup to Qin Wanru. She actually came over to apologize.

At the sight of Madam Di's hypocritical look, Qin Wan suddenly stood up, passed by Qin Yuru and made a respectful and alienated salute to Madam Di. "Madam, you talked so seriously!"

After finishing her words, she turned to walk to Old Grandma's back without looking at Madam Di and motioned for the girl servant, who was pounding Old Grandma's back, to step back. She went over and began to gently pound Old Grandma's back with her cheeks bulging, seeming to be vigilant and unwilling to talk more with Madam Di.

After being framed so many times, no one could have no grudge. Besides, she was still a child.

"Mother, I want to take both of them out for the banquet in the Marquises' Mansion of Fengyang. We've just arrived in the capital, and I should take them out and show them around, lest they exposed their ignorance and lose dignity." Madam Di, who had been ignored, suppressed her irritation, held the teacup and returned to her seat with a hollow smile.

Therefore, this was Madam Di's main purpose. However, when had Madam Di been so enthusiastic? Qin Wanru reached out to rub her forehead. She didn't remember something clearly. Some memories of the last life lack details, such as how the marriage between her and the self-indulgent guy was arranged. They seemed to have met each other at a banquet. Could it be this banquet?

She should attend the banquet as soon as possible, but not with Madam Di who was scheming. She had a better choice!

"Grandma, I don't want to go to the banquet. I want to go to worship the Buddha with Aunt Shui tomorrow. The master of Jingxin Monastery said that Huaguang Temple is the most prosperous in the capital. Can Aunt Shui and I go to have a look tomorrow?"

Tomorrow was the third day of this month!

#### **Chapter 114 The Goodwill of Great Elder Princess**

"Huaguang Temple is indeed very famous. When I was in Jiangzhou, I've heard people talk about it more than once. It is worth visiting!" On hearing her words, Old Grandma, who believed in Buddhism, nodded repeatedly.

"Is Grandma going with us?" Qin Wanru took the chance to ask.

"I'm not going this time. There are so many things in the mansion, and many of them have not been handled well. Zhuozhuo and Ruolan can visit it first. When I have time later, you can accompany me to visit again." Old Grandma said with a smile.

"Mother, I'm not going either. The mansion is in a mess, and many things need to be put in order." Shui Ruolan originally wanted to go. She liked quiet places, and Huaguang Temple was tremendously famous. "Mother, you can go for a visit with Wanru. I will go next time when I find a chance!"

Qin Huaiyong had already said that she was in charge of the affairs in the backyard. At this moment, the mansion was in a mess, and many things had not been handled. It was not a good time to go out for a visit.

"This..." Old Grandma hesitated. She also thought that it was not the best time for Shui Ruolan to go out for a visit.

"Grandma, mother and I just intend to go there and walk around for a while, and we will not stay for a long time. I have already inquired about it. It takes us an hour at most for a round trip. We can set out early and come back early. We may be able to come back before lunchtime. It won't take much time."

Qin Wanru pleaded aside.

If it was so close, it wouldn't take much time indeed. Looking at her granddaughter's eager face, Old Grandma was convinced and said to Shui Ruolan with a smile, "Ruolan, just take her there for a visit, or this little monkey will be restless. Set out early and come back early. When you are really in charge of the affairs later, it won't be so convenient for you to go out!"

Old Grandma's words were very meaningful. Shui Ruolan thought that it was true. They had just arrived in the capital city. When she officially took charge of the affairs later, she wouldn't be able to go out. Besides, winter had set in, and it would be the Spring Festival after a period. At that time, with more affairs like sending presents, she wouldn't be able to snatch even a relaxing moment.

She had better snatch half a day of leisure when Old Grandma put things in order.

At the thought of this, Shui Ruolan was convinced. "Then... Mother, Wanru and I will set out and come back soon."

"Tomorrow I'm going to meet some old supervisors and ask about some old affairs. It's okay for you two to stay there for longer!" Old Grandma said with a smile.

They talked and laughed, leaving Madam Di and her daughter aside.

Madam Di originally intended to come over to put on airs in front of everyone and then show her goodwill towards Qin Wanru. Thus, she could make everyone under her control with both gentle and tough means. However, she gnashed her teeth in anger at the moment.

Holding back the hatred in her heart, she forced a peaceful smile and said, "Mother, Yuru and I want to visit the Duke Yong's Mansion. Since we moved to the capital, I haven't seen my father and mother yet!"

"You can go, too!" Old Grandma nodded.

"Is the general going with me?" Madam Di said again.

"Naturally he is going. Prepare gifts later and go to the Duke Yong's Mansion with Huai tomorrow!" After thinking for a moment, Old Grandma said.

"Yes, mother. However, I haven't returned to the capital for many years. Do you think these gifts a little meager?" Madam Di pretentiously took out a gift list and came over to hand it to Old Grandma.

She deliberately drafted the gift list and deliberately made it meager.

Old Grandma took the gift list and had a look at it. She frowned and said, "These are a little meager. Add a few more gifts."

"Mother, the previous expense for the store..." Madam Di looked embarrassed.

"I will tell Nanny Duan to add a few more gifts!" Old Grandma interrupted her words.

"Thank you, mother! I'm going to visit my parents' home with the general tomorrow." With a complacent smile on her face, Madam Di turned and said to Shui Ruolan, "Sister, I intended to accompany you to go there tomorrow, but now I am not available."

She was showing off that Qin Huaiyong was going to accompany her instead of Shui Ruolan!

"Enjoy your visit!" Shui Ruolan said with a calm face, as if she did not notice that Madam Di was deliberately showing off.

In the early morning of next day, Qin Wanru and Shui Ruolan both got up early. They sat in a carriage with a girl servant for each of them and went to Huaguang Temple.

When they arrived at Huaguang Temple, the day was just dawning, but there were plenty of pilgrims.

Huaguang Temple deserved to be the largest temple in the capital. Getting out of the carriage at the parking lot outside the mountain gate, they found that it had formed a lively market outside.

There were stores selling joss sticks and cradles, food, flowers and everything that one expected to find. There were even silks and satins placed in simple stores. The pilgrims coming to Huaguang Temple could not only worship the Buddha but also shop in the market. It was quite a lively scene.

It was the first time that Qin Wanru and Shui Ruolan had seen such a lively mountain gate. Looking up at the tall mountain gate behind them, they had to sigh again. The first temple in the capital, as well as a royal temple, was really remarkable and better than they expected.

They decided to go hiking from the front mountain gate.

After entering the front mountain gate, they found there were all stairs. The high stairs extended up and led to the real Huaguang Temple.

With so many stairs superimposed, the hustle and bustle fell behind them. Looking back, they found that they were stepping on the hustle and bustle. They heard the distant bells, which dissipated the irritation in their hearts, from the top of their heads.

Even before they reached the real Huaguang Temple, they had found it free from vulgarity.

There was a long way to the mountain top. It was said that this path was called Wenxin Road. Qin Wanru had come here once in the last life. She passed Wenxin Road, walked to the front of this section of stairs and looked up at the stairs. At this moment, she involuntarily recalled the last life!

It was still early, and there were not many people climbing the mountain. Looking from their position, they only saw an old woman in the distance climbing up with a girl servant and an old maid.

The old woman didn't wear gorgeous clothes and just looked like someone from an ordinary rich family. At this moment, perhaps she was tired, so she stopped and stood on the stairs for a rest.

At the sight of this old woman, Qin Wanru suddenly clenched the handkerchief in her hand with a burst of excitement in her eyes. She had known this old woman in the last life, and this old woman was the person she was looking for, Rui'an great elder princess.

Rui'an great elder princess was the emperor's aunt. She was married to General Xi who had accompanied the late emperor to expend the territory. Unfortunately, General Xi died on the battlefield. She raised her daughter alone and then consoled herself by worshiping Buddha after her daughter grew up and got married.

Her favorite place to visit was Huaguang Temple. In fact, she didn't just come to worship the Buddha. She also came early to climb Wenxin Road which started from the front gate of Huaguang Temple. Wenxin meant asking original intention which was a Buddhist theory!

She almost came here on the first three days of every month, and today was the third day of this month.

During the last life, Qin Wanru also met Rui'an great elder princess here. Seeing she insist on climbing most of the stairs in one breath, Rui'an great elder princess was very fond of her and had invited her to visit the Great Elder Princess's Mansion. After that, Rui'an great elder princess did send several invitation cards to Qin's mansion to invite Qin Wanru to visit her mansion, but Madam Di offered various excuses to prevent Qin Wanru from going there. In the end, Qin Wanru was the one invited, but Qin Yuru was usually the one showing up.

After failing to invite Qin Wanru several times, Rui'an great elder princess lost interest and didn't send invitation cards anymore.

The scene of Qin Yuru attending great elder princess's banquet during her last life suddenly came to her mind.

"Great elder princess has invited the Young Madam of our Qin's mansion. Look at you, you will humiliate our Qin's mansion by going out with your bad reputation. If what happened in Jiangzhou spread here, do you still get the nerve to go out?" Qin Yuru wore gorgeous clothes, standing in front of Qin Wanru with arrogance and disdain on her face, as if Qin Wan was the humblest sludge.

"If she goes out and is discussed by others, even we will feel shameful!"

"Exactly. She just has no idea of her bad reputation. She is even inferior to an innocent servant!" ...These voices were from Qin Yuru's girl servants. All of them looked down on Qin Wanru, even without thinking that they were just servants while Qin Wanru was the master.

In the last life, she had lived a life even inferior to that of a servant in the backyard of Qin's mansion. Meanwhile, because Qin Yuru had received several invitations from Rui'an great elder princess, everyone would send her an invitation card for the sake of Rui'an great elder princess if there was a banquet. She finally successfully became a talented woman who was rare and famous in the capital.

She took a light breath, hid the coldness in her eyes, and then looked up at Rui'an great elder princess's amiable face. She felt slightly warmer.

She would never waste the goodwill of great elder princess and never allow Qin Yuru to take advantage of the goodwill of great elder princess to be chosen by the circle of noble ladies of the capital.

"Mother, let's climb up quickly!" After thinking clearly, Qin Wanru whispered to Shui Ruolan, "I heard that this is the road of asking intention of Huaguang Temple and it asks the original intention. The longer we persist, the more likely it is to ask the original intention!"

"Well!" Shui Ruolan looked up at the stairs which extended up and were almost endless, and nodded. She also had a lot of worries in her heart and wondered if what she did was right. Asking her original intention by climbing the stairs was probably what she needed!

Thus, they climbed up together with their girl servants. When passing by Rui'an great elder princess, she intentionally smiled at her but did not stop. She kept climbing up.

The girl had a delicate face and attractive watery eyes. Looking carefully, she found that the girl looked like a porcelain doll with exquisite features, long eyelashes, and small pink lips.

"Gee." Rui'an great elder princess said lightly, watching Qin Wanru passing by her. As just a little girl, she not only walked by herself but also looked back and pulled the young woman behind her from time to time.

"Great elder princess, what's wrong?" It was her personal old maid nanny Gao who climbed up with her. On hearing her astonished voice, nanny Gao hurriedly asked.



"Which mansion does such a pretty girl come from?" Great elder princess looked at Qin Wanru with a smile and asked curiously. As a little girl, she was so pretty and sensible, which made great elder princess sincerely fond of her.

"Uh... I have never seen her either!" Nanny Gao squinted and thought about it, but did not figure out which mansion the girl came from. "She may not be local!"

She could only make such a guess!

"She's a pretty and sensible girl indeed!" Great elder princess sighed lightly.

After serving great elder princess for so many years, nanny Gao immediately understood what great elder princess meant. For fear of reminding her of what had happened and making her sad, nanny Gao hurriedly changed the subject and provoked her. "Great elder princess, I've had enough rest. Can you walk now?"

### **Chapter 115 Never Lose to the Last Life**

"Of course I can go. Since I have climbed so many times, it's impossible to lose to a child!" Seeing that Qin Wanru was far ahead, the great elder princess put aside her worries just now and went up a step without admit defeating.

Qin Wanru was still climbing up the mountain step by step. However, Shui Ruolan had already lost her strength, so she stood in the middle to rest. Only she continued to go up with Yujie.

Yujie originally grew up in the mountains. Although she was tired, she could still bear it. Qin Wanru's body was not as strong as hers. At this time, her face was pale, and even her lips, which had always been tender, were pallid. But she continued to climb up.

"Miss, do you want to stop for a rest?" Yujie could see that she was almost spent, so she wanted to give her a hand.

Qin Wanru shook her hand away. She hardly even had the strength to speak now. She just went up the mountain with all her efforts. Only when she went higher could she attract the attention of Rui'an great elder princess.

In her last life, she had suffered a lot and her life was dark and full of despair. So, on this road to examine her conscience, she climbed up the mountain desperately, trying to express her devotion to Buddha, in order to achieve a turning point in her destiny.

This attracted the attention of Rui'an great elder princess, who said frankly that she liked her persistence.

She was reborn in this life, so she could never lose to the last life!

Her breathing was getting heavier and heavier, and between the heavy breaths, Qin Wanru almost felt a dry odor in her throat, but she gritted her teeth and tried hard again. She did not look back to see how many steps she had taken, nor did she look up to see how many steps she still had to go. She climbed up one step at a time with tenacity.

“Well, the girl is still walking!” When Nanny Gao accompanied Rui’an great elder princess to stand still and rest, she looked up at Qin Wanru, who was still going up, and was surprised.

Rui’an great elder princess wiped the sweat from her head and squinted. Although she was old, she often came to climb mountains. Her body was superior to that of average young people, especially the madams and ladies from noble families, who could hardly beat her.

But the girl who used to be like a porcelain doll was still climbing and had never stopped, which attracted her attention. This girl’s resilience really amazed her, and she also had a familiar fondness of her.

“Ask which family she is from later!” Rui’an great elder princess couldn’t help saying that at such a young age, she could persevere in doing something with resilience!

“Yes, great elder princess!” Nanny Gao also wiped the sweat from her head.

“Let’s go up. We can’t really lose to a little girl!” Rui’an great elder princess laughed. She adjusted her breathing and continued to climb up.

When passing by Shui Ruolan, she glanced at her intentionally, and found that Shui Ruolan was actually not young. She was at least about 25 years old. And she should be the mother of the girl above.

Kindly smiling at her, Rui’an great elder princess continued to climb up.

Shui Ruolan’s body was not very good. She used to live quietly in the backyard of the Qin’s mansion. She didn’t even see an idle person on weekdays. How could she exercise? At this time, she had to stop after being exhausted walking. When she saw an old woman passing by and smiling at her kindly, she gently returned a salute to Rui’an great elder princess with a smile.

That kind of gentle and benevolent performance left a good impression on Rui’an great elder princess.

The mother and daughter were well-versed in knowledge and courtesy.

Qin Wanru seemed to be standing unsteadily near the last step. She slipped and almost fell down.

Yujie wanted to hold her, but she was too tired now. Although she could still hold her feet steady, her footsteps were too weak and her reaction was too slow. She only had time to hold onto Qin Wanru’s hand. She saw Qin Wanru’s face change. Her lips were like snow, and her body was tilted to the edge. She immediately knew it was terrible, so she stretched out her other hand and hugged Qin Wanru.

“Miss, what happened to you?”

Qin Wanru held Yujie’s hand, panting hard. Her palm-sized face was as white as snow!

She couldn’t bring herself back down to earth for a long time.

“I... it seems that I’ve twisted my ankle... Twisted!” Qin Wanru was panting, forcing the bloody smell to go in her throat. The sweat on her face was falling down drop by drop, as if it were a hot summer day at this time.

She seemed to be floating!

“Miss, let me carry you up!” Looking at the end of the journey that was not far away, Yujie squatted in front of Qin Wanru.

“You don’t have to carry me... I... will go up!” Qin Wanru shook her head.

“But you have hurt your foot, how can you go up!” Yujie said with worry.

“It doesn’t matter... I... can take a break.” Qin Wanru shook her head firmly, gasped, and closed her eyes, feeling giddy.

She was really physically exhausted today, which made her listless and almost unwilling to move again.

She bent down, reached out, and pinched her ankle. Although it hurt a little, it was not very severe. It did not seem to be seriously injured.

“Wait... wait a minute, and I will go up!” Qin Wanru stood up straight and insisted.

Yujie saw that she was still so persistent, but helplessly supported her to stand on the side of a big stone. There was a smooth place on the big stone beside the steps. In the past, many people must have come here to rest and sit.

Holding Qin Wanru sitting in that smooth place, Yujie squatted down and tried to help Qin Wanru check her ankles, but Qin Wanru waved her hand to stop.

“Wait... After we arrive at the top of the mountain, people... people are hurrying to and fro here... It... it broke the etiquette!” Qin Wanru slightly slowed down, wiped the sweat from her face with a handkerchief, and shook her head.

There were many requirements for women in noble families in terms of etiquette. How could she check her ankles in a place where people came and went?

“What’s wrong, Miss? Can I help you?” Nanny Gao helped Rui’an great elder princess to this step at last. She looked at Qin Wanru, who was supported by a maid and looked as white as snow. Rui’an great elder princess signaled Nanny Gao to come and ask. She didn’t look very good after climbing up such long steps in a short time.

“Thank you... Nanny... I am fine!” Qin Wanru shook her head with a smile.

Looking down at Qin Wanru’s feet slightly standing on tiptoes, Nanny Gao asked with concern, “What happened to Miss’s feet?”

“Her ankle was inadvertently... twisted!” Qin Wanru bit her cherry lip for a while that hadn’t yet recovered, with a little childish shyness.

“You continued to climb with a twisted ankle. Good girl!” Rui’an great elder princess walked over with pity, and was inexplicably fond of the girl in front of her.

Whether her delicate face, stubborn temperament that refused to be defeated, or her resilience, they all reminded her of a person in her memory. She felt her heart become soft, so she asked with concern.

“Thank you, Old Grandma. I... I am fine!” Qin Wanru smiled, stretched out her hand to the stone on one side and tried to get up to salute her.

“Since you have been hurt, there is no need to salute. No more etiquette!” Looking at her sweaty hair and pale face, Rui’an great elder princess felt more and more pity for her. She reached out and said, “How can you go on like this? Let someone carry you up. There are only a few steps left anyway!”

“Thank you for your concern, Old Grandma. I heard that this road is meant to examine one’s conscience in Buddhism. I can finish it because I want to finish it by myself!” Qin Wanru smiled shyly, and looked childlike. Her sweaty face was somewhat pale.

“Well, I will walk with you today!” Rui’an great elder princess smiled and offered her a hand.

There were not many steps left. But in fact, most people climbed to the point where Qin Wanru went, but they would not climb the last steps. Even if they were only a few steps, they would also feel that it was as difficult as ascending into the sky.

Lack of psychological endurance would lead to inertia.

When Qin Wanru stood on the steps and saw the magnificent temple, she breathed out a deep turbid breath. Yujie helped her sit down on the stone stool beside her and wait for Shui Ruolan to come up.

Nanny Gao also supported Rui’an great elder princess to sit opposite Qin Wanru. She had to be very old, so she was panting. There was actually tea on the stone table. Yujie poured two cups for them, and it was still hot.

“Which family are you from? Why haven’t I met you before?” Rui’an great elder princess took a sip of tea and slowed down her breathing before she asked with a smile.

“My father is Ningyuan Army General who just went to Beijing to report on his work,” Qin Wanru said with a smile.

Her complexion was very white, as transparent as snow, which also helped her recover right now. Her snow-like face also reflected pink. A pair of big eyes were under the long eyelashes, which appeared clean and soft. Her red lips added more beautiful vitality for her, but she felt like she herself was like snow.

If she hadn’t seen it with her own eyes, Rui’an great elder princess could hardly believe that such a beautiful girl with pink make-up could have been so resilient.

“It’s true that you are a daughter of the general!” Although Rui’an great elder princess was not familiar with Ningyuan Army General, that did not prevent her from being fond of the daughter of the general and sincerely praising her.

Rui’an great elder princess had also married a military commander. Compared with the crooked civil officials, she thought that the former would be more straightforward and look more pleasing to the eye.

“Old Madam, you flatter me!” Qin Wanru bowed her head slightly and laughed with some embarrassment.

“When did you arrive in Beijing?” Rui’an great elder princess asked and looked at Qin Wanru in a good mood.

"I... arrived yesterday. I heard the reputation of this Huaguang Temple, so I came here in the early morning with my mother." Qin Wanru did not hide, and she looked up to answer bluntly.

Her generous, gentle, and quiet behavior was very likable.

"Is the one below your mother, the wife of the Ningyuan Army General?" asked Rui'an great elder princess.

"It is my mother, but she is my father's concubine and my father's cousin." Qin Wanru biting her lips, hesitated for a moment, what she said was somewhat vague.

"Your father's cousin?" Rui'an great elder princess intuitively felt something was hiding in it, and deliberately asked again.

"He married her to take care of me. I... was naughty, so my father didn't trust me!" What Qin Wanru said became more and more vague. She seemed a little uneasy when speaking. She twisted her handkerchief in her fingers several times, but put it down again, which indicated that she did not know how to word it.

Rui'an great elder princess had gone through so many things that she had understood that there must be some faults in it, so she did not ask any more questions. Now she asked, "In a few days, I'm going to host a banquet at my mansion. How about sending an invitation for you to come over and have fun?"

"You are?" Qin Wanru raised her watery eyes, and asked confusedly.

"Our master is Rui'an great elder princess!" Nanny Gao stood out from behind Rui'an great elder princess and laughed.

### **Chapter 116: Sending the Fish Tank and Seeds**

"Rui'an great elder princess?" Qin Wanru was stunned and hurriedly stood up, ready to bow to her, but Rui'an great elder princess instructed Nanny Gao to stop her.

"Since your ankle is injured, you don't have to bow to me. I inexplicably feel that you are adorable when I see you. Our meeting today can be counted as predestined. Coming to the capital means that you should join the circle of noble ladies. When the invitation from my family arrives, you and your mother can come together to my family!" Rui'an great elder princess stood up, speaking to Qin Wanru with a smile.

"Thank you, great elder princess!" Qin Wanru excitedly looked up and then bowed with Yujie as her support.

Qin Wanru was young, but she had manners, which made Rui'an great elder princess's impression of her become better and better. The princess didn't avoid her bow this time and let her do it. After that, she pulled a bracelet from her wrist, took the hand of Qin Wanru, and put it on her wrist.

"Okay, I am leaving now. When my family affairs are done, I will send you an invitation!" Rui'an great elder princess smiled, looking quite happy.

"Thank you, great elder princess!" Qin Wanru bowed low again. Her gratitude was sincere because she would have to follow Madam Di to attend parties in the end if she were not guided by Rui'an great elder princess.

Whether or not Madam Di would make mischief behind them, following Madam Di to attend parties, by borrowing the fame of Duke Yong's Mansion, would make her become inferior to Madam Di in nature. In the future, if troublesome things happened between Qin's Mansion and Madam Di or Duke Yong's Mansion, Qin's Mansion would only have to compromise again and again, and even become coerced by Duke Yong's Mansion.

In her previous life, Shui Ruolan had endured a premature birth because of Madam Di's secret evil actions, and two lives were lost in the end. The case was investigated and finally had a crystal-clear result was found. But after Duke Yong's Mansion and Duke Xing's Mansion put pressure on the case, the case finally ended up with nothing definite. Shui Ruolan died without due justice.

The reason was that Qin's Mansion didn't think it should lose the support and help of Duke Yong's Mansion. But this time, she had to protect Shui Ruolan, ensuring her safe childbirth.

She would not allow Madam Di to murder the mother and her child anymore!

Out of this concern, she would need to build up relations with Duke Yong's Mansion as soon as she arrived in the capital, and would never work as the one that relied on Duke Yong's Mansion when she joined the circle of the noble families.

Rui'an great elder princess had pointed out the shortcut that directly led to the female circle of the noble families. How couldn't she be thankful?

Even in her previous life, she also owed Rui'an great elder princess her gratitude.

When Shui Ruolan reached the top heavily panting, Qin Wanru had been resting for a while. After she exercised her feet several times and asked Yujie to massage them through her shoes, she didn't feel that they were in that much pain anymore. Her ankles might have only been lightly sprained, and that was nothing serious. They almost recovered after being massaged with the help of the medicinal liquor.

"Wanru, why did you climb so quickly!" Shui Ruolan, who was resting on the stone stool, spoke as she wiped off her sweat with her handkerchief. Yujie had already come over and poured her a cup of tea.

The tea on the table had been warmed, and it was at the most suitable state for drinking. Shui Ruolan drank more than half a cup and gradually recovered.

Looking back at the faraway mountain path, she was also shocked because it was so high and so distant. Just now, she also surprisingly reached the top. Therefore, she admired Qin Wanru even more.

In the beginning, she thought that it would be good enough if Qin Wanru could reach the top. Unexpectedly, not only did she reach the top, but she also moved faster and rested less than her during the climb.

"Mother, the reason might be that I often play and become strong!" Qin Wanru smiled.

The two of them rested for a while and then walked into the temple. They didn't stay too long on top of the mountain. After worshipping in several Buddhist halls, they hurriedly returned.

It was lunchtime when they returned to Qin's Mansion, and it was early.

Qin Wanru and Shui Ruolan returned to their individual courtyards, the climbing and sweating had consumed all their strength.

Back in her courtyard, she washed her face and hands, combed her hair, and hurriedly ate a bowl of porridge. Then, she had no strength to do anything else. After taking a nap on the bed at noon, she was re-energized when she woke up although she was still sore from head to toe.

With the help of the medicinal liquor, Yujie had massaged the swollen parts on her feet, and the swollen situation nearly disappeared. She would only feel a little pain when she tried to exercise her feet. In addition to the swollen red marks on them, she couldn't feel anything wrong.

As soon as she sat down at the window, she saw Nanny Yu hurriedly come in.

"Miss, someone has sent us a big fish tank and says it is the one that you have ordered before. I wish to know where we should put it?"

"Fish tank?" Qin Wanru was stunned.

"It is similar to the one in which water lilies were planted in the yard in the past, but it is a little bigger, and we can raise more fish in it." Nanny Wang smiled as she spoke. She also felt that the arrival of the fish tank was odd because they had just arrived in the capital yesterday and someone had sent them a fish tank. But when she recalled that her young madam also had a fish tank in her previous yard for raising water lilies, she guessed that this one was probably one that Qin Wanru bought just now when she went out.

"Please... place it under the big tree in the east of the yard." Only at that time did Qin Wanru know what was going on, and she couldn't help smiling. "The child hasn't forgotten his promise."

It was natural to keep it once it had been sent to her. In fact, she also wanted to raise a tank of water lilies because they were simple but looked beautiful. Besides that, she could also appreciate lotus flowers without going outdoors. That was also something elegant.

Nanny Yu listened to her instruction, nodded, and left, but she came in again with an embarrassed face after a while.

"Miss, the servant who sent the fish tank says he wants to see you and also wants you to sign a receipt."

"A receipt?" Qin Wanru raised her eyebrows slightly.

"Yes, he says it is a very important receipt and insists that you sign it," Nanny Yu said helplessly. "The two servants didn't listen to me no matter what I said. They say they will take out the receipt only when they see you. Otherwise, if that is not done, their boss will punish them."

"Qing Yue, please go and take a look!" Qin Wanru said casually.

Qing Yue turned and followed Nanny Yu to go out, but she came back in with a strange expression and was followed by a man, murmuring, "Miss..."

Qin Wanru raised her head, her eyes moving from Qing Yue to the servant coming in with her. Immediately, her expression became strange because the person dressed like a servant was none other than Chu Liuchen. She couldn't help holding her forehead with her hand, thinking, "What is the man trying to do this time?"

She waved her hand to ask Qing Yue and Yujie to leave them.

Both of them had seen Chu Liuchen before, knowing he was a distinguished childe, so they had no choice but to leave them.

"Childe, what are you going to do today?" Helplessly, Qin Wanru stood up. She was not going to go outdoors just after she woke up. Her long hair cascaded down freely, and she looked even smaller because of it.

"Are you really 11 years old?" Chu Liuchen looked at Qin Wanru dismissively, and walked over and sat down in the chair opposite her, looking sideways at her once.

"Childe, I really am 11 years old!" Qin Wanru reaffirmed.

"Children who are 11 years old in the capital look a little taller and older than you! Some of them almost look as old as your elder sister!" Staring at the exquisite porcelain-doll-like Qin Wanru made Chu Liuchen dislike her even more.

"How old does the childe think I am?" Qin Wanru bit her lips, asking.

"Nine or 10!" Chu Liuchen measured her height and age with his eyes, giving her a very definitive answer.

"..." Qin Wanru reached out her hands and poured a cup of tea on the table and carried it to him, asking, "What does the childe come for today? Are you well now?"

Regarding her small size, it was difficult to make it clear no matter how she explained it. Qin Wanru had stopped arguing with him about it and changed the subject as she smiled.

"Qin Wanru, is it too late for you to ask about my wellness now?" Chu Liuchen looked at Qin Wanru with a faint smile on his face, as if he was not surprised to hear her asking about his physical condition. He raised his eyebrows and had a small smile, looking gentle and harmless. Others might think that the man before them was as beautiful as a piece of jade and as unique as something unparalleled in the world.

But that was not what Qin Wanru thought!

Was he unhappy now? Qin Wanru didn't know how she had made the haughty, sick childe unhappy. But what she could do was fake a smile and say, "I wanted to ask about it just now, but I had been wishing to prove I am not young anymore after hearing you speak of my age. So, I forgot to ask about it!"

Chu Liuchen was still pale, but he looked vigorous. Taking a closer look, she found that his skin was pale, but it was also shiny. His skin was so delicate that she even envied him.

Chu Liuchen smiled and looked like he was the most handsome person in the world, and his look at Qin Wanru became soft, as if the person who was deliberately trying to pick holes just now had not been himself.



"I have brought you a packet of water lily seeds. When spring comes, you can sow the seeds, which are heterogeneous water lily seeds. I got them from my grandmother. The water lilies that grow out of these seeds look exceptionally beautiful, and they also have a long flowering period." Chu Liuchen took out a packet of seeds from his chest and put them on the table.

"Very beautiful water lilies?" Qin Wanru also wished to keep them.

"Don't you believe what I have brought you?" Chu Liuchen looked sideways at her twice, as he spoke unhappily. His handsome face gradually became serious again.

"What you have brought are absolutely good. Thank you, childe!" Qin Wanru stood up, bowing to him. One shouldn't treat a childe the same as an ordinary person.

Chu Liuchen coldly snorted with some pride. Looking Qin Wanru up and down, he stood up and arrogantly walked outside.

"You look really small. I am leaving!"

Seeing the curtain fall, Qin Wanru was speechless. Today, the childe might have come only to play tricks on her! It was not a big deal to have brought such a big fish tank, but he had also paid a special visit. As for what it meant, she had no idea.

But thinking of his temperamental character, no one would be surprised by anything he did. If one could guess what he would do using common sense, then he would not be able to take the throne at the sickbed of the emperor in the future.

When Chu Liuchen and his little servant and eunuch Xiao Xuanzi arrogantly walked out of Qin's Mansion and boarded the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion, his expression turned cold. He took out a handkerchief and lightly pressed his lips, coughing twice in a low sound.

"Sir, are you all right?" Just now, it was Xiao Xuanzi who carried what he had brought in fact, and Chu Liuchen had only helped him. Seeing his current condition, Xiao Xuanzi felt like his heart had jumped into his throat. Others might not know the prince's physical condition, but he clearly knew it.

"Go, let's go to the palace!" Chu Liuchen raised his beautiful face slightly, peacefully looking at the view outside the window. His expression gradually shrank, without joy or anger, and his pair of eyes had nothing shiny or moving inside. The young man was handsome indeed, but he showed no vitality. Leaning without any strength on the short bed inside his carriage, he slowly closed his eyes...

### **Chapter 117 Throwing a Brick to Attract Jade; Similar Paintings**

After Chu Liuchen left, Qin Wanru found Madame Dong and let her go out with Wang Feng to see if there was a suitable store for tomorrow. She wanted to open a shop for embroidery and accessories in the capital city.

Dong Xiuer's legs were much better because of Qin Wanru's recent diagnosis and treatment. Because of this, Madame Dong was so grateful to Qin Wanru and respected Qin Wanru very much.

Hearing that Qin Wanru wanted her to go out to find a premises, she nodded quickly. But she also told Qin Wanru that this matter could not be done in a rush, and she needed to take her time to choose wisely.

She also had just arrived in the capital, so she was not familiar with the workings of the capital. She first had to check out the road conditions, as well as the rent on various streets and the state of the shops on the streets. Only after this analysis could she decide where to choose. Also, she had to ask if anyone wanted to sell. She was afraid that Qin Wanru, who was like a little girl, didn't understand this.

Qin Wanru smiled and agreed that Madame Dong was fully in charge of the matter.

She knew she didn't understand this business. It was best for Madame Dong to take full charge of it. She could see that Madame Dong was really trying to help her choose a good place.

Since the matter was properly settled, Madame Dong left. But when she walked to the door, she ran into Qing Xue. Fortunately, neither of them had been walking fast. But even so, Madame Dong was shaken and stumbled. Yujie saw this and helped her.

"Sorry. Sorry. Is Madame Dong hurt?" Qing Xue asked with a face full of concern. She handed a tray she was holding to the little servant girl behind her.

Her voice was warm and soft, and she smiled before she spoke. It made people feel good.

The reason why they bumped into each other was that Madame Dong had been walking too quickly. So, it was not Qing Xue's fault.

"It's okay. It's okay!" Madame Dong smiled. She respected the servant girls in Qin Wanru's yard. So although her arm was hurt, she did not show it.

"You should come to my house to check it out. If it's really bruised, I will apply some medicinal wine as soon as possible so that you won't get hurt to the bones." Qing Xue spoke softly, reached out her hand, and guided Madame Dong to the house where she lived.

"Sorry for the trouble, Miss Qing Xue!" Madame Dong was helpless, and she felt a lot of pain.

Seeing the two people walking away, Yujie returned into the house. "Miss, Qing Xue ran into Madame Dong and took Madame Dong to her house. She said that she wanted to check if Madame Dong was hurt."

Qin Wanru looked up and thought about it before she asked, "Madame Dong followed her?"

Yujie could tell that Madame Dong did not want to go before. But after listening to the words of Qing Xue, Madame Dong changed her mind. "Madame Dong did not want to go at first. But Qing Xue said that if it was a bruise, it's better to apply some medicinal wine early so as not to get hurt to the bones!"

"She really knows how to win people's heart!" Qin Wanru smiled slightly.

"Did she also arrange for Madame Dong to be with Qu Le?"

"According to the Miss's will. They are all in one place." Yujie nodded.

"Then, have Qu Le continue to watch her! She just came to the capital, and she has already begun to stir things up!" Qin Wanru snorted coldly. There was almost no problems when Qing Xue was in Jiangzhou. She had already begun to stir things up after just arriving here.

Qin Wanru remembered she was trying to investigate the seal. She had checked the small seal countless times, but she still couldn't understand the connection between the seal and herself.

In her last life, Qin Yuru was loved by the Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion because of this seal, and Qin Yuru also said that the seal was her own. So, most likely, the seal was related to her family.

"Is it time to make some dresses?" Qin Wanru walked over to the window and asked slowly after taking the writing brush from the inkstone.

Qin Mansion had this custom. The masters would make several sets of clothes every season. Back when they were in Jiangzhou, they were busy with the house-moving, so they did not have time for clothes. The winter clothes that should have been done long ago had not yet been made.

"It's time to make the clothes. I heard Nanny Duan say that people from the sewing room will come to the Miss and take measurements to make the clothes," Yujie replied.

"When will they come?" Qin Wanru untied the top two toggle-and-loop buttons of her collar. From the inside, she pulled out the small seal she had hung around her neck. She took it off and put it on the table. Then she painted it according to the pattern on the seal.

"She said it's either today or tomorrow. Nanny Duan said that Madam Shui said to first measure the sizes of Madam Di and the Young Lady, and then the Second Miss. It may take some time!" Yujie said.

Qin Wanru knew what Shui Ruolan was doing. Although she was in charge of the internal affairs, her power was not stable at all. At this time, she should show respect to the original wife and daughter.

"Well, if the people from the sewing room are here, you give them this pattern and have them embroider the pattern on the corners of the new clothes!" Qin Wanru put down the writing brush, looked at the bluegrass pattern on the paper, and looked at the pattern on the seal.

If she remembered correctly, Qin Yuru had several dresses with similar patterns back then, and she always liked to wear them when she went to Duke Xing's Mansion.

"Miss..." Yujie just stood by her side and saw it clearly. The Miss drew the bluegrass pattern similar to the little seal, but the drawing was not exactly the same. She hesitated and said, "Miss, these two patterns are different!"

"I wanted to make them different!" Qin Wanru smiled slightly. She picked up the paper and went over to the window to look at it.

Several leaves were drawn in different directions. But the shape of the bluegrass was still very similar, especially the leaf, which was highlighted above the other leaves and was exactly the same as the one on the seal.

But before she knew the truth, she did not want to expose herself. There was a secret in her personal history. Some things should unfold slowly.

She knew that this Madam of Duke Xing liked Qin Yuru very much for no reason, and had even brought Qin Yuru to Duke Xing's Mansion and raised Qin Yuru as her legal daughter. When Qin Yuru got married, this Madam even gave Qin Yuru some dowry!

Therefore, Qin Yuru not only had the name of a talented woman, but also got married into Duke Yong's Mansion with five kilometers of red dowry , which was a lot at the time!

However, because this Madam spoiled Qin Yuru too much, Qin Yuru did not marry until she was 18. The Madam liked her even more than her granddaughters in the mansion.

Of course, Qin Yuru said this in front of her with an arrogant tone. She said that the Madam liked her so much that the Madam did not want her to get married too early and kept her by her side for a long time. That was why her granddaughters in Duke Xing's Mansion could not compare to her.

But what made Qin Wanru feel strange was that every time she met the Madam of Duke Xing, it was an unpleasant experience. This made Qin Wanru hate Madam of Duke Xing even more!

The first time she saw the Madam was at Madam Di's place. Madam Di stood in front of the Madam of Duke Xing with her head down.

At that moment, what she could sense was the coldness and deep disgust of the Madam of Duke Xing.

Qin Wanru was trembling with fear at the moment, only thinking the Madam acted like that because of the rumors of her bad reputation. But she felt that this was very doubtful after her rebirth.

As for the Madam of Duke Xing, even if she really didn't like Qin Yuru, she shouldn't have called Qin Yuru over and looked at her in a disgusted way. She sized up Qin Yuru for a long time and then let Qin Yuru go back. During the whole process, she did not speak directly to Qin Yuru. But Qin Wanru could sense the deep disgust even though there were no evil words.

In particular, when Qin Yuru went outside, she heard the Madam of Duke Xing talking to Madam Di with contempt. "Is this the Second Lady of your mansion? Hmph... She's hopeless!"

She did not hear clearly afterward. She only heard the murmuring of Madam Di. Later, her marriage was canceled again and again, which was related to Duke Xing's Mansion and the Madam of Duke Xing.

After carefully thinking about it, there had to be an inevitable connection between them, which was related to her history and Duke Xing's Mansion.

In this life, Madam Di had not yet managed to claim ties of kinship with Duke Xing's Mansion. She had not yet conspired with the Madam of Duke Xing to control Qin Wanru. What Qin Wanru had to do was to find the connection first.

The seal was the key!

"Yes, Miss. I got it!" Yujie took the half-dried paper, carefully placed it on one side of the table, and suppressed it with paper.

"Miss, how many patterns like this would you like to embroider?"

"One. Only embroider one on the clothes, just at the corner of the dress. Just one!" Qin Wanru thought for a moment. Before she found out who was friend or foe, she would not reveal all of her secrets. For now it was just a similar pattern. She would see if there was any connection.

Throwing a brick to attract jade . This was something she was unable to understand in her last life. She would slowly figure it out now..

The people in the sewing room were settled when the supervisor entered the mansion. The supervisor knew that the masters would need to make the clothes of the season after moving to the capital. They would definitely not wear old clothes when attending banquets in the capital city.

As they debuted in the aristocrat circle in the capital city, they would want to shine so as to mingle around and blend in quickly.

The staff of the sewing room was fast. At dusk, five old women came over with a ruler and many brocades. They were very careful since it was the first time for them to take measurements for their master!

But something just happened while taking measurements for the Young Lady...

### **Chapter 118 The Material was thrown out by the Young Lady**

"What's going on here?" Qin Wanru's gaze fell on the brocades held by the two old women behind. The brocade which was supposed to be flat seemed to be wrinkled. Although it was not very obvious, Qin Wanru noticed it.

"Just now... The Young Lady accidentally knocked it off." The supervisor of the sewing room answered while trembling with fear.

Meeting the masters and having offended one of the masters, she dared not make any more mistakes. Otherwise, she would no longer be the supervisor of this sewing room.

The servants in the mansion were also well-informed. They knew it was Madam Shui who was in charge of the mansion, not Madam Di. Qin Wanru was the daughter of Madam Shui, so she needed to offer better service than the Young Lady.

"Thrown out by big sister?" Qin Wanru looked at the awkward face of the supervisor and smiled gently.

"Yes!" After having eye contact with Qin Wanru's clear eyes which seemed to see through people, the supervisor lowered her head and dared not to lie. This Second Miss looked young, but her behavior was much better than that Young Lady. She actually thought Qin Wanru looked generous.

The supervisor of the sewing room had just sold herself to the mansion. She used to work in some big embroidery workshops and had seen many young ladies. She felt that the younger Second Miss had good bearing. She was comparable with the misses from those families with hundreds of years of history. For a moment, the supervisor started to respect her.

"Why did she throw it away?" asked Qin Wanru as her slender fingers fiddled with the teacup in front of her.

"She said... that these materials are not what she wanted!" The old supervisor said with a tremor.

"Let me see!" Qin Wanru said gently.

The supervisor immediately let two women behind her send the brocade to the square table in the middle and spread it so that Qin Wanru could choose carefully.

Because it was winter, this season's material was relatively thick. The patterns were also well-picked. There were minimalist and baroque styles. The supervisor was prepared to take care of everyone's preferences.

Qin Yuru liked to show her temperament as a talented woman in front of people, so she preferred plain and white materials. But in winter, this kind of material was in short supply. The few materials in front of her were elegant and beautiful, but apparently Qin Yuru did not care for them.

Qin Wanru reached out her hand and touched a light yellow cloth with some faint mei flower buds. She placed her hand on the cloth. The cloth matched her skin color very well and made her snow-like skin even more snow-like.

Then, Qin Wanru picked a light pink cloth with a small piece of green bamboo leaves. This material looked good and also matched her skin very well. It was also suitable for her age.

After winter was the Chinese New Year. In New Year, everyone wanted the young people to wear beautiful and celebratory clothes. As for those plain and white clothes, people wouldn't like those in a banquet with elders.

Qin Wanru picked four pieces of cloth which fit her skin color well. Four clothes for one season was the rule in Jiangzhou.

"Miss, Madam Shui said that each miss would make two more clothes," the supervisor said.

Qin Wanru remembered that they had just arrived at the capital, and there might be a lot of banquets to attend.

So, she picked another two pieces of cloth.

After picking the cloth, her measurements were taken. Qing Yue, who was beside her, helped the supervisor to measure. After it was finished, Qing Yue looked at the numbers and looked at Qin Wanru with a gloomy face. "Miss, you still haven't grown taller!"

From last year to this year, Qin Wanru had hardly grown.. However, Qing Yue was much taller than last year.

Qin Wanru smiled slightly. She didn't worry about her height. When the time came, she would grow very fast. In her last life, although she was not very tall, she was no shorter than other Misses.

After the measure was finished, Qin Wanru sat down and asked, "you only have these pieces of cloth?"

The supervisor hesitated and said, "umm... Yes, for the time being."

Qin Wanru smiled and asked, "did Big Sister like plain materials which you don't have?"

"Yes... The Young Lady said that our materials are too flashy and flamboyant. It is really bad." The supervisor lowered her head as she spoke.

Qin Wanru reached out her hand and knocked on the table. She thought for a moment before asking: "has she finished picking yet?".

"The Young Lady chose two sets and ignored the others. She let us pick up some more materials for her to pick from." The supervisor's brow twitched. She did not know what to do about this, and she could only go back to report Madam Shui.

When thinking that she had failed the first job from Madam Shui, she wondered if she would be allowed to manage the sewing anymore. She could even be fired. She felt depressed.

"There's a New Year and some holidays to come, and we, of course, will pick some festive cloth. What kind of materials else does she need? Have you asked Madam Di?" Qin Wanru pursed her red lips.

"I first went to Madam Di then the Young Lady." The supervisor said.

"You don't have to go to my mother first. Go to Madam Di and talk about Big Sister. In Chinese New Year, you have to choose some festive materials. You can say that these materials are chosen by father, and father had seen them and liked them very much!" Qin Wanru said.

"Go to Madam Di?" The old supervisor did not respond at the moment. But her eyes suddenly brightened as she kept nodding. "Yes, yes, yes. I will go to Madam Di. Thank you so much, Second Miss!"

As a Madam, Madam Di had no power. It was obvious that she had lost the general's favor. If she knew that these materials were chosen by the general's men, she would choose not have a conflict with the general and would definitely force Young Lady to choose something. If this matter was settled properly, the supervisor would certainly be appreciated by Madam Shui.

Qin Wanru smiled slightly and said, "don't thank me. I just remembered that these materials had been chosen by the supervisor sent by my father!"

They just came to the capital yesterday, and the materials were here today. If Shui Ruolan had no time to do this, then the supervisor who went to the capital in advance had prepared all this.

"Thank you so much, Second Miss!" She was very impressed by this Second Miss.

After that, Yujie told them the patterns and buckle styles for the clothes, and the supervisor recorded them one by one. When they left, she carefully asked a woman to take the materials that Qin Wanru selected and the patterns back to the sewing room first, for fear that Qin Yuru would deliberately choose the materials picked by the Second Miss and cause some troubles.

The woman of the sewing room even thought that the Young Lady who looked graceful was a real hypocrite.

After the supervisor talked about this with Madam Di, Madam Di immediately took them to Qin Yuru's Yalan Pavilion. The mother and daughter talked in the room for a while and then let the supervisor bring the people into the room.

Qin Yuru reluctantly picked four pieces of materials and then waved her hand impatiently to tell the woman leave.

The supervisor and the other women of the sewing room saluted respectfully and left.

“When the supervisor left, Qin Yuru sat down with an angry look. “Mother, I don’t like these materials. Did Shui Ruolan deliberately give me these materials to pick? I looked for a long time and failed to find anything good-looking I don’t like these clothes. They look too flashy and not graceful enough. The sisters in Duke Yong’s Mansion wear plain and graceful clothes.”

Madam Di comforted Qin Yuru. “Yuru, please don’t hate them. These are the materials your father’s people picked. If you don’t like them, just don’t wear them. I will take you out of the mansion tomorrow, and you can pick other materials to make some clothes. Don’t do things that upset your father. It’s different now. Even if I want to let the woman of the sewing room find some other materials, I’m not able to do that.”

In previous years, although there was this custom in the mansion, Qin Yuru was always different from Qin Wanru. Qin Wanru just did not know this because she didn’t think about it!

Qin Yuru was very angry. “Mother, I hate Shui Ruolan. I hate Qin Wanru. I also hate grandmother!”

Madam Di sneered, and a coldness flashed through her eyes. “Yuru, be patient. They can only stir things within this small mansion. It is difficult for Shui Ruolan and Qin Wanru to enter the aristocratic circle without me. Soon, they will have to ask me for favors.”

She also hated them, especially when she saw Qin Huaiyong went to the courtyard of Shui Ruolan yesterday. She even wanted to kill Shui Ruolan. After the incident at the Jingxin Monastery, Qin Huaiyong had not set foot in her yard.

Originally, she thought that though there would be issues in the capital city, at least Duke Yong’s Mansion was nearby. So Qin Huaiyong had to give in. Who could have thought that things would remain the same? Even though he went to Duke Yong’s Mansion with her, he left early as if he had something more urgent.

But he did not have urgent issues to attend to. The rumors in the mansion suggested that Qin Huaiyong came back to help Shui Ruolan. When Shui Ruolan first met the supervisor, he sat on her side to keep people in awe. Everyone present was so respectful to Shui Ruolan and dared not to defy her.

When they lived in Jiangzhou, Madam Di had managed to cultivate many trusted subordinates over a long time. But when they moved to the capital, most of her people were left in Jiangzhou. Many of them were dismissed. Having lost so many trusted people, Madam Di knew that she did not have enough people here.

Fortunately, she had talked to her sister-in-law today and told her send a few people to the mansion to help her deal with her affairs. As for Shui Ruolan and Qin Wanru, she would let them know who the real master of Qin’s mansion’s backyard was.

“Mother, they are not willing to go to the party with us. You shouldn’t bring them!” Qin Yuru pursed her lips and mocked. “They have not seen things. They don’t have the confidence to go out!”

“No. I want to take them, and I’ll let them beg me!” Madam Di said in a sinister way as if there were ice shards between her eyebrows! It happened that there was news from the sister-in-law. Soon, things would change.

## **Chapter 119 Removing Enmity with a Smile Is Impossible**



The next morning, after Madam Di asked for the instructions of Old Grandma, she and Qin Yuru went shopping and bought lots of cloth and even ready-to-wear clothes, which were the most fashionable ones of the time. Qin Yuru had been smiling since she returned home. Dressed in the newly changed garment, she, along with Meixue and Meiyan who held some new-style cloth and clothes, entered the courtyard of Qin Wanru.

As soon as she came in, she smilingly greeted Qin Wanru, "Second sister, come and take a look. I have brought you a stack of the most fashionable handkerchiefs that were trending in the capital. Their quality is really good, much better than the ones we used in Jiangzhou in the past. I once saw the daughters of our uncle used the ones of this quality."

As she spoke, Qin Yuru asked Meixue to put the stack of handkerchiefs in her hands in front of Qin Wanru.

Then, she spread these handkerchiefs with her hands, saying, "Second sister, look at the stripes on these handkerchiefs. They are beautiful, aren't they? I carefully picked some for you, and I also kept some for myself. They are decent to use when you attend parties."

"This dress, mother says, must be suitable for you, and I bought it only for you." Qin Yuru pointed the one in the hands of Meiyan as she spoke.

This dress looked very beautiful, giving off an air of nobility, and its complicated decorative patterns suggested its exceptionally high price.

Madam Di was really generous this time!

"Second sister, think about it. If you wear this dress to attend a banquet next time, you must be greatly admired by the ladies of the capital." Qin Yuru carefully hid her envious look and praised Qin Wanru all the time, as if she was the most beautiful woman who could only be found in heaven, but not on earth.

If Qin Wanru were really a child, she would have become overly proud of herself. This was the trick that Qin Yuru and Madam Di often chose.

Qin Wanru's watery eyes focused on the dress, her look changing and her eyes shining, but she shook her head and pushed back the one in her hands.

"I extend my gratitude to the good wishes of Madam Di and you!"

"Don't you like it?" Qin Yuru tried to be patient and continued speaking as she smiled because her mother had been repetitively requiring that she ostensibly showed her good heart to treat Qin Wanru.

"I really don't like it." With her shiny, watery eyes, Qin Wanru unhesitatingly shook her head.

"You..." Qin Yuru nearly couldn't prevent herself from pressing the dress into the face of Qin Wanru, thinking, "This b\*tchy girl dares to refuse mother's 'good wish'!"

"Let's go and buy some that you like next time. I leave this to you, for not a girl in the family is as small as you are!" Qin Yuru gritted her teeth and calmed herself down, faking a stiff smile, but left the dress and turned, ready to leave with her two maids.

She didn't take away these handkerchiefs!

"Elder sister, are you going to attend a banquet? Is it the one to be held in the Marquises' Mansion of Fengyang?" Qin Wanru smiled and supported her chin with her hands, asking with somewhat naivety of a girl. She was not angered by what Qin Yuru said just now, and she was even quite like the girl who had not been reborn.

"Right, right, we will go there with mother!" The words of Qin Wanru sounded more acceptable for her now, the same as they were before. Believing that she could easily cheat her again, Qin Yuru turned back immediately and spoke with a smile.

"Also including me?" Qin Wanru said as she raised her beautiful, thin and curved brows.

"Of course, including you. If mother didn't think for our good, she would not go. You know, it is not easy to get the invitation of the Marquises' Mansion of Fengyang. Without our relations with Duke Yong's Mansion, our family would have not received the invitation!"

Qin Yuru proudly said, her eyes squinting Qin Wanru, and her pride and distaining of Qin Yuru were hard to hide.

A wild child brought in the family from nowhere was not comparable to Qin Yuru. If Shui Ruolan were not with them now, she thought that she could extremely easily deal with Qin Wanru.

She had been feeling that Qin Wanru had changed and was different from before because Shui Ruolan had been giving her instructions!

"F\*ck... it sounds not suitable! Mother won't let me!" Qin Wanru lowered her head. Seen from the angle of Qin Yuru, she looked a little sad.

"Auntie Shui will let you. If you don't go this time, you will probably have no chance in the future. We are but newcomers in the capital. If we cannot join the circle of the noble families, we will degenerate to conduct social exchanges with other incompetent families. This is not something good for us!"

Qin Yuru sat down again and spoke earnestly.

It seemed that she was worrying about Qin Wanru's future.

Qin Wanru didn't raise her head, nor did she spoke anything. Still, she seemed to be hesitating and had not made her decision.

"Second sister, don't worry! I will surely ask mother to let you go when the day comes, and will never make you degenerate to the situation to only conduct social exchanges with the incompetent families," Qin Yuru said with a smile. Once she finished, she pushed the handkerchiefs to the hands of Qin Wanru, saying, "Look at these handkerchiefs! They are fine works in the capital and they are very expensive. I begged mother for a long time, and then she bought a few for us. Others will not look down upon us when we use them at the banquet."

"Thank Madam!" Qin Wanru frowned a little and very suspiciously looked at Qin Yuru, saying.

"No problem. Okay, please be prepared. If you need anything, please tell me and mother. We will surely help you prepare anything that we can. This... can also be counted as my apology for what I did to you before. Anyway, the romantic relationship between me and our cousin was finalized also because of your... help!" Qin Yuru blushed as she spoke, and stood up, feeling a little shy.

"Second sister, I am going back!" As she finished speaking, she turned and left with her two maids.

Looking at her back, Yujie blinked. As a maid who began serving Wanru in a later time, she also knew a few things that had happened before, but she had no so much detail about them. Therefore, she couldn't understand the words of Qin Yuru at all.

"Second Miss, did Miss Qin come to thank you?"

"No, she only means that she bears what I did for her in mind no matter what happened before. Otherwise, she and Qi Tianyu must have gotten married by now, and would not have the opportunity to build ties with those of higher social positions anymore."

Raising her head, Qin Wanru sneered. Madam Di and Qin Yuru were hypocritical, but they had invested a lot in her, which seemed that what they wanted must be much more.

The clothes were beautiful indeed, but Madam Di had never bought anything like that for her when they were still in Jiangzhou, and she only saw Madam Di and Qin Yuru wear such clothes.

In her childhood, she didn't know why her clothing was not as good as Qin Yuru's, and she was told that she was young and would make whatever beautiful clothes she wore broken, and it was a better choice for her to wear more decent clothes.

"She bears what you did for her in mind? But why should Madam and she have been working to do harm to you?" Yujie was smart, but she could not figure out the cause and effect of it for now, asking in confusion.

"So, she doesn't really bear what I did for her in mind, and she only said it for a show, meaning she wants to fix the broken relationship with me. That is also her reward for what I previously did for her." Qin Wanru pouted her little pink lips, deliberately blurring the fact that she tried to do harm to her that day. Besides that, she also showed a face of gratitude to her.

It seemed that this way of thinking was not bad!

So far, Qin Yuru had really gained benefits at least. Although she had a notorious reputation in Jiangzhou, no one knew it in the capital. Getting rid of Qi Tianyu and engaging with Di Yan was good for her indeed.

Since it was good for her, it seemed that everyone could forget the good and bad things of the past! After removing enmity with a smile, she would also thank them. Madam Di and her daughter thought like this, and tried to cheat on her because they regarded her as a stupid child!

"Miss, do we need to keep these things?" Qing Yue witnessed what happened in the past and knew Madam Di and Qin Yuru had been trying to frame Qin Wanru. She kept alert about the handkerchiefs and dress she saw.

"Send it to Qi Rongzhi!" Qin Wanru lifted the dress and shook it to find that it was a little longer and said after measuring it with the height of Qing Yue.

Their good wish was fake. How much could they care about its quality? The garment only looked attractive!

"Send it to Miss Qi? Can she... wear it?" Yujie shook her head. "Miss, I think Miss Qi was almost as tall as Miss Qin. This one should be short for her!"

"It doesn't matter. I only mean that I don't like the dress Qin Yuru gave me, mainly to remind Qi Rongzhi to quicken her steps to do whatever she means to do. But keep one handkerchief," Qin Wanru calmly took the teacup at her hand, drank a mouthful, and leisurely said.

She believed that Qi Rongzhi wished to communicate with the noble families in the capital more than anybody else. Ms. Qi was not young anymore, but her marriage was still pending. Her original engagement was lost because of her bad reputation, and now she must be working hard to look for a good marriage.

Wishing to attend parties was a must.

This life was different from the beforelife. Qi Rongzhi and Qin Yuru had been in awkward relations for a long time. Therefore, Qin Yuru would not help improve Qi Rongzhi's condition, but Qi Rongzhi would not be willing to remain unnoticed. Sending the unsuitable-sized garment was to remind Qi Rongzhi of the banquet that was to be held soon!

In addition, on that day behind the rockeries, she clearly saw that it was not only Qi Rongzhi who showed tender affection, but also the maid behind her, who blushed and felt shy...

The situation of Di Yan was getting more and more complicated...

When the garment and handkerchiefs were sent to her courtyard, Qi Rongzhi was looking for her clothes: Her clothes were scattered all over the bed and table. Before she came to the capital, Madam Li had made lots of clothes for her, but now she didn't think she liked anyone of them. Therefore, they had been scattered on the bed. She was in anger.

Unexpectedly, she heard Qin Wanru send someone to her. She doubted it but asked Yujie to enter her courtyard

"What message did you bring from Qin Wanru for me?" Qi Rongzhi impatiently said, staring at Yujie.

"Second Miss asked me to send the garment and handkerchiefs to you. It is said they are the most fashionable styles in the capital." Smiling, Yujie put all of them in her hands on the table and courteously bowed.

On hearing they were the most fashionable styles in the capital, Qi Rongzhi hurriedly stood up, slipped her hands into them to examine, and felt very satisfied. Both the cloth quality and the dress's pattern colors were all that she liked.

But realizing that it was Qin Wanru who sent them, she became unhappy. Putting down the handkerchiefs in her hands and looking sideways at her, she coughed in a low sound, saying sarcastically, "Fire away, what does your master want to do? She herself doesn't have enough beautiful clothes, and how could she be willing to give this beautiful garment to me?"

"Miss Qi, it is Madam Di and Miss Qin who sent the dress to Second Miss Qin. They want her to wear it to attend a banquet. It is the one to be held in the Marquises' Mansion of Fengyang, the parents' home

of Duke Yong's wife, but Second Miss Qin doesn't like the dress Miss Qin sent her, nor did she want to attend that banquet. So, she asked me to send it to you!"

Yujie explained fluently.

That was to say, it was Qin Yuru who sent the dress to Qin Wanru, in fact. Qi Rongzhi took it with her hands and began casually examining it. When her eyes moved to a corner of it, they shined, a new idea flashing across her mind. She really needed this one!

## **Chapter 120 Conation, What Do You Think of the Son of the Di Family?**

"Is this the garment that Miss Qin sent to Second Miss Qin?" Qi Rongzhi shook it with her hands and stood up, and her two maids Chunyi and Chunxi hurriedly came over to measure the garment with her height. Obviously, it was short than for her.

"Yes, it is Miss Qin and Madam who sent it to Second Miss Qin!" Yujie said courteously as if she had not yet noticed that the garment was short, looking calm and natural.

"Is this dress prepared for Qin Wanru? She is so small and I am afraid she would be bagged into it!" Qi Rongzhi laughed, took the dress, and casually threw it on the table. "Go tell your Second Miss Qin, I cannot wear the garment, either."

"Okay, I can take it back!" Yujie did not persuade her, either, and came over to take away the garment as she was told.

"Wait!" Qi Rongzhi coldly said to stop her, "Since your Second Miss Qin doesn't like it, you can leave it here as a reference for me, so that I will know the dressing style of the ladies in the capital!"

She was planning to buy a few clothes like this, but it was inconvenient for her to go out and come in. Now she had this sample to use, and this was good.

As for the fact that Qin Wanru didn't accept the dress, Qi Rongzhi thought that was normal because too many unfriendly things had happened between the two sisters. If Qin Wanru were idiotic, she would try to be close to her sister like other sisters, and she would like the presents her sister gave her.

But Madam Di was also the giver of the dress. No matter how she disliked Madam Di, she still respected her ostensibly. Therefore, she didn't throw it into the garbage dump.

Giving the dress to Miss Qi meant that nobody would lose face.

"Since Miss Qi wants to use it as a sample, I can leave it here. You don't have to return it to our Second Miss Qin anymore. Miss Qi, do you like these handkerchiefs?" Yujie said as she pointed the handkerchiefs partially covered by the garment.

"Also leave them here!" Qi Rongzhi simply said and took a handkerchief to examine. She liked these handkerchiefs very much. She would not need to worry about her height or the size of each handkerchief when she used them. They felt comfortable. Obviously, Mrs. Qin had paid a high price to buy them.

Embroidering a few flowery patterns on them would make them look chic and decent. They were good stuff!

But what was the point of paying so much money to cater to Qin Wanru? You know, Miss Qi got the benefit at last.

She sarcastically sneered, speaking to Chunyi, "Send this dress to my brother in a while, ask him to look for a few clothes like this according to my size, and also tell him the clothes tailored for me in Jiangzhou are not suitable to wear at all in the capital."

It was not convenient for her to go out, but her maids were not subject to the restriction.

"Yes, I understand, but what if First Young Master asks things about Miss Qin?" Chunyi gingerly asked. Previously, every time after Qi Rongzhi visited Qin's mansion and returned, Qi Tianyu would summon her maids to his courtyard to privately ask things about the Qin sisters. Sometimes, Qi Rongzhi even thought his brother treated the Qin sisters better than he treated her.

"Let him ask. Tell him Qin Yuru is about to marry the son of Duke Yong. Let him give up and keep studying hard to get a good result after the examination, and also let Qin Yuru sadly regret," Qi Rongzhi sulkily said. She had clearly learned the secret by using the opportunity to get near Di Yan.

In fact, Qin Yuru and Di Yan had secretly made contacts many times, but the wife of Duke Yong didn't approve of it. Therefore, their marriage was still pending.

"First Yong Master will be angry if I say so!" Chunyi said anxiously.

"What's the matter if he is angry? He made a wrong judgment to love her at that time, but he didn't know she was a slut. Now, she leaves him for another one who has a better social position. What else does he wish to do?"

Now, Qi Rongzhi envied and hated Qin Yuru when she thought of her brother's tamed attitude toward Qin in the past and also Qin's haughty attitude toward her because she proclaimed that she would marry a son of Duke Yong's Mansion.

"Yes, I understand. So, I will visit First Young Master tomorrow!" Chunyi didn't dare to speak anything else and gingerly answered at once. Then, she turned with the dress in her hands, walking to the outside.

"Wait, ask my brother to think of an idea and try to help me get the invitation of the Marquises' Mansion of Fengyang." Thinking of that banquet, Qi Rongzhi didn't think she should miss it.

She was also a newcomer in the capital. If she had the chance to attend the banquet, she would be much admired by others for sure. Or perhaps, she could find a better husband than the man Qin Yuru was about to marry.

Thinking of Di Yan's family background, she became envious. If she had also been the cousin of the son of the Di Family, she would have earned more favor of the son of the Di Family, and the slutty woman Qin Yuru would have had no chance at all.

"Yes, I understand!" Chunyi nodded repetitively.

Qi Rongzhi waved her hands to ask Chunyi to leave. Chunxi was now sorting out the clothes scattered all over the room, and there were no others in the room. It was quiet and Qi Rongzhi could only hear the step sound of Chunxi as the maid walked around to sort out the clothes.

“Chunxi, what do you think of the son of the Di Family?” Qi Rongzhi didn’t go to sleep right now; the more she thought about it, the less she thought she should miss the opportunity; then, an idea flashed across her mind, and she asked.

After hesitating for a moment and seeing the expression of Qi Rongzhi, she gingerly said, “I think he is a good man with good family background, and he also has a mild character.”

Her maid’s reply made Qi Rongzhi silent for a while. She tried to calm herself down but couldn’t, indignantly complaining, “Why is Qin Yuru so lucky? Previously, my brother treated her with his heart and soul, and now it is the son of the Di Family. Why does a man want to marry such a woman but I have lost my opportunity because of her? Why?”

She was not asking anyone, and so Chunxi didn’t dare to answer. Holding the clothes in her hands, Chunxi gingerly looked at Qi Rongzhi, but her heart crazily beat in her chest. She stood stiffly and didn’t dare to move at all, afraid that Qi Rongzhi might notice her anxiety.

“Chunxi, do you think my brother will help me get the invitation?” Qi Rongzhi asked again after speaking a few words to herself.

“I, I don’t know, either!” Chunxi lowered her head to cover up the panic in her eyes, and she knew Qi Rongzhi didn’t mean to get the answer from her.

“No, only a few days left, I can’t miss this opportunity.” Qi Rongzhi frowned. If she didn’t go but Qin Yuru and Qin Wanru had the opportunity to go, how could she expect others to think of her? In the future, even though she had the opportunity to attend parties, others would think she was not comparable to the Qin sisters.

Back to the days in Jiangzhou Prefecture, Qi Rongzhi had never felt so wronged.

“Has the son of the Di Family come back since the day he went home?”

“I don’t know, either,” Chunxi answered.

“Can’t you go ask about it! Tomorrow, go get the accurate information about his time of visiting the mansion!” Qi Rongzhi shouted angrily.

“Yes, I understand!”

The following day, at the Chuihua Gate, Qing Yue saw Chunxi, who tried to avoid being seen. She had been speaking something with the biddy guarding the gate, but hurriedly left and hid somewhere when she saw Qing Yue coming over.

“What did the maid ask you about just now?” Qing Yue stopped to ask the biddy guarding the gate. The family picked her from the capital, and so she didn’t know the new maids of the family, but she knew the maids with some authority who served those mistresses.

Knowing she was Qing Yue, the biddy honestly said, “Just now, the maid of Miss Qin came over to ask things about the son of the Di Family!”

“What things about him?”

"She asked whether the son of the Di Family has come over or not, and when he will come," the biddy said. All the people in the mansion knew the son of Duke Yong's Mansion and Miss Qin were cousins, and the two mansions also had the wish to build a marriage bond. It was not surprising for Qin Yuru to ask about Di Yan.

"Will the son of the Di Family come to our mansion?" Qing Yue blinked and asked.

"I have no idea about it, for he has not mentioned it yet." The biddy forced a smile and shook her head, thinking, "I am but an old woman who guards the Chuihua Gate, and how could I have the ability to know when the son of Duke Yong visits the family? What is wrong with the two mistresses to send a maid each to ask about the son of Duke Yong?"

Qing Yue turned and left after getting no useful information, but when she left, she purposefully gave the biddy a reminder. "The maid who came to you just now is not the maid of Miss Qin, and she is the personal maid of Miss Qi who came into the mansion with Old Grandma!"

These words shocked the biddy, who doubted it somewhat. After Qing Yue left, Chunxi came out from behind a tree, ready to ask the details about Di Yan, but the biddy did not answer her clearly. She merely said that she was but a gate guard and knew nothing, and the maid should ask Madam Di if she wished to get the detailed information about the son of the Di Family.

These words were meaningless. Chunxi knew she couldn't get any information from the biddy anymore and left to report the situation to Qi Rongzhi.

Qi Rongzhi turned pale because of anger after learning that even a gate guard biddy was not willing to tell her anything, but she also knew this was not Jiangzhou Prefecture. Before she left home, her mother had told her that she should not quarrel with the Qin sisters again and she must choose a good partner by using the relations of Qin's Mansion, and her mother also said that she had asked Old Grandma and Qin Huaiyong to help her get a good partner if they found anyone suitable.

The last marriage opportunity of Qi Rongzhi was lost because of what Qin Yuru did. Qi Rongzhi had also been secretly harmed by Madam Di, and this was also the consequence of the reached compromise between Qin's Mansion and Qi's Mansion.

Bringing Qi Rongzhi to the capital and choosing a good husband for her was one condition that Qi's Mansion promised not to make trouble anymore.

Since she couldn't make trouble now, she became anxious and restless at once. After a long time of waiting, she saw Chunyi again, who returned with the news that her brother firmly refused the request of getting the invitation for her. Hearing this news, she was furious and nearly smashed the porcelain in the room. Fortunately, her two maids stopped her with dear life and also reminded her that this was Qin's Mansion, and then she calmed down again.

"Ask my brother to see me when he comes to send clothes. Did you speak of this to him?" Qi Rongzhi gritted her teeth and said as she calmed down.

"I said it, but First Young Master, First Young Master said he would come if he had time," Chunyi answered.



“If Qin Yuru asked him, I am afraid he would come no matter if he had time!” Qi Rongzhi felt her chest was bulging because of anger, uncomfortably saying. In the past, she respected her brother the most, but she thought that her brother had become stupid after the incident of Qin Yuru.

How come he had fallen in love with Qin Yuru?

Thinking of Qin Yuru, she came up with a new idea instantly and smiled. How could she have forgotten Qin Yuru!