

## Medical Princess 251

### Chapter 251 Qi Tianyu Was Courteous and Decent

Although Qin Huaiyong was appreciated by the Emperor, he did not have a high rank and at most, he was an upstart. Thus, Qin's Mansion was not comparable to those aristocrat families who had a very long history. If he compared himself with those families, others would think that Qin Huaiyong was a man who was inordinately arrogant, proud of his ability and ignorant, for he dared to be diametrically opposed to Duke Xing's Mansion.

It seemed that Qin Huaiyong was too haughty.

What's worse, somebody might inform those aristocrat mansions and might lead to confrontation with Qin's Mansion, which would then be considered as a catastrophe for Qin Huaiyong!

Since even Madame Dong came to hear about this, it seemed that Madam of Duke Xing was determined to let Qin Wanru become her accepted daughter in Duke Xing's Mansion.

Qin Huaiyong had no right to say "no"!

Coincidentally, Qi Tianyu was here and Qi Baiyu was sitting outside, waiting wearily. Thus, Qin Wanru asked Qingyue to secretly pass Qi Baiyu a note, to let him bring Qi Tianyu to Qin Huaiyong's study room...

"Lady, what does Madam of Duke Xing want from you?" Yujie gradually felt anxious when Qin Wanru said nothing.

She could not figure out why Madam of Duke Xing was treating her lady like this, and her lady used to have nothing to do with this madam, not long ago!

"Should we turn to Rui'an Great Elder Princess for help?"

"Rui'an Great Elder Princess has a bad relationship with Duke Xing's Mansion, so it is not proper to get her involved!" Shaking her head, Qin Wanru directly rejected this idea.

"Then what should we do? Or are you really going to be the accepted daughter of Madam of Duke Xing?" Thinking about all the methods that seemed not to work, Yujie became so anxious that her eyes reddened considerably. "It is obvious that Madam of Duke Xing wants to plot against you! If you went to Duke Xing's Mansion, as her accepted daughter, a mere word from her would put you under her control!"

Everyone knew that once they entered those high-ranking aristocratic mansions like Duke Xing's Mansion, everything would get complicated and it would be extremely difficult for them to leave, let alone Duke's Mansion. Therefore, nobody would dare to say no to Madam of Duke Xing, if she wanted to interfere in Qin Wanru's marriage.

People would even think it was an honor for Qin Wanru!

"We will just wait for Qi Tianyu to come out!"

Qin Wanru smiled and stared at the door of the room. She meant it. In fact, meeting the Qi Brothers was not a chance encounter. The fact was that she came to the study room earlier deliberately...

In the room, Qin Huaiyong looked at Qi Tianyu in a pitying way. Compared with Di Yan, Qi Tianyu was much better than him, because he was handsome and looked powerful and lofty.

Although his position in the capital city was not high, his power and his standards of choosing people were far above Di Yan's.

Madam Di was useless and had bad standards when it came to choosing people. She could not distinguish who was better and who was worse.

"How are you doing?" Putting down the file on the table, Qin Huaiyong asked. From Qi Tianyu's perspective, he could see the words "Duke Xing's Mansion" on the file, and suddenly his heart jumped fast.

"Thanks for asking. I am good. Right now, only my brother Baiyu and I are living in the mansion. It is very quiet and a good place for learning!"

Qi Tianyu answered with a smile.

"That's great! How are your studies?" Qin Huaiyong nodded with satisfaction, and asked smilingly.

"Not bad, except sometimes I am still confused and don't know which style of writing people in the capital city like!" Since Qin Huaiyong asked, Qi Tianyu answered him directly. With a bright and clear smile on his face, it seemed that he was not angry at Qin Huaiyong about Qin Yuru.

He was very decent and courteous and treated Qin Huaiyong politely and with the same familiarity he accorded to his father.

Qin Huaiyong was satisfied with him, but he sighed. He said sincerely, "It is good but you could not glue your face to the books. You'd better walk outside and look around. You may find out the style of writing these citizens like. I would like to help you, but you know that I am a general, and thus I cannot get too close to those civilians."

The Emperor would suspect them if he, a general, got too close to the civilians. Those civilians who could judge if one's writing was good or bad, were not ordinary people. Although Qin Huaiyong was new in the capital city, he knew about this. He did want to help Qi Tianyu, but he did not know how.

It was not an excuse because he always felt like he owed Qi Tianyu, because of Qin Yuru.

"I know you really want to help me and I appreciate it. But you don't have to ask around for me, for it is inappropriate for you to get in touch with the high-ranking civilians. Moreover, if I could pass the exam one day, others would suspect you! You have just settled here without a firm foundation, and thus you need to establish an image that is both secure and prudent first!"

Qi Tianyu smiled, and his gaze swept across the file. He looked more and more respectful.

"Tianyu, well, Yuru is not comparable to you!" Qin Huaiyong gave a deep sigh and said this directly. Qi Tianyu was so reasonable and courteous. It was quite difficult to find a son-in-law who was clever and had common sense. If he passed the exam, it would benefit Qin Huaiyong a lot!

Although he could not compare to Di Yan, things would change in the future.

“Never look down upon any poor, but clever man!”

“I appreciate it! You know, it is meant to be.” said Qi Tianyu, feeling lost. He smiled and looked calm, but there was a tinge of sadness in his eyes that showed that Qin Yuru had hurt his feelings.

He still respected Qin Huaiyong, and did not regret doing this, but the wound in his heart had not been healed yet.

It was quite difficult for him to heal, because he had deep feelings for Qin Yuru since they had grown up together. It was pretty good for Qi Tianyu to try his best not to hate Qin Yuru, let alone there were rumors spreading outside. It was said that someone even asked Qi Tianyu, but he never spoke ill of her, which made Qin Huaiyong really appreciate him.

“If...” Qin Huaiyong said, feeling guilty.

“You don’t need to say that. I know. Things could not be changed now. You don’t need to worry about me, for I am always grateful to Qin’s Mansion. I grew up with your two daughters and thus, I will treat them as well as before, even if this thing happened.” Qi Tianyu interrupted him, raised his head and said seriously.

His words saddened Qin Huaiyong. “If Madam Di and Yuru were not so conniving, things would be totally different! Rumors would not be spread in the city! The marriage would even be settled, because of my ultimatum. Otherwise, Qin Yuru and Di Yan would be notorious now!”

An idea suddenly jumped into his mind — apart from Qin Yuru, he still had Qin Wanru!

Thinking about this, he became excited, set his eyes on Qi Tianyu and looked at him from head to toe. Then he kept nodding secretly. Qin Huaiyong had rooted for Qi Tianyu all the time, and if Qi Tianyu were to pass the exam, he would let Wanru marry him. In view of the close relationship between Qi’s Mansion and Qin’s Mansion, the former would definitely agree.

Then, Qin Huaiyong could not help smiling at him, and he looked kinder, without telling Qi Tianyu his thoughts. Although he had made up his mind, he needed to wait patiently until Qi Tianyu passed the exam.

“Uncle, I want to learn Kongfu!” Standing out, Qi Baiyu talked to Qin Huaiyong.

“You?” Qin Huaiyong turned around to look at Qi Baiyu and smiled. He knew that Qi Baiyu loved Kongfu. It was great for Magistrate Qi to have two sons, one who was endowed with the gift of pen and the other, the gift of sword. However, Qin Huaiyong suddenly felt aggrieved, because he did not have a son.

“Yes, uncle, I want to learn Kongfu. Could you please ask a master to teach me?” Qi Baiyu stepped forward and asked.

He was still young, so he had no inhibition in front of Qin Huaiyong. He used to climb over the wall numerous times, and had been caught by Qin Huaiyong each time, when they were still in Jiangzhou. Qin Huaiyong knew he was a naughty boy, so he laughed. “Great! I will choose a time and find a good master, and ask him to go to your mansion to teach you! However, you need to learn well and don’t climb over the wall again!”

Qi Baiyu blushed and scratched his head. He chuckled and answered, "You must be kidding! I am not that naughty boy any more, and I will not do that again!"

"I remember that you used to climb over the wall and come into my house in Jiangzhou. It was not long ago, right?" Qin Huaiyong laughed and relaxed. He leaned back and spoke to Qi Baiyu.

"Uncle!" Qi Baiyu's blush deepened and he stamped his foot heavily. His embarrassed and bashful look, and his little figure, amused Qin Huaiyong and Qi Tianyu, who could not help laughing in the study room.

Qi Tianyu stood up and walked to the desk. He smiled at Qin Huaiyong and bowed to him respectfully. "Thank you for doing this, uncle. Baiyu has always looked forward to learning Kongfu and he does not like to study. My father also agreed, so he has asked a master to teach him when we were in Jiangzhou. However, when we arrived here, we are not familiar with this city, and don't know who we should turn to!"

"It doesn't matter! Our families have a good relationship. Moreover, your father is not in the capital city now, so I am obligated to take care of you. It really doesn't matter!" Qin Huaiyong waved his hand and said.

"I appreciate this, uncle. I think we'd better not interrupt you anymore, so it is time for us to leave!" Qi Tianyu stepped backwards and bowed to Qin Huaiyong, together with Qi Baiyu. Looking at the Qi Brothers, Qin Huaiyong had mixed feelings in that, although they had different looks and characteristics, they behaved well.

They made a few conventional remarks, and then they left. Nobody noticed that when Qi Tianyu was close to the desk, he managed to read the file completely.

Qin Huaiyong had been reading this before they came, so he half closed it. There were words like "Duke Xing's Mansion" on the cover and others words like "Madam of Duke Xing", written on the page of the half-closed file. It was obvious that this file was about the Duke Xing's Mansion and Madam of Duke Xing!

"Is Qin's Mansion really ready to let Qin Wanru be the accepted daughter in Duke Xing's Mansion?"

He walked silently to the gate with Qi Baiyu. Then he suddenly stopped and seemed to be not in a hurry to leave. He squinted and flicked his sleeve slightly. A trace of doubt appeared in his eyes. He had thought Qi Rongzhi was hyperbolic, and did not trust her at first. However, since he had read the file on Qin Huaiyong's desk, he began to keep it in mind!

"What's wrong, brother?" Qi Baiyu turned to look at him, and asked.

"Nothing. Let's go!" Qi Tianyu answered unhurriedly, and Qi Baiyu followed him out. While Qi Tianyu was walking, he seemed determined, and not hesitant any more...

## **Chapter 252 When the Plan Was implemented, Rumors Started to Wag Around**

"Let's go!" Qin Wanru said, when she saw the Qi Brothers leaving.

She curved her mouth slightly and was satisfied that she had succeeded in getting Qi Tianyu's attention. In view of Qi Rongzhi's character, Qi Tianyu might not bear her words in mind, but since he read father's file, he became interested in it.

When Qi Tianyu was thinking, he stopped and flicked his sleeve. It was one of his habits, or maybe he just did it subconsciously, but Qin Wanru saw it clearly.

If he was not interested in it, he would not have stopped to think, as soon as he walked out of Qin Huaiyong's court!

The reason why she deliberately put the file on her father's desk, was that she wanted to let Qi Tianyu notice it, and help Qi Rongzhi to be the accepted daughter of Madam of Duke Xing.

It was extremely difficult for Qi Rongzhi to achieve the position because of her temper. However, if Qi Tianyu gave her a hand, things would be different. Qin Wanru only had some guesses about the things that happened. In her previous life, she used to stay in the backyard. Even though she was invited to the royal palace, she still stayed in her room and seldom went outside and thus, she did not know much about the many things that happened next.

Moreover, she was unable to recall some of the memories, after she had been reborn.

If her guess was right, then Qi Tianyu must have a backer, for Qi Tianyu alone, had no ability to get involved in this mess, and to help Qi Rongzhi.

As expected, the rumors increased rapidly during the following days, which were not only about Madam Di and Qin Yuru, but also about Qin Wanru.

Some rumors even stated that Qin Wanru was not Qin Huaiyong's natural daughter, but a vice general's posthumous child. Some people even said that they could prove this because after the vice general's death, his wife came to look for a girl, and that was Qin Wanru.

At the very beginning, everyone treated this as a joke, because they assumed that it was Ningyuan Army General's malicious official wife and his first daughter who were spreading this rumor. However, the fake story almost became a true one in a few days! It was much more popular than the rumor which Madam Di was spreading before.

Someone even overstated that he once saw this madam, who was the dead vice general's widow, coming to the capital city, because this madam had gone to Jiangzhou and found out the Ningyuan Army General's Mansion, while Qin's Mansion was empty. When she found out that Ningyuan Army General moved to the capital city, this madam also followed him here.

The story came from some traveling merchants, and it sounded almost true.

Many people still remembered the rebellion, which happened several years ago. Many people died in that event. Moreover, the rebel army even gained more popularity for some time, which involved many cities and caused many deaths, among them were many officials like vice generals. Some of them were sent to the battlefield, while some went to the battle field without any training at all. As a result, there were only their names left, when they died.

It was impossible to find out the truth!

During that time, Qin Huaiyong had been a vice general, but he was quite outstanding in the end. On the one hand, it was because of his outstanding ability. On the other hand, it was because only Qin

Huaiyong, a relatively high-ranking vice general, survived while all the other generals and vice generals died in that rebellion war.

At first, Qin Wanru's background was not clear, and many people did not believe the rumor. However, with this rebellion war, and some people's fake testimonies, more and more people began to believe this, and there were more and more versions about Qin Wanru's background.

Someone said that Qin Wanru was an orphan. Her dead "father" was an ordinary soldier and her dead "mother" was a washerwoman. Qin Huaiyong fostered her because he felt sorry for her.

Others said that Qin Wanru's father was a famous general and her "father" let Qin Huaiyong take good care of her before he died. Then this "father" went to the battlefield and never came back, while her "mother" disappeared during the war.

Some even said that Qin Wanru was a lady from an aristocratic family in the capital city, and this family was looking for her, but they were not sure whether she was the one that they wanted. Therefore, they wanted recognize her and bring her home...

There were countless versions of the story, and people were not sure which the true one was. However, they were now sure that Qin Wanru was not the natural daughter of Ningyuan Army General. Otherwise, there would not have been so many rumors about her background.

An insider even revealed that Second Lady Ning's natural mother was not from Ningyuan Army General's Mansion. There were only two madams from Ningyuan Army General. One was Madam Di, who had always wanted to plot against Second Lady Qin. Well, all parents, good or bad, rarely maltreated their own child. Thus, she definitely was not Qin Wanru's natural mother.

About the other madam, well, why Qin Huaiyong married her was because he wanted to find a person to take care of Second Lady Qin. Therefore, she also was not Qin Wanru's natural mother.

A servant who once worked at Ningyuan Army General's Mansion in Jiangzhou, and was in the capital city, proved again and again that every madam of Qin Huaiyong was alive and therefore it was impossible that Lady Qin's mother was one of madams of Qin Huaiyong. She also said directly that when Second Lady Qin came to Qin's Mansion, she had been a girl, not a baby, which meant that she did not grow up in Qin's Mansion...

This servant's words sounded almost true. It was said that some people even investigated the servant and found out she really did once work at Ningyuan Army General's Mansion in Jiangzhou. However, they did not know the reason why she came to the capital city and became relevant to this topic.

Although others believed her, Qin Wanru did not. How could a servant come to the capital city from a thousand miles away, and catch up during this period? Once she heard about this news, she instantly knew that it was Qi Tianyu who had asked this servant to come over.

Of course, some of rumors were spread by Qin Wanru herself, in order to achieve this desired result — the truth mingled with falsehood, which made people could not figure out!

Then people in Duke Xing's Mansion heard about these rumors and Madam of Duke Xing also knew. At the very beginning, Madam of Duke Xing did not care about this. However, since more and more rumors came out, and they sounded more and more unreliable, when Madam of Duke Xing had finally figured

out in her room, she became extremely angry and even kicked over her desk. Things changed so fast that she could not handle it!

"Madam, please calm down." Nanny Sheng quickly asked other servants to leave and then spoke to her madam in a low voice. She had never seen Madam of Duke Xing so angry and out of control before. Her madam had always shown her best behavior, whenever she was with other madams or not. She had projected an image that Madam of Duke Xing was a decent woman, to the general public.

She never acted in a crude and impatient way

"Where do these rumors come from?" Madam of Duke Xing sneered and asked.

"I have no idea. However, it seems that everyone is talking about this Second Lady Qin overnight. It should be normal to talk about this Second Lady Qin, not only because they have started to focus on Qin's Mansion, but also because Madam Di, the official Madam of Ningyuan Army General, has always wanted to plot against Second Lady Qin. By the way, there is the testimony from Princess of Duke Yangqu."

Nanny Xing answered carefully.

Madam of Duke Xing lowered her head and kept silent. Later, she suddenly raised her head and said, "Is there any evidence which could prove that it is the people in Ningyuan Army General's Mansion, who spread these rumors?"

"It, it is hard to prove that. Madam, all rumors are not good to Ningyuan Army General's Mansion. If Second Lady Qin were not Ningyuan Army General's natural daughter, then her position would not be equal to that of his natural daughter's. Since Ningyuan Army General has kept this secret for many years, he must have wanted to treat her as his natural daughter, and would not reveal this truth himself!"

Nanny Sheng gave a confusing answer.

"Does that b\*tch Madam Di want to ruin my plan again?" Getting overwhelmingly mad, Madam of Duke Xing said coldly.

"It should not be her. She is being punished by the general, and she is not allowed to leave her court and thus, she is unable to mess up your plan!" answered Nanny Sheng.

"However, this thing only benefits her! She may want to kick Qin Wanru out of Ningyuan Army General's Mansion, and find a possible excuse for her behavior before! Stupid woman!" Madam of Duke Xing scolded angrily. Although she knew it was impossible for Madam Di to do this, she was quite angry right now, and tried to find a scapegoat to vent her anger on. So she chose Madam Di.

"Did you find those people?"

"I have asked someone to watch Ningyuan Army General, and they told me that the supervisor of Qin's Mansion brought some people back furtively, and they are still in the mansion now!"

Nanny Sheng stammered.

Although they did not take Madam Di's letter, according to Ningyuan Army General's Mansion's action, they found out about those people. However, now they were in Ningyuan Army General's Mansion. Thus, however powerful Madam of Duke Xing was, she could not get involved in Ningyuan Army General's Mansion's affairs.

"Stupid! What did you do! I have told you that we need these people to blacken Madam Shui's reputation, when the right moment comes! However, just look around! We just let them go! In view of Qin Huaiyong's ability, these people would not tell the public about Madam Shui's guilt! No wonder they were thrown into prison in Qin's Mansion! Losers!"

Madam of Duke Xing sneered.

"Madam Di is stupid or she would not..." Nanny Sheng meant something.

She did not finish, but Madam of Duke Xing understood. A cold smile was on her face and she did not say anything. Thinking for a while, she asked again, "Fine, but where do the most of the rumors come from?"

"Which one?" Nanny Sheng told all rumors to Madam of Duke Xing, but she did not realize and asked subconsciously, because the topic changed too fast.

After she said it out, she found it inappropriate. She quickly lowered her head and hurried to answer, "I, I have no idea. However, I sent someone to investigate but just like other rumors, we don't know where they come from. By the way I could prove that it has nothing to do with Ningyuan Army General's Mansion and it is impossible for people in Ningyuan Army General's Mansion to spread these rumors!"

Madam of Duke Xing became silent when she heard this. She looked much grimmer and when she tried to say something, a servant outside suddenly said loudly, "Nice to see you, Duke Xing!"

"Nice to see you, Duke Xing!" "Nice to see you, Duke Xing!" "Nice to see you, Duke Xing!"

Greetings from the servants could be heard. Madam of Duke Xing looked at Nanny Sheng. She quickly understood, walked to the semi-closed door and opened it. She also lifted the curtain.

When she lifted it, the stout Duke Xing came in, and looked serious.

"Nice to see you, Duke Xing!" When he came in, Nanny Sheng quickly bowed to him. However, Duke Xing ignored her, strode in the room and sat down beside Madam of Duke Xing. His serious look changed into a grim expression, which was totally different from the image which he usually showed to others.

Others only knew that Duke Xing was a patient and well-behaved, chubby man. He was always kind to others. Everyone thought that his good temper and Madam of Duke Xing's courtesy were well matched among the aristocratic families, which made them a couple with a very good reputation.

However, both this couple with a good reputation, looked very grim, right now.

Duke Xing waved his hand to ask Nanny Sheng to leave. She then stepped backwards quietly, and closed the door carefully. Then she stood guard outside the door.



A silence hung in the room, making Madam of Duke Xing feel on the edge of her seat. She moved a little bit, and tried to say something, and then found that Duke Xing had turned to look at her coldly and said, "Stop that thing!"

#### Chapter 253 A Shield—There was Another One in Qin's Mansion

"Word has already got out that we will adopt her as a daughter. How can we stop this?" Madam of Duke Xing shook with barely suppressed anger.

In order to put more pressure on the Qin's Mansion, she deliberately visited many high-powered madams for various reasons, the next day. Although she did not explicitly say that she would adopt Qin Wanru as a foster daughter, she did express implicitly that she would like to have an adopted daughter. She had visited Qin Wanru before with great satisfaction, and showed that she valued this adopted daughter.

After being adopted, Qin Wanru would be brought up in Duke Xing's Mansion.

She did not say that in an explicit way, which absolutely showed her self-restraint. It was obvious that before things were formally finalized, she could not just casually say something for certain.

"Do you still want to adopt her now? Does it mean that the rumor is true?" Duke Xing asked in a cold voice. With an even colder look, he raised his heavy eyelids to look at Madam of Duke Xing and stood up, "So just let it be!"

After saying this, he got up, as he was about to leave.

"This can't be done in this way. What will other people think of me? I will become a joke in the whole circle of madams from the aristocratic families!" Madam of Duke Xing also stood up and disagreed.

"My words have been said almost with certainty, except that I directly mentioned Qin Wanru by name. If I retract it now, those madams will take it as a joke, and I will be laughed at by people." thought Madam of Duke Xing, who was unwilling to lose her dignity.

"If you don't do this, what else do you want to do?" Duke Xing asked with displeasure, and the dim light in his eyes flashed slightly, with an unknown meaning.

"There is not only one girl in Qin's Mansion. Qin Huaiyong has another daughter." Madam of Duke Xing said, after a silence.

Even if she could not adopt Qin Wanru, she still had to adopt one. She was unwilling to become a joke in the circle of madams from the aristocratic families. If this kind of thing could be taken so irresponsibly, no one would believe her in the future. Besides, this kind of dispute was also what a Miss from an aristocratic family had been banned from, since she was a child. It was inconsistent with Madam of Duke Xing's image as a daughter from a noble family in the past.

This would affect the image of Madam of Duke Xing.

"You want to accept Qin Huaiyong's elder daughter, who has such a bad reputation, as an adopted daughter? Our Duke Xing's Mansion won't accept such a disreputable person!" Xing Guogong refused directly.

"But what should I do? I can't lose my dignity in this way!" Madam of Duke Xing was startled and had to directly disobey his order.

"How do you want to attract... attention?" Duke Xing looked sharply at Madam of Duke Xing, making Madam of Duke Xing lower her head.

"Just let it go at that. Don't mention it again!"

"Besides the Qin sisters, there is another girl living in the Qin's Mansion. She is the daughter of Jiangzhou Magistrate. I will adopt her!" Seeing that Duke Xing was turning to leave, Madam of Duke Xing became anxious, and said this loudly.

Duke Xing paused and answered, without turning his head back, "It is up to you!"

After saying that, he lifted the curtains and pushed the door to exit the house. His expression had already become as gentle as before, but all the servants in the yard kept quiet, and even dared not to breathe.

Nanny Sheng was more nervous, with her eyes darting everywhere, and dared not move at all.

"You are the trusted subordinate on Madam's side. Later on, when Madam is inclined to do something, you still need to give her advice. Don't let her be as impulsive as that day!"

"Yes, Duke. I know!" Nanny Sheng understood what Duke Xing said, and started to tremble, with her whole back bent.

"That's good. Madam does not know everything well, but you are different from her. You used to watch me grow up, and I have always respected you, so you should persuade Madam if necessary, and prevent her from doing something unrealistic!" Duke Xing became even gentler.

Everyone in this yard knew that the identity of this Nanny Sheng was not simple. Although she was the trusted subordinate of Madam of Duke Xing, this Nanny was not someone who had been brought from her parents' home, but the wet nurse of Duke Xing. This identity had a deterrent effect on the people in the yard, as well as Madam of Duke Xing.

"Yes, Duke. I understand!" Nanny Sheng had a respectful look, and did not take advantage of her seniority at all.

Duke Xing glanced at Nanny Sheng, and went out with a gentle smile on his face.

His rounded smile was well in line with his image of stoutness.

When he left the yard, Nanny Sheng knocked on the door gently.

"Come in!" Madam of Duke Xing's cold voice came from the room. Obviously, she had not recovered her composure yet. Compared with Duke Xing, who had altered his expression the moment he went out, Madam of Duke Xing was slower in her mood adjustment.

When Nanny Sheng entered the room, she found that although Madam of Duke Xing still did not look well, she was not as gloomy as before, and the expression on her face was not too bad.

"Prepare four gifts. I will adopt the girl from Qi's mansion as a foster daughter!" Looking at the teacup on the table, Madam of Duke Xing said slowly. She did not look impatient, which apparently meant that she indeed had given some thought to this, instead of deciding on a moment of impulse.

"Madam, do you really want to accept Miss Qi as an adopted daughter?" Nanny Sheng was startled, and hurriedly raised her head to ask.

"If not, how would this matter end? Now we can only take one step at a time, and plan the next step. There are not many people in our mansion. Even I choose to adopt a daughter to our family, so what? It is nothing but only helping to provide some dowries. It's not a big deal!" Madam of Duke Xing said in a cold voice.

There was a flash of anger in her eyes. This time, she still did not know who was pushing her, behind her back. If she knew who this person was, she would definitely hack him or her into pieces. It had been a clever move. Because of these rumors, she had to restrain herself from using her means, and even had to adopt, Qi Rongzhi, which was highly unexpected.

She deeply disliked Qi Rongzhi since she first met her. Qi Rongzhi was just a girl who was vain, and used flattery to get close to herself. Madam of Duke Xing had seen so many girls like this, so she was really not interested in her.

But now she could only do this!

"Madam, it is best to think like this. Originally, I also wanted to persuade Madam to change to someone else. Since Miss Qi lives in Qin's Mansion, your trip to Qin's Mansion also makes sense. Although Miss Qi is not good, at least her reputation is clean. She can be raised in our mansion!" Nanny Sheng answered frankly after a thought.

After that, she was afraid that Madam of Duke Xing would not understand, so she lowered her voice and said implicitly, "Just now Duke asked me to try and give Madam more advice, saying that Madam might have been doing something... wrong!"

It would be better if she had not said this. The moment she said this, Madam of Duke Xing's eyes became piercing, and she sneered repeatedly, "What does he mean? I'm wrong? Isn't that about the set of dishes? It originally was not bad, but who knows Madam Di and Countess Yong both have no calculated plans, and even such a small thing can't be done!"

Having said this, Madam of Duke Xing was filled with anger. This kind of thing could have been solved privately which everyone knew well. She did not really want to punish Qin Wanru. Instead, she just wanted to have a hold on Qin's Mansion, which she could even use to threaten Madam Dowager and Qin Huaiyong, and keep her quiet forever!

This sort of thing had no effect on Qin Huaiyong's career. Even if Qin Huaiyong became suspicious, it did not matter. Besides, she could offer Qin Huaiyong something else to get along well. If Qin Huaiyong indeed swallowed everything, she could even promise to give Qin Huiyong's only daughter a little benefit, so that when she was married to Duke Yong's Mansion, she would no longer be in a weak position.

But now, because Madam Di and Countess Yong had no calculated plans, this matter could not succeed.

It did not only fail, but also came to the ears of Duke Xing. For this reason, Duke Xing reminded her again and again, and lost his temper with her, in her room. Every time she thought of this, Madam of Duke Xing foamed with rage.

That was because both Madam Di and Countess Yong were so stupid to have destroyed her plans!

"Take that small box of beads. Give another four gifts to Qi Rongzhi, and arrange for her to come to Duke Xing's Mansion. Just find a yard to let her live in. Give this box of beads to Qin Wanru." Madam of Duke Xing took a deep breath, and said this, after suppressing the agitation in her heart.

"Madam, those are your favorite pearls, you have indicated that you will give them to First Miss!" Nanny Sheng exclaimed.

"Give it to her first. Now she is... more important!" Madam of Duke Xing sneered, and said slowly. Now she really kept this matter in her heart!

It was originally meant to be a casual move. In this case, she should give more thought to it. She still did not believe that she would fail, "You go and visit Qin Yuru, and give her a pair of earrings!"

When the message that Madam of Duke Xing would accept Qi Rongzhi as an adopted daughter was sent to Qin's Mansion, the whole mansion were shocked. No one had expected that the result would be like this.

That day, Madam of Duke Xing's attitude was obvious, and she bluntly turned down Qi Rongzhi. Why did she suddenly change her mind now? Although Madam Dowager did not want Qin Wanru as an adopted daughter of Duke Xing, she still felt surprised about the current situation. For this reason, she specially asked Qin Wanru to come to Xinning Pavilion.

She enlightened Qin Wanru, and was afraid that Qin Wanru would take this matter to heart since she was just a child. Although she was unwilling, she might still care too much about her dignity.

Qin Wanru did not look disappointed at all and comforted Madam Dowager with a smile. Not until she managed to coax Madam Dowager into beaming with delight, did she go back with Yu Jie.

It went so smoothly, which made Qin Wanru feel a little surprised. But, it also made Qin Wanru feel that there were more evidences proving that someone was behind Qi Tianyu, and he was a man of power. There were not many people like this, who had the strength to go against Madam of Duke Xing in this capital city, and was hard to find.

There had already been an indistinct plan in Qin Wanru's mind, including all these suspicious people.

Standing still, Qin Wanru looked at the plum blossoms on the top of a branch, with a cold smile at the corners of her lips. "In my previous life, perhaps what I saw were all the things that others wanted me to see." thought Qin Wanru.

That was just the tip of the iceberg. What was gradually revealed in this life was the truth!

A fact that would be more cruel than her being cut in two at her waist, in the previous life.

Tearing away the fake veil, she must see it properly in this life, and no longer be the same as she had been in the previous life. She had died not only with grievances but also without reasons.

“Second Miss Qin!” On the way behind the plum tree, three servant girls came to Qin Wanru. The one standing in the front was obviously a principal maid, who had a distinguished air. When she saw Qin Wanru, she stepped forward with a smile and greeted her gracefully.

“Her appearance is quite familiar!” thought Qin Wanru.

#### **Chapter 254 Contradistinctive Gifts**

“Second Miss Qin, I am the servant from Duke Xing’s Mansion. This time I am here to arrange for our Madam to take Miss Qi as her foster daughter.”

The principal maid smiled mildly and politely.

Qin Wanru nodded. This servant girl was familiar to her, she had been here with Madam of Duke Xing, before.

“Our Madam likes Second Miss very much, and originally she wanted to adopt Second Miss as her foster daughter. But she had not thought that the rumors outside were so unpleasant that our Old Madam even rebuked our Madam, so she had to switch to First Miss. But anyway, our Madam likes Second Miss most, and although you cannot become mother and daughter, she asked me to tell Second Miss that whatever happens in the future, you can directly tell our Madam, and our Madam will try her best to help you!”

The principal maid was quick witted and eloquent. She finished the speech from Madam of Duke Xing without any pause, and then waved her hands to a servant girl behind her.

That servant girl came forward. A gift box was presented to Qin Wanru, respectfully.

“I originally wanted to look for Second Miss. Now that we happened to meet, it will save me having to walk. This box of pearls was given by the Queen to our Madam, but she allowed our Madam to give it to others. They are of an excellent grade and can be made into earrings or necklaces. Originally, our Madam reserved them specially for our First Miss. But ...our Madam feels very guilty. So she is giving them to Second Miss Qin as an apology!”

The principal maid went forward and opened the box. Everyone was immediately attracted to the pearls in the box.

These pearls were of a good size, and each of them was round and of the equal size, which made it quite precious. They would make excellent head-ornaments or other ornaments.

The number of pearls in the box was not small, and each of them was of good quality. Madam must have given it a lot of thought before she took it out, not to mention that this was a gift given by the queen. Of course, she was allowed to give it away, which meant that Qin Wanru did not need to worry about it later.

“This... was originally the gift for your First Miss. I dare not accept it!” Qin Wanru fluttered her long eyelashes, smiled and shook her head. She turned her eyes away from the pearls and her eyes looked beautiful, clear and indifferent. It seemed that she really did not like these pearls so much.

The principal maid had been with Duke Xing for a long time, and she had seen many young ladies. Although many of them said that they did not want to accept, their behavior indicated otherwise. She seldom saw one who was so calm, so she respected Qin Wanru more internally.

“Second Miss Qin, our Madam has said that our First Miss owns many accessories and she does not like to wear head accessories. Second Miss is younger than our First Miss and you are at the age where you love dressing up. So it is suitable to give this box of pearls to Second Miss. This is a token of our Madam’s regard, please don’t refuse it!”

The principal maid smiled and spoke eloquently.

If Qin Wanru did not accept it again, it meant that she did not accept the apology of Madam of Duke Xing. It seemed that she was pretending to be vexed, because she wanted to raise up her status.

“Show my gratitude to your Madam for me!” Qin Wanru smiled slightly. The smile was deeper in her eyes, and she glanced at the hands of another servant girl.

There was also a small gift box in the servant girl’s hands. It was very small, which looked like tiny accessories as scorpions, earrings, or woman’s head ornaments. She stood respectfully behind the principal maid.

Yujie took the box from the servant girl, and then stood behind Qin Wanru.

“How is the preparation for First Miss Qi going?” Qin Wanru asked, with smile. Since she had accepted the gift from Madam of Duke Xing, Qin Wanru could not stay completely out of the picture.

“We have finished the preparations for Miss Qi. But we need to wait for our Madam to finish her preparation. Our Madam says that Miss Qi is not alone in the capital city, and she also has two brothers. So she wants to discuss this issue with the two brothers and ask for their consent.”

The principal maid answered with smile.

It meant that Qi Rongzhi was already prepared and could not wait to become the Miss in Duke Xing’s Mansion. But Duke Xing’s Mansion was not in a hurry, and did all things according to the rules.

“So First Miss Qi should go to the house of Qi’s mansion to wait for news?” Qin Wanru fluttered her long eyelashes and asked curiously.

“We should not do anything in a hurry. We need to wait for the two childees in Qi’s mansion to confirm it. There is no eldership in the house of Qi’s mansion in the capital city, so our Madam believes that it would be better and more suitable that First Miss Qi lives in Ningyuan Army General’s Mansion. After the completion of the ritual of acknowledging her relatives, we will invite First Miss Qi to enter into our mansion!”

From the decent answers of the principal maid, one could tell that this principal maid had been well-trained.

Qin Wanru closed her small red mouth slightly, and something slid into the depth of her eyes. This meant that things would be decided slowly, and there was still a period of time in which Qi Rongzhi had to live in her own mansion.

"You have said this to First Miss Qi?" Qin Wanru glanced at the small box of gift in the hands of that servant girl, emotionlessly. Since Madam of Duke Xing wanted to accept Qi Rongzhi with great fanfare, it was impossible and shameful to send such a small box of gift to Qi Rongzhi.

That gift must have been sent out, and this box of gift, if there was no mistake, should be given to Qin Yuru.

Madam Di was being confined. Although Qin Yuru had been encaged before, only she herself was under restriction, others could still go in and see her.

The first gift should be presented to Qi Rongzhi. But considering the personality of Qi Rongzhi, if she saw the two boxes of gifts, it was inevitable that she would ask who these gifts were meant for, and what were these gifts...

"It has already been sent, and I have spoken with First Miss Qi. During this time we need to bother Second Miss Qin to take care of First Miss Qi. Our Madam will show her greatest gratitude to you!" The posture of the principal maid was quite low, showing that her gratitude to Qin Wanru was overflowing with her words.

If it was not the fact that Qin Wanru had also intervened in this thing secretly, she would have thought that Madam of Duke Xing was sincerely fond of her. It was because of the established form that she could not admit Qin Wanru as her foster daughter. But her care toward Qin Wanru was the same as and even more, than that to her foster daughter, Qi Rongzhi.

Then she should express the same gratitude to their Madam?

"Please express my gratitude to your Madam, and I will take care of Qi Rongzhi!" Qin Wanru smiled subtly.

"I still have another thing to bother Second Miss with. I don't know whether it is feasible or not?" The principal maid asked with a smile.

"What is it?" Qin Wanru answered indolently.

"There is a pair of earrings in this gift box, which is supposed to be given to First Miss Qin by our Madam. But when I went to see First Miss Qin just now, I found that the people in the yard did not allow me to go in. Since I came under the orders of our Madam, and our Madam has sent gifts to all the three misses in the mansion, if I fail to send the gift to the First Miss, I am afraid that our Madam will blame me. So I'd like to ask for Second Miss's help..."

The principal maid seemed to be very awkward. She looked at Qin Wanru and said imploringly.

"Is this for my Big Sister?" Qin Wanru raised her eyes and seemed to be moved, as she looked at the gift box, in the hands of that servant girl.

She was given such a big box of pearls, while Qin Yuru was only given a small pair of earrings. From this, it seemed that Qin Yuru could not be compared with her.

This contrast was quite big.

Qin Yuru had been forbidden before, but after the “map” incident in Nanny Sheng’s hands, Qin Huaiyong had asked people to control her yard. Although it was not like the situation of Madam Di, where nobody was allowed to go in and out freely, people who wanted to get in should have good reasons.

She heard that Qin Yuru could not come out, until she had finished the one hundred copies of Woman Precepts and Daughter’s warns.

“Yes, this is our Madam’s gift to First Miss. There are three misses in the mansion and if we only sent gifts to two misses, we are afraid that First Miss would misunderstand us!” The principal maid explained.

That was why this gift was so small, which was only to make it less embarrassing for Qin Yuru.

This kind of thing was a trivial matter, and Madam of Duke Xing had expressed such great kindness to her before. It would be impolite if Qin Wanru did not help her.

“Just leave it here. I will give it to my Big Sister in a while!” Qin Wanru smiled elegantly.

With such an elegant smile, matched with her limpid eyes, Qin Wanru seemed to have the ability to look through a person’s heart. Having been looked at, the principal maid felt her heart jumping suddenly and lowered her head at once. But later she smiled and thought that although this Second Miss Qin was very intelligent, what could an eleven-year-old girl who had not experienced much, know about?

The principal maid bowed to Qin Wanru respectfully, “Thank you very much Second Miss Qin!”

The other servant girl who held the small gift box, went forward. Yujie took the small gift box from that servant girl.

“Second Miss Qin, then I’ll go back first. I am sorry to bother you!” The servant girl bowed to her politely again.

Qin Wanru nodded slightly, and the principal maid turned and left with the two small servant girls.

“Second Miss, I’ll go back to my yard first. After I put down the things, I’ll send the gift to First Miss!” Yujie said, after seeing these servant girls off.

If there had been not that box of precious pearls, the earrings were not a bad gift. But compared with this box of pearls, that pair of earrings did not seem so precious. Qin Yuru always had a high regard of herself, and could not tolerate being not as good as others. If she saw it, nobody knew what she would do again.

Qin Yuru had been very aggrieved recently. There was nowhere for her to vent her anger. She was not willing to go to her place at this moment.

“You don’t have to go back first, just go and see my Big Sister first. At least we are sisters, as a younger sister, I need to send some comfort to my big sister at this time!” Qin Wanru raised her eyebrows and looked at one corner of the plum forest. Actually, this plum forest was not big, and it only had dozens of trees. But there were many plum blossoms, which gave off a sweet fragrance. It was an excellent place in Qin’s Mansion to enjoy the plum blossoms!



"What if the First Miss feels angry?" Yujie said worriedly. She was sure that if they went there, there might be some problems.

"So what? My Big Sister used to disturb me frequently. At this time, why should I not have any reason to see her?" Qin Wanru smiled and looked very complacent. She took a look at the big gift box held by Yujie and lifted the cover up. She took one of the pearls out and put it under the sunshine.

"I've heard that there is a kind of pearl in the south country. Although it is not big, it is extremely rare. If they are strung together, they will be more shiny and their color can be preserved. My Big Sister used to love using pearl powder to moisturize her skin. If she uses this pearl, will she be more pretty?" Qin Wanru smiled more proudly.

Her exquisite little face seemed quite proud at that time. Her small, squinty and watery eyes contained a touch of provocation, which seemed to have no good intention.

"Well, Qin Wanru, you can really pretend to be what you are like, in daily life!" A cold voice could be heard, coming from behind the plum tree...

#### Chapter 255 First Miss Wouldn't See Guests Now

Behind the plum tree turned out Qi Rongzhi with a look of holding her head high, which seemed similar to her look in Jiangzhou at that time. "Qin Wanru, I didn't know that you used to show a well-behaved appearance in the past, but now you dare to offend Qin Yuru deliberately!"

Qin Wanru definitely understood her pun as the corners of her lips slightly moved upward, of which the beautiful color was as gorgeous as flowers. "When will First Miss Qi leave?"

This sentence implicitly expressed the meaning of driving her off.

She knew that after hearing her words Qi Rongzhi couldn't help jumping out and coming to her!

Qi Rongzhi was furious and her eyes fiercely fell on Qin Wanru's body. "Qin's Mansion is not a good place. It is certain that I will leave, and I will go far away. In future, I will be the Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion, while you are just a... b\*stard picked from somewhere. After this leave, there will be a world of difference, a difference between clouds and mud. You will salute to me when you meet me in the future!"

"First Miss Qi, even if you will be the real Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion in the future, as long as both of us are not offered ranks, it doesn't seem that I have to salute to you!"

Qin Wanru said slightly with a smile.

Such a sentence made Qi Rongzhi suffocated and her face turned all red. Today she originally felt very proud. Her elder brother indeed helped her maneuver outside according to her ideas, and Madam of Duke Xing also did send four gifts to claim kindred with her. However, when seeing the servant girls from Duke Xing's Mansion would unexpectedly go to give gifts to the Qin sisters, she couldn't sit still.

Following the servant girls on their backs and staring furtively, to her surprise, she saw that the gift which Madam of Duke Xing gave Qin Wanru was worth more than hers. She immediately became jealous, as if her own things had been robbed by someone.

As for the identity of “adopted daughter”, which actually she robbed, it seemed to her that that originally belonged to her, and Madam of Duke Xing was just confused by Qin Wanru temporarily.

“Why doesn’t Miss Qi go to pack up? Perhaps Madam of Duke Xing will directly ask someone to take you away at any moment!” Qin Wanru turned away with a look that she didn’t want to talk to her anymore. That kind of arrogant look made Qi Rongzhi angry and her face even paled.

“Stop!” She shouted loudly.

Seeing her importunate look, Chunyi pulled her sleeves implicitly and hinted that she’d better be careful since this place was still Qin’s Mansion, and the Second Miss Qin was no longer the one who could be hit and punished at Qi Rongzhi’s will.

“What’s the matter?” Qin Wanru looked back and asked with a cold look.

That indifferent look irritated Qi Rongzhi and she wanted to give Qin Wanru two severe slaps, but she gritted her teeth and held in her anger. “Where is that pair of earrings? I will bring it to Qin Yuru!”

Qin Wanru just nodded without saying a word. Yujie walked two steps forward and delivered the small gift box. Chunyi was hurried to step forward and picked it up, and then she stepped aside, which made her secretly relieved in her heart.

Fortunately, First Miss still listened to First Young Master’s words.

“Since Miss Qi is willing to give the earrings to Big Sister, I would like to thank you a lot, but Big Sister may not be in a good mood now. If she offends Miss Qi, I hope that Miss Qi could be more tolerant!” After saying these polite formula words coldly, Qin Wanru left slowly with Yujie in an immense proud way.

She didn’t even give one more glance at Qi Rongzhi or show more jealousy in her behavior because Qi Rongzhi was about to become Madam of Duke Xing’s adopted daughter, which made Qi Rongzhi feel as if she had landed a blow on cotton.

“This is not true. Qin Wanru’s performance must be fake. It is certain that she envies me though she deliberately pretended not to care.” thought Qi Rongzhi.

“Let’s go to have a look at First Miss Qin!” This sentence was almost said out when Qi Rongzhi was gritting the root of her teeth. Neither Qin Wanru nor Qin Yuru was not a kind person. Since she didn’t get any benefits from Qin Wanru, she went to get them back from Qin Yuru.

During these years, Qi Rongzhi had always thought in this way, and behaved in this way. What was different from the past was that she used to feel that when she couldn’t get the benefits from Qin Yuru, she could go to get them back from Qin Wanru.

Full of such anger, Qi Rongzhi went to Qin Yuru’s Yalan Pavilion. But when she arrived at the door of Yalan Pavilion, she was unexpectedly blocked by two old maids.

“First Miss Qi, our First Miss is copying words, and she will not see you for the time being!” an old maid said politely after she came to salute.

Qi Rongzhi knew that Qin Yuru had been grounded, but she didn't expect that there were some people still guarding here.

She rolled her eyeballs and smiled. "I may be about to leave Qin's Mansion. Madam of Duke Xing has accepted me as an adopted daughter. This time, I come to give First Miss Qin a gift on behalf of Madam of Duke Xing!"

"First Miss Qi, please!" The two old maids looked at each other and stepped backward to let her in after a hesitation.

Their guard here was not as strict as that in the place where Madam Di was kept. When Qi Rongzhi came over, they just asked a question as a matter of routine. Since her reason was very sound, they would not stop her.

Qi Rongzhi walked inside with Chunyi. Some young servant girls had already seen her and reported it to Qin Yuru. Seeing that Qi Rongzhi came over, Mei Xue, who stayed on Qin Yuru's side, appeared at the door with a gaunt face and picked up the curtain for her.

Qi Rongzhi going in and taking a glance, Qin Yuru was sitting in the room with a cold face. As for the so-called writing, Qi Rongzhi could only see that on the writing desk near the window there were a few pieces of paper thrown in a mess and several things like writing brushes and ink sticks lying in disorder.

"Qin Yuru, how is your writing?" Qi Rongzhi raised her head proudly.

"What are you doing here?" Since no outsider was there, Qin Yuru answered without a good look.

"It is obvious that I come to see how down you are. First Miss Qin, whom once my elder brother swooned over in Jiangzhou, is now kept here and unable to go out. As for the fiancée you got because you abandoned my elder brother, I'm afraid that he hasn't come to look at you once? Qin Yuru, I really feel unworthy for you!"

Qi Rongzhi sat down on the chair aside, proudly glanced at the condition in the house and said with sarcasm!

"What do you mean?" Qin Yuru's face was purple with anger, and she coldly stared at Qi Rongzhi. There were no other people at that moment, so these two people had no need to pretend to show any drama of sister love and they were the truest selves.

"I really just come to see your miserable situation and also tell you that I am going to leave soon. Madam of Duke Xing has planned to accept me as her adopted daughter. Since now, I will be the Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion. Qin Yuru, have you ever thought that one day I will step over your head?"

Qi Rongzhi patted the dust that didn't exist on her sleeves at all, and became more complacent.

"Madam of Duke Xing will accept you as her adopted daughter?" Qin Wanru was stunned. She didn't know about this, because being grounded made her ill-informed.

"Of course, and she will also pick me up to live in Duke Xing's Mansion! Qin Yuru, you were originally ambitious to please Madam of Duke Xing, and even willing to bully that little Master. You just aimed to make Madam of Duke Xing look at you one more time, but now, Madam will not see you anymore!"

Qi Rongzhi clicked her tongue twice and proudly raised her eyebrows.

These words reminded Qin Yuru of a bitter scene in her heart, and her face suddenly turned dark.

“Just now Madam of Duke Xing sent someone to give me the present for adoption and also brought a pair of earrings for you. After all, I have lived in your mansion since I came to the capital city. What Madam of Duke Xing means is that she thanks you for me!” Qi Rongzhi leaned back and waved her hands.

Stepping forward, Chunyi delivered a very small gift box in her hands and placed it on the tea table in front of Qin Yuru.

“Have a look. Anyhow, it’s an expression of Madam of Duke Xing’s goodwill. Nothing good has fallen on you since you entered the capital city. It is rare for my foster mother to think highly of you!” Qi Rongzhi even called Madam of Duke Xing “foster mother” at this time.

Qin Yuru trembled with anger, and swung her arm heavily. Thrown out by her sleeves, the gift box fell heavily on the floor with the lid opened, from which a pair of delicate earrings fell out.

“Such a big temper? In those years, why did my elder brother have a crush on you? Qin Yuru, you have neither beautiful appearance nor good deportment, and you are dissolute by nature. When you had an engagement to my elder brother, you had already hooked up with Childe Di. Whosever family marries such a dissolute woman will fall on evil days. Perhaps Childe Di would also be cuckolded for several times at that time!”

No outsiders present, Qi Rongzhi could also be bolder at this time. The more she said, the more unpleasant these words were to hear. Even Chunyi who followed her couldn’t help blushing. It was unknown where Qi Rongzhi heard such kind of blackguardly words which appeared in the marketplace. A well-behaved girl from a respectable family unexpectedly dared to say such kind of words.

“Qi Rongzhi, don’t overdo!” With a livid face, Qin Yuru stood up and shouted angrily.

“What? You still want to hit me? Qin Yuru, I warn you. I am no longer Jiangzhou magistrate’s daughter now. I am the Miss of Duke Xing’s Mansion and this high status is beyond your reach. If you really offend me, I will ask my foster mother to expose your scandals in Jiangzhou, and see whether you still have any nerve to come out in the future!”

Qi Rongzhi was definitely not someone who was willing to suffer losses, so she also stood up and shouted loudly.

Seeing that this situation was getting worse, Chunyi and Mei Xue respectively pulled one to the side and were afraid that the two of them would fight again. The two Miss were grounded and punished to copy several articles at most, but something terrible would happen to the two servant girls. Perhaps there would be another rebuke and beating.

“Qi Rongzhi, get out!” Strongly suppressing the anger in her heart, Qin Yuru stretched out her hand, pointed outside and said coldly.

“Of course I will go. Qin Yuru, don’t think this is Jiangzhou. This place is the capital city, where the name of Ningyuan Army General’s Mansion is not as powerful as that in Jiangzhou.” Qi Rongzhi snorted coldly

and turned to walk a few steps. Suddenly she stopped again, squatted down to pick up the pair of earrings at the feet, and put it in front of her eyes to have a look. Then she turned back to the tea table next to Qin Yuru and plopped the earrings on it.

“Qin Yuru, my foster mother gives you this pair of earrings, but you do not care about it at all. Good, I must tell this to my foster mother!” Qi Rongzhi said sharply.

“Well, tell her. You go to tell her now!” Qin Yuru was angry to tremble. She had always sailed through her life, and no one had ever been able to irritate her like this.

“Hum, you just wait to see!” Qi Rongzhi turned away proudly. The earrings were really broken, with one of the beads inlaid on the top getting loose. If she had the chance, she would definitely tell Madam of Duke Xing.

“Miss, as expected, First Miss Qi did have a quarrel with First Miss again. I heard that they quarreled violently, and the old maids who guarded outside all heard them.” Qingyue reported.

Qin Wanru casually picked up a pair of earrings and looked at it. This pair of earrings with a delicate style, was very beautiful and the inlaid pearls were also good, but they couldn’t be compared with the pearls sent by Madam of Duke Xing. Madam of Duke Xing was really willing to spend her capital.

“They couldn’t have had a fight?”

“This time they didn’t fight, but after First Miss Qi left, an old maid around First Miss went to the kitchen to fetch some dessert for First Miss. First Miss was really open-hearted. She just finished a quarrel with First Miss Qi and then had an appetite to eat something!” Qingyue sighed.

She was sent by Qin Wanru to stare at Yalan Pavilion. Later on, she even followed the old maid to the kitchen, seeing that the old maid took many cakes and pastries in the kitchen. Qingyue was speechless. “First Miss is tired after quarreling, so she wants to have something to eat?”

“Take cakes and pastries to eat?” Qin Wanru was slightly puzzled, slowly putting down the pearl on her hand, and her eyes revealed a deep sense of stagnation!

This was not like Qin Yuru’s behavior...

## **Chapter 256 She Wanted To Know The Truth**

“Yes, and she has taken a lot. First Miss’s behavior is really strange!” Qingyue said in surprise.

“What kind of cakes and pastries did she take?” Qin Wanru asked, with the color of her eyes deeper.

“What she took were all the common ones. Those kinds made in the big kitchen were all taken some pieces. The old maid said that First Miss needed to write, and would get hungry quickly, so she asked the people in the big kitchen to take some from every kind!” After a thought, Qingyue answered.

“She wants every kind?” Qin Wanru frowned, because it didn’t seem to a simple thing.

“Yes, she asked for every kind and for a lot. There were some kinds of dessert that weren’t made a lot, so the supervisor in the big kitchen also explained a few words to the old maid.” Qingyue entered the

big kitchen afterwards and said that she came to stew bird's nest porridge for Qin Wanru. Because the bird's nest porridge hadn't finished cooking, she stayed in the kitchen for a while.

So, she heard everything in an aboveboard way.

"What do you mean that some kinds weren't made a lot?" After thinking for a while quietly, Qin Wanru caught the vague meaning in Qingyue's words.

"Actually, not having a lot was not accurate. There were just not too many being left. Some of cakes and pastries were First Miss Qi's favorite. Servants in the kitchen had already sent them to First Miss Qi, so there were not many being left. Even if First Miss wanted more, nothing was left for her. This was what the supervisor old maid in the kitchen explained to the old maid around First Miss!"

"The dessert that Qi Rongzhi had eaten?" Qin Wanru suddenly felt a beat in her heart.

"What happened then?"

"Since nothing was left, and First Miss also said that she wanted to eat, servants in the big kitchen said that they would make some for First Miss soon!" Qingyue answered. Although Qin Yuru didn't have a good reputation outside, she was still the First Miss in this mansion. In addition, the rumors outside had it that Second Miss was not General's own daughter, so his own daughter was merely First Miss. Servants in this mansion still dared not to badly offend Qin Yuru!

"What they made were all those kinds that Qi Rongzhi likes?"

"Yes, just those kinds. Since those kinds weren't left enough, a little bit more were added specially!" Qingyue said.

Qin Wanru nodded and picked up the bird's nest porridge that Qingyue just gave to her. She took a few nibbles, and then put down the spoon in her hand. "Is there another portion of bird's nest porridge for me in the afternoon?"

Shui Ruolan was worried that it would be over-nutritional for Qin Wanru to eat the bird's nest solely, since she was still at a young age. So she asked the kitchen to stew some bird's nest porridge for Qin Wanru from time to time.

"Yes!" Qingyue nodded.

"Then you also fetch me a portion of newly-made pastries. No need to take many. One or two will be fine!" She would like to see what Qin Yuru was planning.

Qin Yuru was surely up to no good, but considering Qin Yuru's disposition, her favorite was to find a scapegoat. When asked whom in this mansion she most wanted to shift the blame on, there was no doubt that Qin Wanru would rank at the forefront.

"Yes, Miss, I understand!" Qingyue understood tacitly and nodded.

When the two were talking, Yujie lifted the curtain and came in angrily.

The moment she saw her face, Qin Wanru couldn't help laughing. "What happened?"

Yujie just went out for her to see how well Nanny Dong's shop had been prepared. It was obvious that she came back after being mistreated.

"Miss, they are talking about things in our mansion!" Yujie said angrily.

"So what? Is this matter not allowed to discuss?" Qin Wanru said with a smile and didn't take it seriously at all.

"But, but what they are talking about is you, Miss!" Yujie said with an unconvinced look. Since coming down from the mountain, she had followed Qin Wanru by her side. She was loyal and devoted to Qin Wanru and could least let herself hear Qin Wanru's malicious remarks.

"What are you afraid of? The more they say, the better it will be!" Qin Wanru stood up, walked to the window, and opened the slightly-closed window. Suddenly a cold wind rushed in, which blew Qingyue so heavily that she could not help shivering.

Qin Wanru also felt very cold and was so cold as to shiver. However cold she was, she would not become the same as her previous life, during which she was closed in the corner of the yard, almost isolated from the outside world, and she could neither hear outsiders' voices nor feel the air outside!

Talking about her? Very good, she was still worried that the momentum was not enough! It seemed that someone had intervened in this affair. Nothing in this capital city was a trivial matter. Even if it was a matter between men and women, it could also evolve into a game between several forces. Then what she wanted was the result brought by that game.

"Miss, in this weather, you'd better not open the window. You may catch a cold!" Qingyue came to complain, and stretched out her hands to close the window for Qin Wanru.

"More and more people are talking?" Suddenly blown by the cold wind, the head was a little bit dizzy but also wide awake. Qin Wanru touched the chignon that the cold wind had ruffled up and turned back to ask with a smile.

"Yes, and it seems more than before!" Yujie said with a pout. All her way through, she had heard more and more discussion about this. "Miss, since normally Madam of Duke Xing has decided to accept Miss Qi as an adopted daughter, is there anyone else who wants to stir things up?"

This question made Qin Wanru speechless. She could only shake her head, because she really didn't know.

Even if she vaguely knew some important things about the previous life, she didn't know how many of them had been involved. This kind of thing was far from being known to a girl in boudoir.

"Don't worry. Since these words have already been widely spread, just let it go!" Qin Wanru sat down in front of the dressing table. Qingyue skillfully opened her chignon that had been ruffled, and combed it again for her.

The girl in the mirror had a face like a hibiscus flower, exquisite and beautiful. Her delicate and charming lip color was matched with her pure eye color, which gave her unusual charm. At that time, Qing Yue, who was accustomed to the face of Qin Wanru, was also amazed by her beauty.

The face of Miss grew up and became more and more charming and amazing.

When they were in Jiangzhou, although they knew that their Miss was beautiful and exquisite, compared with their First Miss and First Miss Qi, their own Miss was just a child who had not grown up and was not so attracting. But now when they arrived at the capital city, the appearance of their First Miss and First Miss Qi was not a patch on their own Miss.

"Miss, if this... was heard by the general, what would happen?" Yujie said and followed Qin Wanru worriedly.

"If my father takes it seriously... Just let him do that!" Qin Wanru said with uncertainty in her eyes. She wanted to know her own identity. She quite wanted to know. Now, there happened to be such a rumor, and so many people helped spread it behind. She hoped that it would be better to be spread more widely.

Without external force, this truth could hardly be gained. At this moment, the issue of Qi Rongzhi would be a good reason. Qi Tianyu's participation would make the thing as big as possible so that next it would be less difficult for her to discover the secret before!

"Miss, you... Are you..?" Yujie's face went red and she said difficultly.

This should not be a question asked by her, a servant girl.

"Whether or not...I don't know..." Qin Wanru sighed slightly. Her voice was like a light smoke, "Just wait and see!"

Things were spread like this, so no matter how her father and grandmother would give her an explanation. And she was waiting for this explanation now to see whether this explanation would prove her assumption...

"How about those people?" Since these things were just assumptions, Qin Wanru had not proved whether they were true or not. So temporarily she didn't want to talk about these things. She changed the topic and asked.

"Those people who were taken back by the general and closed in that yard?" Yujie was astonished for a while and understood immediately. She reported with a severe face.

"Yes, no one goes to see them?" Qin Wanru asked again.

"No one. Nanny Yu just said that no one went there before." Yujie shook her head. Although this issue was stared at by people from Nanny Yu, things would be reported to Qin Wanru by Yujie from time to time.

"Go, let's go to see!" Having looked at her combed hair in the mirror, Qin Wanru turned her head and said.

"Miss, you can't go. The guards who watch the door this time are appointed by the general and he doesn't allow anyone to visit there!" Yujie stopped her rapidly.

This yard was seriously watched and it was impossible for Yujie to close it.

"So serious?" Qin Wanru raised her beautifully arched eyebrows.



"Yes, very serious!" Yujie nodded.

"Is there any way to get in?"

"I have no way!" Yujie shook her head helplessly. She had gone to see it before several times but it was really impossible for her to take any action.

"Has my mother ever gone to see it?" Qin Wanru thought and asked.

"Madam Shui went to see it once. When she went back, her face went pale because of anger. So she had never gone there later!" Yujie used to stare at the people of Madam Di but she didn't count in the people who were watched by Madam Shui at the same time.

"Since my mother has seen them, then of course I can go to see them too!" Qin Wanru smiled slightly and stood up. "Let's go and see my mother first!"

Having seen that she had decided, the two servant girls did not persuade her. Qingyue stayed to clean up the house and Yujie accompanied Qin Wanru to the yard of Shui Ruolan.

Shui Ruolan was resting in the room and when she heard that Qin Wanru had come over, she quickly asked someone to invite her. After Qin Wanru had saluted to Shui Ruolan in the room, Qin Wanru asked straightly, "Mother, my father has brought those people here. Are they from the family you used to live in?"

Shui Ruolan was stunned for a while, and her face looked not so good. She hesitated and asked, "How do you know that?"

"I heard it from two old maids in the mansion. They seemed to be the people of my Big Sister!" Qin Wanru said. Madam Di and people around her were all closed but the punishment to Qin Yuru was not so serious as that to Madam Di. Even if she couldn't come out by herself, people around her could go in and out.

After hearing that, Shui Ruolan's face went red and she was a bit annoyed, "Did they say anything bad on me again?"

"They didn't say that. They only said that these people were related to mother. Mother, can I go and see them?" Qin Wanru said bluntly.

"What do you do there?" Shui Ruolan frowned. "As a child, you should not care about those things. Mother and father will handle them."

"Mother, I am not young. I will help you solve problems. Do you really think that these people who came from so far areas would really only do one thing? Mother, don't you think that these people are too simple to be checked?" Qin Wanru reminded Shui Ruolan and pulled and shook her hands. "Mother, you can't ask for something, but I can."

Shui Ruolan was a person involved in this thing, added that she was remarried, if the family of her ex-husband found her, she couldn't ask anything. But she couldn't set her mind if she didn't ask them, afraid that Qin Huaiyong would ask more things. But recently Qin Huaiyong was too busy to deal with these people. On the other hand, he thought that these people had come into the Qin's Mansion, they couldn't escape, so he was not in a hurry.

"But you are still young..." Although she knew that Qin Wanru was suitable, Shui Ruolan was still very hesitant.

"Mother, I can really help you!" Qin Wanru looked at Shui Ruolan sincerely and said. Her voice was as soft as feathers, "And mother you can also help me!"

### **Chapter 257 Establishing Chastity Memorial Arch**

The yard which closed people was the coldest place in Qin's Mansion near the back door. There were not many masters in Qin's Mansion, and some of the yards were empty.

The two guards who watched the gate saw Shui Ruolan coming here with Qin Wanru. They went forward quickly to salute to them respectfully. The general had instructions that besides him, only Madam Shui could see people in it.

"Nothing happened with them?" Shui Ruolan asked.

"Nothing big happened. But sometimes they would refuse to eat, sometimes they would abuse others. Now we have made them quiet!" A guardian reported.

"Can I go in and take a look?" Shui Ruolan asked politely.

"Madam Shui can go in, but Second Miss..." The guard looked awkwardly at Qin Wanru, who followed Shui Ruolan tightly, and was very hesitating.

"Did the general say that I could not go in with Second Miss?" Shui Ruolan said gently.

The guard shook his head.

"If I go into alone, I'm afraid that they would do something bad on me. With Second Miss accompanying me, I would be protected!" Shui Ruolan reached out and touched her pregnant belly. She glanced at Qin Wanru beside her and said with a gentle smile.

"Then Madam and Second Miss please go back soon!" The two guards looked at each other and the belly of Shui Ruolan, hesitated for a while and gave way to them.

"Well, I will be as soon as possible!" Shui Ruolan nodded her head with a smile and stepped forward first. Qin Wanru walked in front of her quickly and waved her hands to Shui Ruolan. Then she entered the yard with one step.

Yujie tightly followed Qin Wanru, and they left Shui Ruolan and Qionghua behind.

As soon as Qin Wanru entered into the yard, she saw several people in it. There were two women and a man in the yard.

Several people were standing in the gallery and when they saw Qin Wanru coming in, they did not recognize her for a while. But after Shui Ruolan came into the door, the first woman immediately screamed, "Shui Ruolan, do you still have face to come here?"

The face of Shui Ruolan went pale and she stopped, no longer going forward.

She didn't go forward but that woman did not want to let her go. She rushed down from the porch, and pointed at Shui Ruolan, bursting into a storm of abuse. "Shui Ruolan you are such a b\*tch! How long have you been back? Then you could not tolerate loneliness and have seduced General Qin. And you have even persuaded General Qin to marry you. Look at your own identity! How can you have the face to be the wife of General Qin?"

The woman's words were not finished when she was slapped on her face. An atrocious expression showed on her face. She turned angrily to Yujie who slapped on her face. And just when she was going to abuse Yujie, Yujie kicked her on her ankle. She immediately could not stand stably and kneeled down with a sound of "plop".

"Where did the little b\*tch come from..." This woman was not the kind of person who was willing to suffer losses. After being beaten by Yujie, she was getting more and more troublesome. She looked angrily at Qin Wanru, who standing next to Yujie, and swore like a trooper.

"Slap on her mouth!" Qin Wanru said emotionlessly.

Yujie reached out and slapped on her mouth twice cruelly.

"Little b\*tch, you..." This woman was still unwilling to stop.

"Slap again!"

Yujie slapped four times on her mouth from two sides. These four slaps were of such a great force that the corner of the woman's mouth overflow marks of blood. But the cruelty of that woman was not reduced and she opened her mouth, wanting to abuse them. But when she saw the chilling eyes of Qin Wanru, she trembled and looked scared.

"You... Who are you?" the woman said and stared at Qin Wanru with panic.

"This is our Second Miss in General's Mansion!" Yujie stepped forward, separating the woman's gaze, and said coldly.

"Second Miss, Second Miss, we were caught here by Shui Ruolan. She was afraid that we would expose her true face. So she imprisoned us here. Please save us, Second Miss." Another woman seemed to be a clever one. After hearing the words of Yujie, she rushed to Qin Wanru and also kneeled down in front of her with a sound of "plop".

Qin Wanru's eyes fell on the two women in front of her. The one before who was about thirty years old was not beautiful. But the one here was only about twenty years old and she was quite pretty. But her behavior contained certain obsequiousness, which made her seem not to be girl from good family.

"Who are you?" Qin Wanru frowned and said.

"I am her sister-in-law. When we were in our own family, I took much care of her. But I haven't thought that she would treat me like this when she has got promoted!" the ordinary-looking woman said loudly and looked at Shui Ruolan maliciously, which had nothing to do with her so-called goodness.

"Who are you?" Qin Wanru's eyes naturally fell on the woman in front of her.

"I, I am..." Being glanced by Qin Wanru's cold eyes, the beautiful woman was a bit nervous and looked at the woman before.

"She is the concubine of Shui Ruolan's ex-husband. She had come to our mansion before Shui Ruolan entered into our mansion," the ordinary-looking woman said first loudly.

"Slap on her mouth!" Qin Wanru said coldly.

Yujie reached out and gave the woman two slaps.

"Mother, who are they?" Qin Wanru stepped back and looked at Shui Ruolan.

Shui Ruolan kept silent for a while and said, "Mrs. Liu and Concubine Liu!"

"Sister?" Qin Wanru was surprised but she didn't show it on her face.

"They are cousins!" Shui Ruolan nodded with her eyes moving.

"Why could you beat me?" Mrs. Liu was beaten again and again, and she was so angry that she wanted to rush to Qin Wanru, but she was blocked by Yujie. So she could only protest loudly and angrily.

"Where is it?" Qin Wanru said coldly.

"So what if we are in Ningyuan Army General's Mansion? We still need to obey the laws. Why could Ningyuan Army General and Shui Ruolan seduce each other and get married? Since Shui Ruolan has entered into our mansion, we do not allow her to get married again!" Mrs. Liu straightened her neck and said, which indicated that she used to be quite rude and unreasonable in her own house.

No wonder that Shui Ruolan finally had to come back. It was impossible for anyone to stay longer if they met such a sister-in-law.

"Since you know this is Ningyuan Army General's Mansion, you even dare to defile my father like this. Don't you want to live?" Qin Wanru raised up her eyebrows and said coldly.

Concubine Liu seemed to be sly but was a timid one. After being scared by Qin Wanru like this, she immediately cowered back.

"The capital city is a place with laws. Ningyuan Army General's Mansion is not likely to cover the sky with one hand. If you dare to kill us, there must be someone who executes vengeance for us!" Mrs. Liu was also very nervous after being frightened by Qin Wanru but she still kept her words.

"There will be someone who executes vengeance for you? The capital city is quite far from Jiangzhou. If you don't have relatives here, who will execute vengeance for you? Even if you die here, who knows?"

"There are many people who die in the capital city. Do you see any mansion which has been accused?" Qin Wanru smiled ghastly.

Qin Wanru's exquisite and beautiful eyes showed certain cruelty, which immediately made people feel scared. Even Mrs. Liu, who was a shrew, was frightened by her. She felt that although this Second Miss in front of her was very young, she had some cold stateliness and imposing manner, so Mrs. Liu's legs became limp.

"Talk about it, who let you come here!" Qin Wanru said.

"Nobody lets us come here. We come here by ourselves and happen to see Shui Ruolan. She even dares to get married again. We are going to build a chastity memorial arch for her in our area!" After Mrs. Liu's mind came back to reality, she condemned herself secretly for being scared by a little girl. So she immediately raised her head, gazed at Qin Wanru in front of her and said loudly.

The face of Shui Ruolan changed a lot, and her body could not help but tremble. If the arch was really erected, things would be big.

"You are talking nonsense. Wh-what time is it?" Shui Ruolan couldn't help but say angrily.

"What time? Let me think about it. Just when you left Jiangzhou. How about it? Shui Ruolan, you haven't thought that we would establish a chastity memorial arch for you!" When she saw the flurried expression of Shui Ruolan, the lady surnamed Liu was very proud and of more spirits.

"I have not been there anymore. Why should you build a memorial? When I first returned home, we have agreed to marry freely! And you have also taken the money from Qin's Mansion?" Shui Ruolan was so angry and annoyed and her face went pale.

When she was taken home by the Madam Dowager, they did say this. The reason why they let her go so quickly was that they had taken the money from Qin Huaiyong so that they agreed to let her leave.

"Who can prove it for you?" the lady surnamed Liu said shamelessly.

The hands of Shui Ruolan were trembling due to her anger. At that time, Nanny Duan appointed by Madam Dowager gave them the money and the money was directly given to the lady surnamed Liu. How could they tell it to anyone else? So naturally no one could prove it and there was even no contract. It was finished when everyone had face and they agreed to let Shui Ruolan go.

She didn't think that they would make a false countercharge now.

Having seen that Shui Ruolan was too angry to say any words, the lady surnamed Liu became more and more proud and was of more spirits. She thought that she had taken the vital part of Shui Ruolan. "Shui Ruolan, now that you eat well and dress well and furthermore it seems that you are pregnant. You don't think that you are a widow. If you, a widow, want to remarry someone, you need to gain the agreement of us. But we know nothing about your second marriage and we are going to establish a chastity memorial arch for you!"

"There are old maids in the backyard. Call two of them here!" Having seen that Shui Ruolan was too angry to say any words, Qin Wanru said to Yujie and looked at her with her watery eyes leisurely.

"Miss, there are lots of old maids who do rough works in the backyard. Why do you call two of them to go here?" Yujie understood immediately and nodded, but she pretended to be puzzled.

"Beat these people to death directly so that Madam would not be worried. The capital city is so big that no one would know that these people die in our backyard!" Qin Wanru took out a piece of handkerchief and wiped her hands slowly.

Her voice was very soft but the meaning in the words was quite cruel. Even because these words were said by the small miss in front of them, they felt colder in their hearts.

Concubine Liu was so scared that she sat on the ground with knees and the whole person was trembling.

"You... How dare you..." The lady surnamed Liu was very anxious and regardless of Shui Ruolan, she looked at Qin Wanru quickly and said loudly to her.

"Why don't I dare to?" Qin Wanru raised her eyebrows and said calmly.

"You are not afraid that somebody else of us will publish the things about Shui Ruolan. Even if we die, we will ruin Shui Ruolan too!" the lady surnamed Liu said maliciously.

"This is the city of the emperor. Even if hundreds of people like you die will not involve in my mother. Such a deeply-constructed house could not be entered easily. My father asks the guards to look at you because he wants to kill you. Only I think that you are unwilling to die so I accompany my mother to come here. But now it seems that you are seeking for death. That's it!"

Qin Wanru said more and more slowly and softly. She glanced at these two women and the man in the gallery. This man should be the big brother of Shui Ruolan's ex-husband.

A couple, with a concubine of their dead younger brother, was very strange...

"Yujie, look for someone, beat them to death and report that they intend to murder my father. Our mansion has killed a few assassins in this name before!" The color of her eyes became cold suddenly and she said cruelly. After saying this she was about to turn around and leave.

This meant that the master really wanted to execute the sentence!

## **Chapter 258 Exposure of an Affair**

"Yes, Miss!" Yujie turned instantly and went outside without hesitation.

Not only the faces of the two women surnamed Liu changed dramatically, but also the men in the corridor hurriedly rushed to Qin Wanru and respectfully bowed to her with his face changing. "Miss, please stay! We don't mean to do anything to hurt Madam Shui!"

"You don't mean that?" Qin Wanru said, staring coldly at him. Yujie stopped and stood behind her to guard her.

"We really don't mean that. We just come to the capital for something, but didn't expect to attract the attention of Ningyuan Army General!" The man braced himself to explain, and then dared not look down on the Second Miss who still looked young.

Qin Wanru once again looked at the man. At first glance, he looked like an educated and reasonable scholar, but she could tell he was actually very shrewd from what he had done.

Shui Ruolan had once married to the Second Young Master Qian, so he should be her ex-husband's big brother, the First Young Master of the Qian's Mansion!

"Since you don't mean that, what do your wife's words mean? You want to provoke our General's Mansion?" Qin Wanru said lightly.

"My wife is only a village woman who knows little etiquette. She had never got along well with my second sister-in-law in our mansion, so she said something fatuous. I hope Second Miss can forgive us!"

This First Young Master Qian looked like a scholar and talked gently, leaving a good impression and even making others consider him have a sense of propriety.

"My wife is ignorant and I will teach her later. I hope that Second Miss could tell general that we will choose a day on which to return to our hometown after getting out of here and will not cause other trouble for my second sister-in-law."

"You are going to return?" Qin Wanru slightly raised her eyebrows.

"It is true. We should return after staying in the capital for so long. Anyway we can't always stay here!" The First Young Master Qian sighed. "My mother is expecting us to return the hometown. My second brother has passed away. As the only son, I couldn't stay here all the time. We will return after the exam ends. At the thought that we might meet my second sister-in-law in the capital, I've specially left a letter at home to my mother before we set out!"

His words were both gentle and harsh, suggesting that if the Qin's Mansion kept them here, they had also left the evidence in Jiangzhou. If both sons died, his parents in the hometown would definitely strive to find out the facts for them.

"You come to the capital... for the imperial exam?" Qin Wanru suddenly said in an equivocal way.

The calm smile on the First Young Master Qian's face became stiff. He had just simply mentioned it, but it was keenly seized by Qin Wanru. Not daring to look down upon Qin Wanru, he said with a serious face, "Yeah, for the imperial exam."

"Since you come to the capital for the imperial exam, it is not the time yet, so you should stay in the capital for a period?" Seized by a sudden inspiration, Qin Wanru said with an increasingly elegant smile.

A candidate, who was going to attend the imperial exam, definitely had his official rank, which made him greatly superior to common people. If he had an accident in the Qin's Mansion, the Qin's Mansion would get involved in it and even Qin Huaiyong would be convicted!

"I'll find a secluded place and keep my mind on studying there and will not get involved in the affairs of the Qin's Mansion!" The First Young Master Qian was obviously a smart person. He immediately understood what Qin Wanru meant and promised.

"Find a secluded place and keep your mind on studying there. I'm afraid your wife may not think so. She tries every shift available to mess with my mother and may refuse to stop to the very end." Looking towards the lady surnamed Liu, who was still kneeling on the ground, Qin Wanru said coldly.

Hearing herself mentioned by Qin Wanru, the lady surnamed Liu opened her mouth and wanted to talk. However, the First Young Master Qian gave her a hard look, and she immediately bowed her head. Although she was resentful, she did not dare to talk.

Although the lady surnamed Liu had always been unreasonable in their mansion, she did not dare to act absurdly if the First Young Master Qian really got angry.

"My wife is immature. I promise this thing won't happen again. I won't allow my wife to go out at will or talk at will!"

The First Young Master Qian withdrew his gaze and said.

Qin Wanru squinted coldly at the lady surnamed Liu and then looked at concubine Liu, who looked more delicate at this moment, saying with a slight smile, "Since you come to the capital for the imperial exam, it is normal to bring your wife to take care of you. Nevertheless, why do you also bring your brother's concubine?"

Concubine Liu was also kneeling. But different from the lady surnamed Liu who was rude, she looked pitiful and charming. Although her bun was messed up due to what had happened before, she made others feel more tender and protective toward her. A button at her neckline came undone at this moment, revealing her white skin.

Noticing Qin Wanru's gaze on her, she subconsciously clung to the First Young Master Qian.

"My wife feels lonely during the journey, so she deliberately brings her cousin sister who can talk with her," the First Young Master Qian said. With a calm face, he only slightly raised his eyes.

Qin Wanru calmly shifted her gaze from the First Young Master Qian to concubine Liu and then back to the First Young Master Qian, with a trace of deepness in her watery eyes.

The kind of deepness seemed to penetrate others' minds. It made concubine Liu, who was kneeling on the ground, increasingly nervous and slightly moved to get closer to the First Young Master Qian.

"I see. If so, it is such a pity!" Qin Wanru seemed to indicate something.

"I'm wondering what do you mean?" the First Young Master Qian asked politely.

"Your brother has passed away, and his legal wife has remarried. But it is not so easy for a concubine to remarry. Nevertheless, some people consider a concubine can be given to someone else. You come to the capital for the imperial exam, but you don't know many people here. Since you've brought this concubine to the capital, I think you may have other plans." Qin Wanru looked at concubine Liu more often.

Her gaze made concubine Liu panic-stricken and turn pale with fright. She turned her head to look at the First Young Master Qian. With a pale face, she shivered all over, stared at the First Young Master Qian with sorrow and grief and cried softly, "First Young Master!"

A man considered her voice extremely gentle and enchanting, but a woman considered it unnatural. The lady surnamed Liu kneeling beside her looked towards her in puzzlement, with her attention concentrating on concubine Liu.

"Second Miss Qin, you think too much. She is my second brother's concubine. How, how can I do that!" The First Young Master Qian only felt his hair stood on end. This Second Miss Qin was actually not famous in Jiangzhou. Nevertheless, being related to the Qin's family, he slightly knew the Second Miss Qin was just a naive girl who knew little about worldly affairs.

But was the Second Miss Qin in front of him really an ignorant girl from an aristocratic family? Why did she make him greatly stressed out?

These words stabbed him in the heart, making it difficult for him to respond at the moment.



He had thought about how to answer General Qin, but had never thought he would be baffled by a delicate Miss from an aristocratic family. He felt like the secret in his heart was revealed little by little, with cold sweat on his back.

“It is actually no big deal in the capital!” Being keenly aware of the numbness of the First Young Master Qian, Qin Wanru said with a meaningful smile.

Her smile made concubine Liu increasingly confirm this was true. With her red eyes and supplication on her delicate face, she pitifully looked at the First Young Master Qian.

She moved her hands, seeming to want to hold the leg of the First Young Master Qian, but immediately realized something and hurriedly put down her hands. But even so, one of her hands had already touched the robe of the First Young Master Qian.

It made the lady surnamed Liu straighten her eyebrows and raise her eyes. After looking at the expression of the First Young Master Qian and then looking at concubine Liu, with her face suddenly turning furious, she turned her head and reached out to slap concubine Liu heavily.

She slapped so heavily that concubine Liu inclined and happened to run into the leg of the First Young Master Qian. At this moment, she desperately held the leg of the First Young Master Qian, crying sadly.

“What are you doing?”

The First Young Master Qian looked at the lady surnamed Liu with dissatisfaction.

“What have I done? I should ask what you have done. Well, Qian Youcai, you turn out to be such a person. You, you...” With her gaze shifting between the First Young Master Qian and concubine Liu, the lady surnamed Liu reached out to point at them and couldn’t even say anything in anger.

“Enough, shut up. We are in Ningyuan Army General’s Mansion. Shut up if you don’t want to be killed!” The First Young Master Qian shouted sharply with a gloomy face.

“Since you have something to deal with, let’s talk about it next time!” Qin Wanru smiled slightly and turned lightly. Shui Ruolan looked at these people and turned around with Qin Wanru.

They got out of the house, and the guards closed the door after asking them to step aside.

At this moment, the yard seemed to be in a mess. They seemed to hear the slap followed by a woman’s coquettish cry which was obviously not from the lady surnamed Liu who was furious. It was then followed by a man’s shout...

“Wanru, this...” Shui Ruolan looked into the courtyard and frowned.

“Mother, father will handle it. Tell father about what happened today. I believe father will handle it better!”

Qin Wanru smiled slightly.

“Wanru, you should not intervene in this matter!” Shui Ruolan said with disapproval.

“Mother, I just guessed that. I just intended to check out what kind of people they are and why they deal with you. Grandma said that the Qian family has agreed you can remarry freely when you left. Given all this, why they come up with all these words. I didn’t expect to see this kind of thing!”

Qin Wanru said with a pleasant smile.

“Well, don’t mention it again. As a miss from an aristocratic family, you can’t see this kind of thing!” With her face darkening, Shui Ruolan rebuked Qin Wanru.

She didn’t like to expose Qin Wanru to this kind of thing. It was a scandal for the big brother to have an affair with the concubine of his dead younger brother.

“Okay, mother, I won’t!” Qin Wanru nodded obediently.

Seeing Qin Wanru so obedient, Shui Ruolan said with red eyes, “It’s all my fault to let you handle it for me. I’m so sorry... for exposing you to such a sordid thing!”

Shui Ruolan had seen what had happened before. At the thought that a young girl like Qin Wanru was exposed to such a sordid thing because of her, she was ashamed and felt sorry for Qin Wanru at the moment. She originally wanted to protect her, but now was protected by her instead.

How could she not feel sad!

“Mother, I will not intervene in this matter again. You can tell father about it!” Qin Wanru pulled Shui Ruolan’s hand and appeased her with a smile.

Her bright watery eyes with tears, coupled with her exquisite facial features, made others feel increasingly tender and protective toward her. Shui Ruolan secretly determined she must not involve this child in this and just said she accidentally saw it through.

Shui Ruolan was not a stupid person, knowing that this was greatly beneficial to her!

## **Chapter 259 Make Trouble And Then Get a Divorce**

Shui Ruolan knew the affair between them could even be the key to take control of the First Young Master Qian.

The First Young Master Qian wanted to attend the imperial exam and stand out among others, so his reputation couldn’t be damaged even a little at this time, and concubine Liu was the most influential factor in his reputation.

With this secret known by her, the First Young Master Qian wouldn’t dare to deal with her again, no matter he did that because of his secret agreement with someone or other reasons.

It was not appropriate to lock up someone with an official rank like him in the General’s Mansion. If something really happened to him, Qin Huaiyong had to bear all the responsibilities.

All scholars around the country gathered in the capital to attend the imperial exam. If something really happened, it was not just a matter about the First Young Master Qian!

After thinking over these key points, Shui Ruolan became increasingly reluctant to get Qin Wanru involved in the trouble caused by her. After pulling Qin Wanru to walk out for a while, she said in

earnest, "Wanru, today you came over because of me. I brought you here to ask about the matter of the Qian's Mansion. This thing is discovered by me, and you don't know anything about it!"

Although Shui Ruolan knew that this child was smart, she still told her this.

It would damage Qin Wanru's reputation to get involved in this kind of thing. Even if Qin Wanru was only present at that time, it was no good to Qin Wanru if the news got out. Shu Ruolan tried to keep Qin Wanru out of this as much as she could.

"Yes, mother, I'll do it!" Since Qin Wanru had achieved what she wanted, she would definitely do as Shui Ruolan asked. She knew Shui Ruolan sincerely wanted the best for her.

Shui Ruolan turned to look at the two maids behind them. Both of the maids were her henchmen. Being close to them, the maids had heard their conversation clearly. Seeing Shui Ruolan turn her head, the two maids hurriedly bowed and said, "Madam, by your words!"

"You can go back now!" Seeing the two maids sensible enough to understand her intention, Shui Ruolan nodded with satisfaction, looked at the intersection ahead and said.

At the intersection ahead, there was a road to Qin Huaiyong's study outside, and the other to the inner court.

"Yes, mother!" With her gaze falling to the intersection, Qin Wanru answered softly. She walked a few steps with Yujie after bowing to Shui Ruolan, but suddenly stopped again. Looking back, she said seriously with her delicate little face turning slightly taut, "Mother, you are not alone now. You have my unborn brother or sister and me!"

Moved by her words, Shu Ruolan felt a lump coming into her throat and almost burst into tears. She bit her lip and nodded heavily, but could not say a word.

She knew Qin Wanru indicated she should be more careful and think about herself when necessary. Even if she was originally soft, she should be tough as a mother, and some other things could be temporarily left aside.

Qin Wanru did not expect Shui Ruolan's reply. Seeing her unable to talk at the moment, she bowed sideways and turned to leave with Yujie. There were some words she couldn't tell Shui Ruolan. Nevertheless, being afraid Shui Ruolan would be depressed and greatly disappointed due to her high expectation, she alerted Shui Ruolan early.

Looking at Qin Wanru's slender figure, Shui Ruolan went to the study after thinking for a while with a calm face. She should be tough as a mother. She was now a mother, and couldn't shrink back anymore.

If she remained so weak, Qin Wanru needed to protect her with her weak shoulders. How could she bear to be protected by such a weak girl...

Hearing that Shui Ruolan had come over, Qin Huaiyong was dumbfounded for a while and hurriedly asked a servant to invite her in. Shui Ruolan had come to his study once or twice since they moved into the mansion.

After coming in and bowing to Qin Huaiyong, Shui Ruolan directly asked, "Cousin brother, how are you going to deal with those people in the backyard?"

“Leave them aside for the moment!” Qin Huaiyong reached out to rub his eyebrows. With so many things around recently, he should deal with the most urgent thing first.

“Why did these people come to the capital?” In normal times, Shui Ruolan would stop talking at the sight of Qin Huaiyong’s tired face. But at the moment, she continued asking softly, as if she hadn’t seen that.

“They should happen to come here for the imperial exam. It is not a big deal! Qian Youcai will not dare to do anything else for attending the exam!” Qin Huaiyong had checked before. Considering it not a big deal, he decided to lock them up for the moment. With so many things recently, he could handle the things that were not important, later.

“What if his wife, the lady surnamed Liu, is going to make trouble?” Shui Ruolan looked at Qin Huaiyong with a bitter smile and said, “Cousin brother, I got you into the trouble. The lady surnamed Liu has been fierce and unreasonable in Jiangzhou. As someone who has always refused to suffer any losses even if she has to make the trouble significant, she will probably not take overall interests into account!”

She could tell the lady surnamed Liu was clearly going to make trouble based on what had happened today. The lady surnamed Liu and Madam Di had known each other in Jiangzhou. It was best for Madam Di to make use of the lady surnamed Liu to deal with her.

Shui Ruolan was not ignorant of everything. The lady surnamed Liu was just a woman, and the First Young Master Qian would not get involved in this even if the lady surnamed Liu really made the trouble significant. He could stay out of this by calling his wife an ignorant woman. It would not have a big impact on his imperial exam.

“Ruolan, rest assured. I will not let this happen. The lady surnamed Liu is Qian Youcai’s wife. If his wife talks nonsense, he will get involved in it.” Seeing Shui Ruolan’s bitter smile, Qin Huaiyong appeased her. This was actually his real thought that the lady surnamed Liu and Qian Youcai couldn’t really make a big trouble.

With the imperial exam ahead, Qian Youcai would naturally keep the lady surnamed Liu under his control.

“Cousin brother, what if Qian Youcai is even going to abandon his wife?”

“What?” Considering he did not understand what Shui Ruolan meant, Qin Huaiyong asked in amazement.

“I went to the courtyard and met the First Young Master Qian, the lady surnamed Liu and concubine Liu. There is obviously a relationship between the First Young Master Qian and concubine Liu. The lady surnamed Liu has been out of favor with the First Young Master Qian!” After slightly hesitating, Shui Ruolan told everything she had seen.

Of course, she didn’t mention the most important witness Qin Wanru.

She said she was the one who had found out the affair between them.

“You mean... Qian Youcai intends to make trouble and then get a divorce?” Qin Huaiyong said with astonishment in his eyes.

"The lady surnamed Liu is fierce and unreasonable. Sometimes she just makes trouble shamelessly and dares to say anything and do anything. Qian Youcai has been displeased with her for a long time. They have quarreled with each other every few days in their mansion. If Qian Youcai has a chance to get some benefits and get rid of the lady surnamed Liu, I believe he is happy to do that!"

Shui Ruolan calmly analyzed.

She had thought over these words on her way here.

She had seen through something. The reason why she hadn't exposed it was that it was not necessary yet, but not that she was not smart. At this moment, being afraid of getting Qin Wanru involved in this matter and being trapped by others, she had to say everything she had thought of!

"You mean that Qian Youcai will indulge the lady surnamed Liu to make trouble and expose your experience. After that, he will repudiate the lady surnamed Liu with the reason that she was rude and unreasonable so that he can marry a young lady from a wealthy family?"

Qin Huaiyong understood, and his face darkened. If this was true, he had probably looked down on Qian Youcai.

This practice was very beneficial to Qian Youcai. On the one hand, he could get rid of the lady surnamed Liu. On the other hand, he could win some reputation. If he passed the imperial exam, it was perfectly justifiable for him to marry someone else. Besides, he should be able to get great secret interests. Qin Huaiyong wouldn't believe there was no transaction between him and Madam Di.

Based on Madam Di's disposition, he could tell she must have spent a large sum of money on it.

The names of these people were written in the letter seized at that time. At first Qin Huaiyong did not figure out who they were. Later, Qin Wanru's "inadvertent words" reminded him that Shui Ruolan had married a man surnamed Qian. Madam Di actually wrote the First Young Master Qian, the lady surnamed Liu and concubine Liu in the letter instead of Qian Youcai, which made him unable to figure it out in a while.

Reminded by Qin Wanru, he immediately realized it referred to Qian Youcai and then sent someone to secretly "invite" them to the Qin's Mansion.

At that time, he just considered Madam Di intended to work with Qian Youcai to plot against Shui Ruolan, but they had not begun yet. Unexpectedly, they had reached an agreement. Madam Di probably intended to ask Madam of Duke Xing to pass a message to ask these people to make the trouble significant and damage Shui Ruolan's reputation.

He thought Qian Youcai wouldn't really do that for his imperial exam, but unexpectedly Qian Youcai had planned to get a divorce reasonably with this matter.

Since Qian Youcai didn't get along well with the lady surnamed Liu, he wouldn't have brought the lady surnamed Liu to the capital this time. So they should have reached an agreement before Qian Youcai came to the capital. At the thought that Madam Di had plotted against him long ago, Qin Huaiyong struck the table hard with his face suddenly darkening, which made the cup on the table jump up.

Madam Di was really hateful!

"I know. I will deal with it later. You can go back now!" Qin Huaiyong suppressed the rage in his heart and said coldly.

Shui Ruolan grew up with Qin Huaiyong since her childhood, so she naturally knew he was extremely furious at the moment. She stood up, nodded and said softly, "Cousin brother, I'm going back now!"

"Go back and take a good rest. I will handle it and won't allow them to damage your reputation!" Qin Huaiyong looked at her bulky body with some guilt.

This matter was caused by his inconsiderateness. He didn't expect Qian Youcai would have such a plan. He thought it impossible for him to really do that because she was his wife after all. Unexpectedly he had planned to marry someone else before coming to the capital. He was so detestable!

"Okay, cousin brother, I will be careful. It seems that... there is some... between concubine Liu and Qian Youcai." Shui Ruolan reminded him after hesitating.

"I know!" Qin Huaiyong immediately understood that Qian Youcai intended to divorce the lady surnamed Liu. Concubine Liu looked more youthful and beautiful. He intended to make her his concubine after divorce. But now with the lady surnamed Liu around, he didn't dare to do that brazenly. Nevertheless, there must be an affair between them in private.

Qin Huaiyong didn't think about it before, so he failed to figure it out at that time. After thinking carefully, he realized Qian Youcai had this plan long ago.

After Shui Ruolan left, Qin Huaiyong took the servant to the yard where Qian Youcai was locked up...

### **Chapter 260 Sinister, Kill Three Birds with One Stone**

After staying in the yard where Qian Youcai lived for a short while, Qin Huaiyong arranged a carriage to send Qian Youcai and concubine Liu out, while the lady surnamed Liu was left in the mansion.

It was said to be Qian Youcai's plan. He should study hard to prepare for the imperial exam recently, with no time to think about other things and take care of his family. He said concubine Liu was a maid who took care of his daily life, and left the lady surnamed Liu in the Qin's Mansion.

It was not widely known that Qian Youcai had visited the Qin's Mansion. Many people did not know who he was or concubine Liu was the concubine of his second brother rather than his maid.

Therefore, this reason was justifiable, so everyone believed that it was true. Since it was Qian Youcai's plan and the Qin's Mansion was willing to help him, it was reasonable for the lady surnamed Liu to stay in the Qin's Mansion. This kind of thing was a family matter with nothing to do with someone else.

After getting out of the Qin's Mansion, Qian Youcai returned to his rented yard with a sullen face. After thinking about it, he asked the supervisor, who stayed in the yard, to rent another yard beside and asked concubine Liu to move over.

After that, a man came to the yard to visit him. They did not have a long conversation, and Qian Youcai sent the person out. Their sullen faces indicated they obviously didn't reach an agreement. The man then got on the carriage at the back door. The carriage went all the way back and entered the back door of Duke Xing's Mansion...

When the news of Qian Youcai leaving the Qin's Mansion with concubine Liu reached Qin Wanru's ears, Qin Wanru was carefully checking the Tang Qianyan under the window. Probably because of the climate, this Tang Qianyan, which had been fading upon arrival at the capital, became refreshed. But it just became slightly refreshed with no buds.

Various Tang Qianyan should mostly blossom in autumn and winter, but Qin Wanru's had never blossomed after autumn and winter. It was said that the climate in Jiangzhou didn't suit it, but it was still the same after Qin Wanru moved to the capital, which made Qin Wanru very helpless indeed.

However, Chu Liuchen had asked her to take care of this pot of flower for him. If she didn't raise it well, he would probably pester her when thinking of it. Qin Wanru was very helpless about it.

"Miss, why did general send the First Young Master Qian and concubine Liu away but keep the lady surnamed Liu here?" After reporting the matter, Qingyue asked in puzzlement, while taking over the small sprinkling-can from Qin Wanru and cautiously watering the flower for her.

Qin Wanru washed her hands in the basin offered by a maid, picked up the towel to wipe her hands and slowly said, "With the lady surnamed Liu in our mansion, Qian Youcai can't do anything even if he wants to. After all, the lady surnamed Liu hasn't done anything terrible enough to make her repudiated. So we can frighten Qian Youcai by taking control of the lady surnamed Liu!"

"Then why did he release concubine Liu?" After watering the flower, Qingyue put down the small sprinkling-can and asked.

It was unjustifiable for concubine Liu and the First Young Master Qian to live together. Even if there were other servants, they could be considered living together. Moreover, concubine Liu was the concubine of his dead second brother. It was quite controversial for them to live together.

"As a smart person, Qian Youcai will not allow concubine Liu to live with him. He is going to attend the imperial exam, so he will not allow his reputation to be damaged in this period. However, concubine Liu may not think so. As the concubine whose husband has passed away, her future depends on Qian Youcai. If Qian Youcai really gives her away, what can she do?"

Qin Wanru said slowly with a sneer.

Qian Youcai should be the one who had reached an agreement with Madam Di, but the lady surnamed Liu was said to be the one. After the lady surnamed Liu made the trouble significant and Shui Ruolan suffered losses with her reputation damaged, Qian Youcai could get a divorce with this excuse. Others might even consider him unfortunate to have such a rude and unreasonable wife and the lady surnamed Liu deserved to be repudiated.

By the time, Shui Ruolan's reputation was destroyed, the lady surnamed Liu was repudiated, and Madam Di's silver would fall into Qian Youcai's hands. Qian Youcai could actually kill three birds with one stone.

Now the matter was discovered by her father who had always been decisive and vicious. Her father directly kept the lady surnamed Liu in the mansion, while sending concubine Liu to live with Qian Youcai. By doing that, he intended to make Qian Youcai not dare to say anything detrimental to the Qin's Mansion with the relationship between concubine Liu and Qian Youcai.

Concubine Liu had left with Qian Youcai. Even if Qian Youcai wanted to stay away from her, she had to cling to Qian Youcai because she was afraid she would have no one to depend on in the future. The ambiguous relationship between them made Qian Youcai unable to stay away from her at this time.

“Miss, what if the general keeps locking up the First Young Master Qian?” Concerned about another aspect, Yujie asked.

“Madam of Duke Xing must have tracked him down. If father keeps locking him up, it will probably cause other trouble. After all, Qian Youcai is a candidate for the imperial exam with an inferior official rank. Nevertheless, the numerous candidates in the capital will feel sorry for what happened to him, and it may cause a big trouble!”

Qin Wanru said with cold eyes and long eyelashes falling down and concealing the deepness in her eyes. Scholars had always been a group, and it was easiest for them to step into the official career. If they were really incited, the Qin’s Mansion might be unable to resist. It seemed that Madam of Duke Xing not only wanted to deal with her, but also wanted to destroy the entire Qin’s Mansion.

In this way, Madam of Duke Xing could destroy her from the root!

Madam of Duke Xing really hated her a lot. It also made Qin Wanru consider her speculation was correct, but she didn’t find the evidence.

Nevertheless, since Madam Di’s letter and Qin Yuru’s map were found from the old maid of Madam of Duke Xing, Madam Dowager and Qin Huaiyong could no longer believe her kindness towards the Qin’s Mansion. Even if Madam of Duke Xing kept pretending to be kind, Qin Wanru didn’t need to worry. Madam Dowager and Qin Huaiyong would allow her to get involved with Madam of Duke Xing.

When the two maids heard Qin Wanru’s words, their faces greatly changed. Even someone lacking knowledge and experience like them knew they would definitely get into a big trouble if the matter was known by the scholars who came to the capital for the imperial exam. Even a high official at first level in the capital could only avoid the head-on confrontation in this situation, not to mention the fact that the Qin’s Mansion wasn’t at a high level without a solid foundation.

“Madam Di is so vicious. She wants to ruin the entire Qin’s Mansion!” Yujie said slowly.

“She doesn’t want to. She has been used by others and thought she just did that to deal with mother!” Qin Wanru sneered. Madam Di was both vicious and short-sighted, so she became the arrow in the hands of Madam of Duke Xing.

“Why didn’t general go to talk with Madam Di?” Qingyue asked in puzzlement.

“Father is too disappointed to talk with her. Nevertheless, with Duke Yong’s Mansion as her support, father can’t do anything to her. So he just locks her up with no intention of releasing her!” Qin Wanru analyzed lightly.

“Really? That’s great!” Yujie was somewhat dissatisfied, but after thinking over it, she suddenly became happy. Without Madam Di making trouble, the mansion would be much more peaceful. Even First Miss also made some trouble, she was not as experienced as Madam Di in it.

Moreover, First Miss had her own problem. She was still grounded.



"Second Miss, someone from Duke Yong's Mansion asks to meet you!" When three of them were talking, there suddenly came a maid's voice from the yard.

Qin Wanru frowned, wondering why Duke Yong's Mansion sent someone to meet her.

She slightly nodded, sat in the chair in the middle, picked up the teacup to take a sip and then put it down.

Yujie went to stand behind Qin Wanru. Qingyue lifted the curtain, looked at a strange old maid and two maids with their heads down in the yard and said.

"Come in!"

The old maid walked in with a smile and left the two maids outside the courtyard.

After coming in, she bowed to Qin Wanru, and then said with a sincere smile, "Second Miss, I'm an old maid from Duke Yong's Mansion. Hearing Madam Di is sick, our Old Madam and Madam are worried, so they specially send two maids who know some medical skills here to serve her."

Madam Di had been locked up, but they couldn't say that, so sickness was the best explanation.

"Uh... you should tell my father and mother about it, right?" Qin Wanru raised her eyes and asked calmly. She really didn't understand what Duke Yong's Mansion meant.

"I took them to meet general, general considers them not bad, but I still want to ask about Madam Shui's opinion. At the thought that it may be inconvenient for Madam Shui to meet me recently, I take them here to meet you. If you also consider them suitable, I will send the two maids to Madam Di's yard!"

The old maid had a glib tongue. She made an unreasonable thing sound reasonable in a few words.

Since Qin Huaiyong had agreed, how could Qin Wanru not agree as his daughter? What was more, Duke Yong's Mansion was so humble, which left a good impression on her indeed.

After hesitating slightly, Qin Wanru said lightly, "What do I need to do?"

"Second Miss, you don't need to do anything. I've done everything that should be done. You just need to have a look at them and tell general about it later!" the old maid said with a smile in an extremely kind tone.

Her attitude was quite different from that of the servant sent by Duke Yong's Mansion when the Qin family just moved to the capital.

The Qin's Mansion had got into trouble repeatedly, and so had Duke Yong's Mansion. Qin Yuru had a bad reputation, and so did Di Yan. No one dared to say anything about their marriage at this cusp.

"This is out of my reach. You had better go to meet my mother!" Qin Wanru frowned. The affairs in Madam Di's yard was definitely out of her reach.

"But Madam Shui is... I'm afraid of disturbing Madam Shui!" The old maid of Duke Yong's Mansion was in a dilemma. Duke Yong's Mansion naturally knew about Shui Ruolan's pregnancy.

She sounded very reasonable and seemingly did everything in consideration of taking care of Shui Ruolan. Qin Wanru looked at the old maid who was smiling and looked calm.

Would someone from Duke Yong's Mansion be kind to Shui Ruolan? At this point, Qin Wanru was absolutely not convinced!

"But this kind of thing is out of my reach. What should I do?" Qin Wanru withdrew her gaze, slightly smiled and said calmly, "If I tell my father about it afterwards, I feel like interfering in the matter between my father and Madam. How can I do that as a daughter!"

Even if she just needed to tell her father about it afterwards, it was not what she should do as a daughter. So it was a mere formality. It was impossible that Countess Yong, who was a Madam of an aristocratic family, didn't know it.

"Second Miss, maybe you can send someone to lead us to meet Madam Shui? I should report it to someone in the mansion anyway!" The old maid seemed to be embarrassed by Qin Wanru's blunt words!