

Medical Princess 471

Chapter 471 The Evil Nun Bullied Others to Infuriate Others!

As a playboy, Zhang Lanjue still had a sense of justice. When he heard this, he almost kicked the door in. But after thinking about it, he turned back. As a man, if he did it in the nunnery, it was hard to say whether it would be good or bad. He had to ask his sister for help.

"Brother, what are you doing? Mother told you to come back soon." He just took a few steps when he saw his younger sister, Zhang Qilan, coming over with a servant girl.

Seeing that Zhang Lanjue did not come back, Madam Zhang was really worried, so she asked her daughter to come and have a look.

"Come here, come here." Zhang Lanjue stretched out his hand and pressed a finger on his lips, making a gesture of silence. He pointed to the side door where the sound came from. Then he walked over there softly and waved hand to Zhang Qilan.

When looked at her brother's sneaky movements and heard the voice coming from the nearby side hall, Zhang Qilan was also interested. The two siblings, together with a servant girl, stood behind the door and listened to the noise.

"Huiqing Nun, you let our Miss clean up the Buddha hall over there. Our Miss has cleaned up neatly. You did not let our Miss have lunch, so these steamed buns were also saved by us instead of being given by you. Why are you still so pushy? Do you bully us because you think there is no patron behind our Miss?"

Yujie stood in front of Shao Wanru and said with her sharp eyes.

During this period of time, Yujie had been following Shao Wanru, expressing weakness and incompetence. Now she was so furious that she glared at Huiqing. Her vicious look startled Huiqing actually. But Huiqing immediately felt that there was no need to fear her. Even Miss Shao was so weak now, what could a servant girl do?

First Miss Shao had also said that they could just let her make a fuss and make the matter bigger. It would be better if she could not stay in the Yuhui Nunnery.

She was on a mourning trip for three years. If after guarding for only a few days, she fled down the mountain, then in the future, she would have no face to say something about the good reputation of mourning for filial piety.

"Oh, what's wrong? Do you want to rebel? I just don't let your Miss eat. What's wrong? You said it was cleaned up. When I came here just now, it was very dirty. As for steamed buns, why should I give any to her? She did not have lunch as a Miss, so you two servant girls didn't have lunch either. Haven't you heard of it?"

In the past few days, Huiqing had been very powerful in front of Shao Wanru. Now that Yujie dared to refute her, she immediately sneered and thought, "I will not be afraid of a little servant girl!"

She tried to suppress Yujie with words.

Zhang Lanjue was almost angry. The nun in the nunnery was really outrageous. What she said was not only unpleasant, but also partly used the method of involvement. She did not worry about getting herself into trouble.

“Huiqing, you are such a bully! Our Miss is not someone you can pick on just because you want to!” Qu Le also stood up with her face full of anger.

“Oh, does she want to overturn the world? If she has the ability, don’t cultivate in the Yuhui Nunnery. If she’s unwilling, then she can go down the mountain on her own! There is no one in the Yuhui Nunnery to stop her. If she doesn’t work in the nunnery, it will be impossible for her to eat for free!” Huiqing said with sarcasm.

After saying that, she looked at the steamed bun in Qu Le’s hand, which just had two bites taken out of it, and gave it a good pat.

Qu Le was caught off guard so she cried out in surprise. The steamed bun fell from her hand and rolled on the floor twice. Immediately, the snow-white steamed bun was stained black.

“This is a steamed bun of our nunnery. We don’t raise good-for-nothings!” Huiqing said confidently.

Qu Le’s face turned pale with anger. She gritted her teeth and her whole body trembled.

“Huiqing, you and I did not have any grudges in the past, and we have not had any enmity with each other. Ever since I came up the mountain to cultivate myself, you have been looking for trouble everywhere and have wanted to drive me down the mountain. From time to time, you told me to get out of the mountain if I could not stand it. I did not know you before, but you are so mean to me. You gave dirty work to our master and servant, and you did not even give food to us. Whose idea is this?”

Shao Wanru seemed to pull Qu Le’s sleeve calmly, indicating for her to not be angry. She turned to look at Huiqing and asked disdainfully.

This question was very straightforward. It was almost at the heart of the matter, without the usual “order for peace”. Huiqing was choked by the question, but then she became ashamed and angry. If she was actually frightened by a weak Miss, then she could not show off in front of others again.

“It doesn’t matter who I work for. In any case, you do not think about staying in the Yuhui Nunnery. If I ask you to leave, get out of here quickly. Do not come back again. The Yuhui Nunnery does not welcome you. If you insist on staying here, this kind of thing will happen every day. I want to see how long you can hold on!”

Huiqing was so angry that she spoke without thinking. With her worries being revealed suddenly, she felt extremely ashamed and angry.

Zhang Lanjue, who was at the side door, could not stand it anymore. He reached out and poked his sister’s arm. Zhang Qilan also felt that she could not bear it anymore. Was this an evil nun bullying others?

In the past, their mother had said that the nuns from the Yuhui Nunnery were not bad. All of them were quiet and uninteresting and seemed to have the aura of Buddha. But what she had heard was totally different.

She was simply not a human being!

After she and her brother looked at each other, the two siblings immediately understood each other.

Zhang Lanjue kicked the half-closed side door open. Zhang Qilan broke in with her servant girl and shouted, "Where does the evil nun come from? How does she dare to brag like this? Do all the nuns in the Yuhui Nunnery bully the guests like this?"

Zhang Qilan's voice was not low. When she heard what Huiqing said before, she felt the same. At this time, she stared directly at Huiqing, who looked at the side door in astonishment, and said, "Go, call the master who was in charge of the ritual just now. I want to see if the people in the Yuhui Nunnery are all like this!"

The servant girl turned around and ran out to the main hall. During the short rest, the nuns of the Yuhui Nunnery left the hall, but there were still one or two of them guarding outside.

"Aye, who are you? You should meddle in other people's business!" Huiqing was shocked, and then immediately flew into a rage after she came to her senses.

She did not know who he was. Huiqing followed Shao Wanru here, so she did not know who was holding the ceremony. But no matter who he was, no one could intervene in a matter in the nunnery.

"When the road is unfair, people will step on it. How dare you people in the nunnery bully a Miss who lives and practices in the nunnery? I didn't expect that the reputation of the Yuhui Nunnery was fake!"

Zhang Lanjue was afraid that his sister would be at a disadvantage, so he sneered.

"You are right. It's the first time I have heard of such a thing. From what you have said, people in your nunnery have done a lot of bullying, haven't you? You make a Miss who practices here do some chores, and what's more, it's dirty and messy. If not, you don't give her food. What do you think your nunnery is?"

Zhang Qilan stared at her and spoke loudly. She could empathize with this Miss. Just now, her mother let her live in the Yuhui Nunnery for a while to control her temper. If she really lived in the Yuhui Nunnery, she would be bullied to death. She was not good-tempered, so she might ruin the whole nunnery. By then, her mother would blame her for not going easy on others.

Thinking of this, Zhang Qilan suddenly felt lucky that she had discovered this kind of thing. Otherwise, when it was her turn, if she really made a fuss, her mother would ask her to copy the Women's Precepts and Daughter's Warnings 100 times!

No, she had to help this Miss, so that her mother would know that the Yuhui Nunnery was not a good place to go. The last time she lived here, she was lucky not to be abused. This time, she might not be so lucky.

"It is said that the families of the young ladies who cultivate here have given sesame oil money. They do not live for nothing. If they do not pay, the people in the Yuhui Nunnery will not accept them!" Zhang Lanjue said with her hands on her waist.

"You... you..." Huiqing was tongue-tied and speechless.

"Huiqing, what was going on?" There was an old voice coming from behind. Everyone looked back behind Huiqing and saw two nuns coming from the direction of the side hall's gate. The first one was talking. Zhang Qilan's servant girl was leading the way, and it was obvious that she had brought the nuns here.

"Master Puyu, when the Abbess was preaching, Fifth Miss Shao was gossiping with a servant girl outside. After I said a few words to her, she even talked back. I told her to clean up the place where the Abbess was preaching. She didn't tidy up and she even snuck here and stole steamed buns to eat!"

As soon as she saw someone coming out of the nunnery, Huiqing, in the weak situation, rushed forward and complained.

"Master, you did not say that just now. You said that this Miss had to do all kinds of dirty and tiring work. If she didn't do it well, she could not even have lunch. The two servant girls were loyal and gave their lunch to this Miss. You came over and knocked her steamed bun away. You also said that she had better go down the mountain if she couldn't stay here. You didn't allow her to cultivate on the mountain. You said that your nunnery doesn't feed people for free!"

Zhang Lanjue could not bear to listen to Huiqing's words and stepped forward to testify for Shao Wanru. Then, he pointed at the steamed bun that was still on the ground and spoke loudly.

"If the people in your nunnery are like this, who would dare to come here?" Zhang Qilan also said indignantly.

"Puyu Nun, I've already packed up the place where the Abbess preaches." Shao Wanru walked to the front of Puyu Nun and stood still. Then she bowed to her with a calm look.

"You are talking nonsense, but you didn't clean up the mess at all," Huiqing shouted out her grievances. She was really not afraid of this matter. She had seen it just now. It was extremely chaotic, and pieces of paper were thrown everywhere.

"When we left just now, everything was sorted out. If you don't believe me, Puyu Nun, we can go and have a look now." Yujie stepped forward angrily and stood in front of Shao Wanru. From her vigilant look, it could be seen that she was afraid that the people from the Yuhui Nunnery would do harm to her Miss.

They didn't know how the Yuhui Nunnery had bullied the young master and the servants. The young master and her servants had been bullied so badly that they were as vigilant as soldiers.

"Let us go and have a look. Don't think that we are just talking nonsense. Someone is good at fabricating!" Zhang Lanjue shouted loudly.

"Yes, let us go and have a look immediately. The one who does not want to is feeling guilty. Will the Yuhui Nunnery help this evil nun?" Of course, Zhang Qilan was following her brother's lead.

At this point, it was impossible not to take a look. A few more servants from the Prime Minister's Mansion came over and stood on the side of their Young Master and Miss.

Seeing them arguing, Puyu Nun had a headache. She nodded helplessly and said, "Let us go and have a look!"

At this point, it was not enough to convince the public if they did not see it!

The group of people went to the Buddha Hall where the Abbess had preached. Along the way, they also met some other pilgrims. The pilgrims did not know what had happened, and they also went forward along with them. Some busybodies asked about it while they were walking. Several servants of the Prime Minister's Mansion naturally helped their masters.

They said that a nun of the Yuhui Nunnery was not honest and was trying to force a Miss to go down the mountain!

Chapter 472 The Key Point Was Who Gained the Benefits!

As soon as these words were spread out, it immediately caused a great disturbance, and everyone began to discuss it.

The place for sermon in Yuhui Nunnery was not far away, and it did not take a long time to get there. Opening the door of the main hall, one could see that it was in chaos and the rush cushions were thrown everywhere. Some were stacked together, and some were placed in a mess. What's worse, one was standing vertically, with some scraps of paper thrown in it.

The entire scene had nothing to do with the so-called solemn buddha-hall at all. Moreover, it was the master of Yuhui Nunnery who had been preaching here before.

Puyu Nun, who had always been well mannered, couldn't help getting angry at this moment and she lifted her eyes to look at Huiqing.

When seeing this scene, Huiqing was immediately overjoyed and pointed at Shao Wanru and said loudly, "Puyu Nun, look, she made a mess here. How dare she have the face to have lunch secretly?"

She was still worried that someone else in the nunnery had already cleaned this up. Without evidence, she would not dare to talk nonsense. Now she wasn't afraid, because the evidence was still here. Even though she had gone a little bit far, this Fifth Miss had also gone too far.

"How could this be?"

"No, it was tidy when we left with Miss!" Qu Le and Yujie couldn't believe it, and took a deep breath with horror on their faces.

Yujie seemed to think of something. She suddenly reached out to point at Huiqing and said angrily, "Huiqing Nun, even if you want to frame our Miss, you should not throw the rush cushions into such a mess. They were put in a neat way. Don't you know that this is disrespectful to Buddha? If you do not respect Buddha, why you still practice Buddhism and recite scriptures!"

"Huiqing Nun, when all the nuns left, this place was still fine and clean, even after all the nuns listened to the sutra. Our Miss just tidied up here a little and put the rush cushions aside. How could you make so much chaos here in such a short time? What are you up to? What can you benefit if our Miss is driven down the mountain?"

Qu Le was so angry that her face turned pale. She reached out her hand to pull Huiqing.

"What nonsense are you all spouting? This is you..." Huiqing paused for a moment before realizing that they were making false countercharges, so she loudly defended herself in a hurry.

"Yes, we tidy up this. Look, I carelessly got bumped and it is a little broken here." Yujie pointed at the back of her hand, where she accidentally had got bumped before, and said loudly without blushing.

"We and Miss cleaned it up. At that time, a nun outside saw us. If you don't believe us, you can ask who was standing outside the nunnery at that time, whether we did chores before leaving and whether she heard the sound that we were cleaning up in the hall." Qu Le became more and more confident.

"It could not be so chaotic in the buddha-hall, but now it is. There must be someone who wants to frame this Miss!" Zhang Qilan stood on Shao Wanru's side. Looking at the hall in mess, she shook her head and sighed. "Well, it is the hall for Buddhism practice... But it is really..."

Although she did not finish her words, Master Puyu and several nuns who followed her all blushed.

Even if she had not tidied up the hall, it could not be so messy in this hall. Now this chaotic scene became a piece of evidence to testify against this was Fifth Miss Shao. Whoever saw this would believe that this seemed to be a deliberate plot by someone.

"Please uphold justice, Puyu Nun." Shao Wanru peacefully looked at Puyu Nun with her watery eyes. Her beautiful eyes were so deep that people couldn't resist them.

"Fifth Miss, don't make scurrilous attacks!" said Huiqing, scolding her when seeing that she was in trouble.

"Huiqing Nun, this is a buddha-hall, where all the deities and Buddhas will see. Evil will be requited with evil, and good will be rewarded with kindness," Shao Wanru said coldly. She looked at Huiqing with her cold eyes, which made Huiqing tremble involuntarily. "No matter what kind of reason you have to drive me away to the downhill, it is not up to you to decide whether I should leave! Do you really think I am so easy to bully? There is no perfect trap in this world, nor is there an airtight wall!"

These words with certain meanings immediately caused the onlookers to whisper.

Hearing all kinds of criticism and looking at the grim expression on Puyu Nun's face, Huiqing felt extremely regretful. If she had known that Fifth Miss Shao was not to be trifled with, she would have made more plans at that time, and the current situation wouldn't have happened.

At that time, when she had seen the mess in front of her, she had only thought that she had something on Fifth Miss Shao, so she could do whatever she wanted to torment her. Now it turned out that this was not the thing to prove that Fifth Miss Shao had not tidied up, but the evidence that she had deliberately messed up to frame against Fifth Miss Shao.

She lifted a rock only to drop it on her own feet!

"Huiqing, apologize to Fifth Miss!" Puyu Nun said coldly.

"Puyu Nun, this matter really has nothing to do with me. I saw that it was in a mess here and thought it must be done on purpose by Fifth Miss and her servants!" Huiqing unwillingly defended herself in a loud voice.

"Why would we do that? Is it convenient for you to drive us away to the downhill?" Shao Wanru chuckled, with an elegant and cold smile on her face.

"I can't believe the nun in the nunnery can have such evil countenance. She should not practice Buddhism!" Zhang Qilan sneered.

"You do not give her food to eat, and you ask her to do the heaviest and dirtiest work. No Miss can quietly practice Buddhism here. Or does this nun have a grudge against this Miss?" Zhang Lanjue looked at Huiqing from head to toe and said loudly.

He stretched out to pull a servant by his side and a servant girl behind his sister, asking them to say about the conversation between Huiqing and Shao Wanru in the main hall before.

They vividly retraced the scene at the time.

After they finished, Huiqing's face had turned livid, green, and then white.

She did not know how she had said those words when she had been angry just now. Now in front of so many people, she realized that her words were full of loopholes when they were repeated.

"Fifth Miss Shao, I'm so sorry. I got angry because I saw the chaos here and then said something out of control!"

She could not help but grit her teeth as she apologized to Shao Wanru.

"Nun, didn't you make the mess? Hasn't you done so many things like this during this period of time?" Shao Wanru's face revealed a trace of coldness.

"Fifth Miss Shao, Yuhui Nunnery will punish Huiqing..." Puyu Nun coughed in a low voice and said.

Shao Wanru looked at Puyu Nun. Her eyes were like shimmering water, but there was a hint of coldness. "Puyu Nun, I know that this nunnery has promised my grandmother that I can observe mourning and practice Buddhism here for three years and she has paid enough sesame oil money and even rebuilt the courtyard in your nunnery. Why can't you tolerate me? You scold me and hit me, and from time to time starve me. When I want to defend myself, you ask me to get out of the mountain as soon as I can. Is this the way that Yuhui Nunnery treats girls who want to practice Buddhism quietly?" said Shao Wanru.

This nunnery did nothing kind after receiving the money, and asked the Miss who had paid the money to do all kinds of chores. This Miss with such a small figure couldn't have enough to eat. No wonder she was so thin.

It were not just the Zhang siblings who were filled with righteous indignation. Many pilgrims couldn't bear this any longer and loudly condemned Yuhui Nunnery's way of doing things, which made Puyu Nun sweat a lot on her forehead.

This matter had gotten out of hand and she couldn't handle it.

A nun squeezed her way into the crowd and bowed respectfully to Shao Wanru. "Fifth Miss, the master of our nunnery said that she would find out how Huiqing deliberately framed you. She also promised that such things would never happen again. Fifth Miss just be relieved to practice and have no need to

worry about the matters in the nunnery. Because Huiqing did not respect Buddha and told nonsense, she is punished for cleaning up the halls of Buddha every day for a year!”

This punishment was not a small one!

There were many halls in Yuhui Nunnery, and it would take at least one day to sweep through them once. That was to say, Huiqing would sweep over the floor every day for the next year. She used to be a supervisor of one of the halls, and all she had to do was follow her master to chant scriptures and listen to the sutra. Now, she was reduced to the lowest-level nun, who could only sweep over the floor, so her face changed dramatically.

She wanted to argue, but she saw that Puyu Nun coldly stared at her, so she had to gasp and lower her head. Her face was full of anger, but she did not dare to say anything.

“Will people in Yuhui Nunnery break their words? When we leave, will you bully this Miss again?” Zhang Lanjue felt that he had seen too many such shameless people. Although he had never thought that there were scums in Buddhism, he met some now. So it was understandable for him to think more about it and speak it out.

He was a playboy, so he always said and did whatever he wanted to. He wouldn’t feel that it was a slap in their faces to say these words in front of these nuns.

Not only Puyu Nun but also all the nuns felt ashamed.

“Childe Zhang, don’t worry. Such things won’t happen again. Fifth Miss has an extraordinary identity, so she is not someone that we can bully.”

Puyu Nun had to brace herself to explain.

“Her previous identity was not simple, but you still bullied her, didn’t you? This must be Fifth Miss Shao from Duke Xing’s Mansion, right? Yuhui Nunnery is amazing. You even dare to bully the one related to Rui’an Great Elder Princess and Duke Xing’s Mansion!” Zhang Qilan was smart. Thinking of Shao Wanru’s previous words and some rumors and speculations that she had heard, she immediately understood Shao Wanru’s identity and sneered.

Hearing his words, all the pilgrims were shocked. They all stunned at Shao Wanru, who was standing in front of them.

The news that Duke Xing’s Mansion had recognized their Miss of lineal descent had been spread all over the capital city these days, and many people had known about it. They had also heard that this Fifth Miss Shao was going to observe mourning for her parents in the nunnery. It had only been a few days, but she had already been bullied like this? This was Rui’an Great Elder Princess’ granddaughter and Miss of lineal descent of Duke Xing’s Mansion. If it were anyone else, would they have been bullied to death?

However, other smart people might think of another possibility. It was heard that everyone in Duke Xing’s Mansion didn’t like Fifth Miss Shao. The well-known First Miss Shao used to live in Yuhui Nunnery and she was familiar with the nuns here. Was it possible that First Miss Shao wanted to use another person’s hand to bully Fifth Miss Shao? Otherwise, how could a nun in the nunnery have the guts to do such a thing?

"It's because our nunnery lacks control. Such a thing won't happen in the future. Fifth Miss, please forgive our nunnery for our oversight!" Puyu Nun said in a low gesture. She was a reception nun of Yuhui Nunnery and was always good at talking, so she also knew what to do at this time.

"Nun, you are too polite. It has nothing to do with you. Please help me investigate Huiqing Nun. Why does she want to drive me away to the downhill? What can this benefit her?"

Shao Wanru did not blindly try to find out Yuhui Nunnery's fault, but calmly put the blame on Huiqing. Who would gain the greatest benefit?

This was the key point!

Chapter 473 He's Gone to Complain

"Thank you very much for your generosity, Fifth Miss. Don't worry, I will definitely find out what happened!" Puyu Nun wiped her cold sweat secretly. She was very grateful that Shao Wanru didn't pursue the responsibility of Yuhui Nunnery, so she thanked her repeatedly.

Since the matter had been settled, the crowd dispersed. Of course, the believers scattered to spread the news. Everyone guessed much about Fifth Miss Shao's last sentence.

Who could Fifth Miss Shao who had just come to the mountain become enemies with? Even if they did, who would dare to do that to her? Had the nuns gone crazy? If that was not the case, then who was going to deal with Fifth Miss Shao?

Could it be that the First Miss Shao of the Shao's Mansion who had a good reputation was only seeming dignified and elegant on the surface? Was she actually a vicious person?

There were different opinions. Some people said this, and some people said that. But it happened under the eyes of these people. So it had pieces of evidence. Many people thought that this matter had something to do with First Miss Shao of Duke Xing's Mansion.

Didn't people in Duke Xing's Mansion say that they didn't like this Fifth Miss Shao?

Shan Yu Nun took the nuns of Yuhui Nunnery to leave, leaving only brother and sister Zhang and Shao Wanru.

"Are you the daughter of Infanta Qinghua and the former Heir of Duke Xing?" Zhang Qilan looked Shao Wanru up and down curiously and asked with a smile. She was a quick-witted girl who was about the same age as Shao Wanru.

"I am. Thank you both for what you did just now." Shao Wanru turned to the two siblings and bowed naturally.

"It doesn't matter. I just see the injustice and feel angry. No matter who sees this kind of thing, they will stand out." Zhang Lanjue's voice was full of pride. He felt that his mother would not scold him for making trouble this time, but would praise him.

"Don't thank me. You're too polite. Everyone would talk about this kind of thing if they see it. The nuns of Yuhui Nunnery are too bullying. I'm going to live here for a period of cultivation recently. If someone dares to do this to me, I won't be able to stand it anymore!" Zhang Qilan pursed her lips and then held

Shao Wanru's hands. "Will I be able to live next to you then? I heard that living with a long time is different from living with a short time!"

All the guestrooms were gathered together. Usually, all the guestrooms were arranged by the nunnery. Those who lived here within a month could be counted as temporary lodgings. For those who lived long, it would usually take more than a month. The nunnery would pick up some courtyards with more beautiful scenery for them to live in. If they were not satisfied, they could refurbish and fill the house with money.

Shao Wanru and Shao Yanru before did like this.

There were basically no nearby pilgrims as neighbors. The environment was quiet and elegant, and the pilgrims who lived here for a long time could cultivate more peacefully.

"Well, I'll help you to ask if there is another courtyard!" Shao Wanru was very fond of the straightforward Miss Zhang, so she thought for a while and said with a smile.

She hadn't been in Yuhui Nunnery for a long time, so she really didn't know the environment beside her.

"It doesn't matter if you don't have one. Can I come and play with you when I move in later? Will it disturb your self-cultivation?"

Zhang Qilan did not make things difficult for Shao Wanru. She knew that she was not the one who had the final say on this matter. She smiled and suggested something else. The particularly beautiful Shao Wanru in front of her made her eyes light up. This was the first time she had seen such a beautiful girl. She wanted to get close to Shao Wanru subconsciously.

Furthermore, Shao Wanru looked kind and friendly. She was a nice person and did not look down on others like the Misses of aristocratic family at all.

Although Prime Minister Zhang came from an extraordinary family, he was not from the elegant families in the capital city. The official system was somewhat different from the noble system. It paid more attention to ability rather than family background.

Shao Wanru's family background was very strange. She used to be the Second Miss of Ningyuan Army General's Mansion, who was from the official system, but now she was both from Duke Xing's Mansion and the granddaughter of Rui'an Great Elder Princess. She was the real noble Miss of aristocratic family, and she was the most distinguished one.

"I won't be bothered! I will still have some time after chanting for Mother and Father every day," Shao Wanru said gently.

"Alright, alright. It's a deal then. When the time comes, I will definitely come and find you!" Zhang Qilan did not hide her happiness as she said with a smile.

Zhang Lanjue was about to speak but stopped on second thought. He looked at his younger sister and Shao Wanru. Then, he nudged his younger sister's waist with his elbow.

"Brother, what's the matter?" Zhang Qilan was talking with excitement, but she was interrupted. She turned her head and said unpleasantly.

Zhang Lanjue silently made a mouth shape. However, Zhang Qilan was just in the joy of finding a good friend. How could she have anything in common with her big brother?

After she did not see it clearly, she said loudly, "Brother, just say what you want to say. It's so light. How can I listen to it?"

Seeing that Shao Wanru and her servant turned around, Zhang Lanjue's face turned red. After stamping his feet, he gritted his teeth and said loudly, "A censer, an eight-sided censer!"

"What's wrong with the censer?" Zhang Qilan didn't understand the meaning of Zhang Lanjue's words, so she blinked her eyes and asked.

Shao Wanru understood and a smile appeared on her face. She had seen this First Young Master Zhang looking at the censer vigorously from outside the temple earlier. It was obvious that he liked the censer very much.

Therefore, she had come up with the way to pick up the censer in order to lure him here.

She didn't expect him to be so persistent. He hadn't forgotten about this until now.

"My censer, my censer!" Seeing her younger sister's stupidity, Zhang Lanjue couldn't help patting her head and could only give her more hints. He secretly looked at Shao Wanru with his eyes.

It was very chaotic then and he did not notice where the censer that he liked was. He wanted to ask Shao Wanru directly but it was not convenient. As such, he wanted to remind his younger sister of it.

I didn't expect her to be so stupid! Zhang Lanjue thought angrily.

"Does Childe Zhang try to talk about the missing censer before?" Shao Wanru couldn't stand it any longer. She laughed and spoke frankly.

"Yes, yes, yes, just that censer. Where did it go?" Zhang Lanjue nodded with excitement. Finally, there was a smart one!

Shao Wanru said with a smile, "The censer is at the bottom of the biggest Buddhist altar in the side hall. First Young Master Zhang can find it!"

"Okay, okay, thank you, Fifth Miss Shao!" Zhang Lanjue couldn't stay for a second. He saluted towards Shao Wanru, lifted his robe and ran out quickly.

The servant chased after him and called him. He didn't answer him and his mind was full of the censer that he was going to get ready.

At that time, it will be one of the collections that he can show off everywhere.

Watching her brother running away, even Zhang Qilan felt ashamed. Sure enough, her brother was a dandy. Look at what he had done, it made people feel ashamed!

Fortunately, she was a straightforward person. Even though she felt ashamed, she did not feel very uncomfortable. She was able to chat with Shao Wanru. The two of them sat by the side and chatted. The other servant girls helped to clean up the hall.

After packing up, Madam Zhang also sent people over and asked Zhang Qilan to go over to worship the ancestors again. Then Zhang Qilan reluctantly got up and left.

When Zhang Qilan returned to the main hall, she found that the religious ceremonies had not yet begun. She was immediately unhappy. She pouted and sat down in the chair in the side hall. She said coyly, "Mother, Fifth Miss Shao and I are talking. Why are you calling me over so hurriedly? We are talking happily!"

After saying that, she looked at Zhang Lanjue who put his head down and immediately knew that her eldest brother had been scolded by her mother. So she immediately got rid of the little emotions in her heart and became careful.

"You'd better not get involved in the matter of Duke Xing's Mansion." Madam Zhang looked at the brother and sister, frowned and said.

"Mother, it's obviously the nuns of the Yuhui Nunnery who are bullying people. If I let them bully her like this, next time when I move in, will I be bullied by them?"

Zhang Qilan took Madam Zhang's hands unhappily and shook them.

Her words made Madam Zhang silent and made a comparison. All the parents cared about their children. Thinking that this Fifth Miss Shao was a little girl but she was mourning for her father and was forced to leave in Duke Xing's Mansion and all people in it seemed to dislike her, Madam Zhang could not help but sigh and think that this girl was so poor!

"Mother, Fifth Miss Shao is a good person. She looks younger than me and is skinny and pitiful." Thinking of Shao Wanru, who was dressed in a loose robe, Zhang Qilan felt pity for her. The loose robe made her look like a large cloth bag. But even so, she still looked beautiful.

"Well, well, I don't object you to see her. I just want you to be careful and don't care about the business of Duke Xing's Mansion!" Madam Zhang said helplessly to her daughter.

The daughter should be brought up in a pettish manner, and Madam Zhang did bring up her daughter in a pettish manner. However, her son was brought up in a harsh and solid manner.

Fortunately, her daughter was still reasonable and was not spoiled.

Although Madam Zhang did not know the inside story of the matter, she felt that it would not be simple. Otherwise, why would the Miss of an aristocratic family, who had just come back, be forced to the mountain without the protection of her biological parents!

"Mother, all the things are finished? I'm going out if there's nothing else!" Zhang Lanjue smiled when he saw that his younger sister had healed his mother. He stood up and shook his robe. He had found the censer, but he didn't have time to look at it. At this time, he wanted to play with it before the religious ceremonies started.

"Stop!" Madam Zhang's face fell down and she shouted at him.

"Mother!" Zhang Lanjue turned around pitifully.

"You stay here and don't go anywhere. There are all women in the nunnery. Don't offend anyone!" Madam Zhang said.

"Mother, you don't believe that nonsense, do you?" Zhang Lanjue felt that he had been wronged. How could he fall in love with these young and beautiful nuns and offend them and then make trouble.

"Shut up!" Madam Zhang's hand hit the table heavily. It was a rumor, and she had heard about it. But later on, according to Prime Minister Zhang's words, it seemed not to be a rumor, but it seemed to be true!

Madam Zhang didn't want her son to be caught in this kind of thing. Her son's temper was not very good. So it was safest for him to stay with her.

"What's wrong?" A carefree voice came from the Zen room.

"Teacher, teacher, save me!" The nun kneeling at the door of the Zen room cried loudly on the wooden steps!

Chapter 474 Qin Yuru Is Married!

"Go away. You are so narrow-minded. No wonder Fifth Miss is angry." The voice in the Zen room became more and more relaxed, with a hint of distancing itself from the secular world. It could cleanse the filth in one's heart.

Just from the sound, one could tell that the person inside was a superior being who had a quiet temperament.

"Master, it is clear that they messed up and deliberately framed me. I beg you to testify for me!" The person kneeling at the door was Huiqing, who propped herself up and her face was teary and full of hatred.

"Idiot, there is no point in talking about this. Go sweep the floor properly. You cannot do this again!" Master Pu Shan's voice lowered as she murmured in a low voice.

Obviously, this meant that she no longer cared about Huiqing's problem.

"Senior Sister, please get up. Master never bothers about this sort of thing!" Huiming came out of the dark corner by the window and pulled her up as she tried to coax her.

"First Miss is master's proudest follower. Her paintings have somewhat reached the true skills of a master. Originally, she could have stayed in the mountain for some time and her skills would have improved immensely. Even if she could not make the master become more well-known, she could continue to follow the master to learn her painting skills. But it was this Fifth Miss who forced First Miss to come down from the mountain. How could she have the cheek to stay here!"

Huiqing stood up with a look of anger and resentment, but she did not dare to speak loudly, for fear that Master Pu Shan who was inside, would get angry.

She and Huiming were both disciples of Master Pu Shan. They had built up a good relationship over the years and they got along well with First Miss Shao. Suddenly, Fifth Miss Shao came and their good friend

First Miss Shao had to leave the mountain because of her bad reputation. They were angry and took it out on Shao Wanru.

That was the reason why they made things difficult for her.

Huiming heard her subconsciously raising her voice, so she quickly covered her mouth with her hand and whispered. "Senior Sister, we are not as strong as they are. Let us wait and see. When there is a chance, we can help the First Miss!"

Huiqing nodded. For a gentleman to take his revenge, ten years was not too long! Would that not be a one-year-sweep? It did not matter. She still had two years to go.

She gritted her teeth and looked at her master's Zen room again. Then she stepped away lightly.

Even if she was full of anger and resentment, she could not disturb her master's self-cultivation.

"Master, Fifth Miss Shao said she wanted to use First Miss's room." Huiming stepped forward and reported respectfully to the Zen room. She felt that Fifth Miss Shao had overrated herself and dared to make such a request.

Everyone knew that First Miss Shao was the person master valued most. Even though she was not a direct disciple, the master's love for her had long surpassed the relationship between teacher and disciple. First Miss Shao had only just left and now, Fifth Miss Shao was making such a request to the nunnery master. She really felt that Fifth Miss Shao was too shameless.

After her master turned her down, she would go straight and report to Fifth Miss Shao. She wanted to see if Fifth Miss would be humiliated.

"Let her use it!" A low and gentle voice came out of the Zen room calmly.

"Master..." Huiming's eyes widened. Even Huiqing, who had walked to the entrance of the courtyard, stopped in her tracks and turned her head in surprise. Neither of them had expected this answer.

"Master!" Huiqing said in a low voice.

"You can leave now. You cannot make trouble for Fifth Miss Shao in the future!" The voice in the Zen room became increasingly distant.

Huiqing and Huiming looked at each other in dismay. Their master had really given up First Miss Shao's private room...

Shao Wanru's move to Shao Yanru's courtyard happened a few days later.

The two yards were far away from each other, but there was a straight route linking them. The high wall on one side of the road spanned the distance from one end to the other. It was the length between Shao Wanru's yard and the yard Shao Yanru lived in before.

The wall was very high, but it was not the wall of the Yuhui Nunnery. It was only a long wall, with a small side door. Yujie had deliberately observed the side door before. Basically, it was only open for a while in the morning. No one came out. They just sent some daily consumables like vegetables through this door.

Someone was waiting at the door to receive them.

She was also a nun dressed in black, but she looked much more delicate than the nuns outside. Yujie even saw a few who were especially beautiful. This should be the residence of the former imperial concubines and some palace maids who served them at that time!

The only son of the Former Emperor was Chu Liuchen. When Chu Liuchen was born, the Former Emperor was in poor health. Shao Wanru sometimes thought, why did he not turn his son into a daughter at that time?

"If it had been so, all the problems might be solved."

At that time, the Emperor was already in control. The former Empress, who was pregnant, could no longer take charge of the imperial palace. She could only hide in a corner of the palace. It was not difficult for him to kill this child or let the child become a "princess".

Then why did he leave Chu Liuchen behind?

Although he was in poor health, as long as he existed for one day, this matter would not stop. The rumors that the Emperor had robbed his nephew of the throne would continue to spread.

"He did not use the method once and for all. Is this really the Emperor's kindness?"

The Former Emperor had only one son. The other consorts of the Former Emperor were moved into the nunnery behind the high wall. It was fortunate that the Former Emperor did not have many consorts.

After observing for a few days and finding a routine, Yujie no longer watched the side door.

Shao Wanru went to Shao Yanru's quiet room. She passed through the side door and looked at it. It was not too high and was one meter wide. Then she looked at the high wall which was like a palace wall. After a moment of silence, she continued to move forward.

"Miss, there are a few nuns living in the yard outside. They are the nuns who watch over this little door!" Yujie reported the news she heard to Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru nodded calmly and continued walking forward.

The door to Shao Yanru's previous courtyard was locked. Yujie went forward and opened the door with the key. Since Pu Shan Nun consented, the key of the courtyard was sent to Yujie.

When she pushed the door open, she realized that the courtyard was very clean. It was obvious that there were people who cleaned it regularly.

The yard was bigger than Shao Wanru's yard. There were several main rooms in the yard, with annexes at the side. It was similar to the one where Shao Wanru lived in the Ningyuan Army General's Mansion. All the other rooms were closed, but the door of the second one on the right was slightly ajar. This one should be Shao Yanru's so-called quiet room.

When she pushed the door open, she found that the floor was overlaid with wood, which was the same color as that of the willows. There were some classic simplicity in the original color.

There was a window that occupied more than half of the wall at the back. When she pulled up the curtains, sunlight streamed into the room. There was a view of the scattered mountains outside the window. It was beautiful from afar and near. Looking out of the window, she felt relaxed and happy. No wonder the ladies who came to Yuhui Nunnery during their final days tried their best to get a glimpse of Shao Yanru's quiet room.

Painting here would not only keep the heart and soul quiet, but also calm one's heart and stir up the sources of inspiration.

"Miss, it is so beautiful here. It is much more beautiful than yours!" Yujie could not help but exclaim.

"Is it set at the edge of the cliff?" Qu Le tilted her head and looked out of the window.

"It should be. It is not easy to build it here. This kind of place could not have been built casually. Usually, people in the nunnery will leave this kind of place for pilgrims to enjoy the view. If they are occupied by this courtyard, no one can see the scenery in front of us!"

Yujie felt that it was a loss for Yuhui Nunnery.

"This courtyard has been built only recently!" Shao Wanru looked around and took a few slow steps toward the window. "It should have been specially built for Shao Yanru."

"Yuhui Nunnery gave in so easily to this First Miss Shao. She came here for a few months and her reputation suffered such a big blow, but the nunnery did not seem to be affected!"

Yujie pouted and felt that this First Miss Shao had so much luxury, even with such a low key profile.

Everyone thought that First Miss Shao came to the mountain for self-cultivation. Looking at this scenery, not to mention a few months of self-cultivation, Yujie felt that it would not be bad to cultivate even for a few years.

Yujie, who grew up in the mountains since she was a child, especially longed for this kind of life.

"There is nothing to lose. First Miss Shao must have given them a lot of benefits." Shao Wanru smiled lightly as a trace of darkness appeared in her eyes.

Shao Yanru had been very kind to Yuhui Nunnery in her past life. After entering the palace, she had given gifts to Yuhui Nunnery from time to time. Besides, even the imperial concubines of the Former Emperor received benefits.

In her previous life, Shao Wanru had heard of a rumor that had something to do with Shao Yanru's room. However, she did not know whether it was true. However, it did not matter. She would be the one to take over the room from now on.

Shao Wanru, who was on the mountain, began to live a quiet life. She lived a peaceful but fulfilling life. She read scriptures for her parents every day and did embroidery like the other girls from aristocratic families. Sometimes, she would follow Mingqiu Nun to learn about medicine. When she was in Jiangzhou, she had been in too much of a hurry to study it well.

Sometimes, she would walk long distances to draw in the quiet room.

Shao Wanru was able to draw portraits for the girls in her past life. She was very talented in painting. Furthermore, she had good painting skills and she liked drawing very much.

She also had a kind of feeling in this peaceful and quiet environment.

There were no worldly affairs in the mountains. Gradually, Fifth Miss Shao, as well as some rumors about Fifth Miss Shao disappeared along with the other rumors.

There had never been a shortage of other rumors in the capital city. Today, the gossip was mainly about the marriage of the Young Lady of Ningyuan Army General's Mansion.

First Miss Qin's reputation was ruined and in tatters. In order to climb up the ranks, she abandoned her ex-fiance before their marriage. Later, she was engaged to the current one and wanted to hook up with Prince Cheng. After she failed to do so, she pretended to be the daughter of Princess Qinghua and the former Heir of Duke Xing. Later, she was driven out.

This time, there was only a red sedan chair that was carried from Ningyuan Army General's Mansion to Duke Yong's Mansion. Originally, she only invited several close friends of hers, but she did not know that the news had spread all over, due to some unknown reason.

On the day of the wedding, after the bridal sedan chair carrying Qin Yuru went past, many rotten eggs and rotten cabbages were thrown by onlookers from both sides of the road.

This was something that had never happened before. It was said that the new bride who was carried into Duke Yong's Mansion was so angry that she smashed a lot of things in the wedding bedroom, which made the relatives and friends laugh at her. There used to be a joke about Ningyuan Army General's Mansion, but now it became a joke of Duke Yong's Mansion!

Chapter 475 The Woman Who Wanted to Get the Imperial Throne

"Mother, do I have to go with you?" Shao Yanru looked at Madam of Duke Xing with displeasure. She frowned slightly and looked arrogant. But even so, she was still a very beautiful Young Madam.

Under her willow leaf shaped eyebrows, there was a placid look in her eyes. Although she had the proud air of aristocratic families, she was not the kind of person who made people detest her. They even felt that the woman in front of them was beautiful, elegant and attractive.

No wonder everyone said that the First Miss Shao was talented and beautiful. Not only did she have outstanding talent, but she was also very beautiful. She had a rare kind of beauty.

"According to the Empress Queen's decree, you have to go at this age. You were in the Yuhui Nunnery before, but now you have to go after coming down from the mountain!" Madam of Duke Xing said helplessly and reached out to press her forehead. "It is all that b*tch's fault. She forced you to come down from the mountain and ruined the situation!"

Madam of Duke Xing, of course, cared about the prince's concubine selection. She not only cared about it, but also thought that her daughter was likely to be chosen. However, she was afraid that her daughter would be selected at this time. At present, it was the most dangerous time. Her daughter left before in order to avoid being present at the most dangerous time.

"If she marries into the mansion of Prince Zhou, what will she do when Prince Yue succeeds?"

“What will happen if Prince Zhou eventually becomes the Emperor after she is married to Prince Yue?”

Of course, Shao Yanru did not want to marry anyone at this moment. She would rather be an old lady. Before the situation was clear, she had been living on the mountain and used the reason of wanting to learn how to paint as her excuse. Others would only say that she was indifferent to fame and wealth. When other Misses from aristocratic families dressed up, she stayed alone on the mountain and lived a peaceful and unambitious life.

Anyone would think highly of her.

With her fame and wisdom, as well as the relationship with Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou, it would be easy for her to marry anyone. It did not matter if she was the official wife after she got married. With her personal strength and that of Duke Xing's Mansion, Shao Yanru thought it would only be a matter of time before she became the next Empress.

Even if she waited and got married at the age of 20, she still felt fine!

Six years was enough to make the situation clear, but now it was not the best time. She was not willing to appear in front of others.

After showing up early in front of others, without that kind of dignity and air of mystery, she would lose a lot of advantages in the future.

She only said that she would live on the mountain for more than half a year. If the situation was still unclear, she would continue to live there. She could say that her painting lessons were difficult and she needed to pay more attention to it.

She did not expect that Shao Wanru, an unknown person, would ruin the whole thing.

“That girl is too cunning. Mother, didn't I ask you to be careful of her? You even let the First Miss of Qin's Mansion pin her down. How could you let her recognize her kin so amicably?”

Shao Yanru said with an unhappy look.

“Who knew that this b*tch would be so sly. I did not pay attention to her for a while and I was driven to this situation!” Madam of Duke Xing frowned and defended herself.

Seeing her daughter's face, she felt a little guilty.

Shao Yanru was her daughter, but after Shao Yanru matured, Madam of Duke Xing would always feel nervous when facing her daughter. Compared with herself, this daughter was too sensible and amazing. Even Duke Xing, who had always thought little of women, praised his daughter highly.

Her daughter was perfect in every aspect. In the entire capital, there was no Miss from any aristocratic family who could compare with her. She was not only beautiful, but also graceful in every way. Every step she took was well planned. With a daughter like her, even the mother would feel inferior.

Shao Yanru leaned on the sofa behind her. There were some mockery on her elegant face. “Mother, don't quibble. You cannot get away with it. Don't fight if you are not sure. You must hit her hard when you fight and you cannot get yourself involved. Mother, I think you have been Madam of Duke Xing for a long time, so you don't even have any awareness of any crisis in the least!”

She raised her brows with a hint of iciness, making her look even more regal than before.

Such an aura was very stressful to Madam of Duke Xing. Her daughter's noble aura was stronger than that of the other imperial concubines in the palace and only the aura of the Empress Dowager and the Empress Queen could be compared with it.

Did this mean that her daughter would definitely become the future Empress one day? Thinking of this, Madam of Duke Xing became more and more warm-hearted and obedient toward her daughter.

"This... is my fault. I thought she was just a little girl. It is not a big deal. I did not expect such a big change to happen. Later, I could not suppress it anymore. Your father is still blaming me for burning your big brother's yard. Even if I want to burn this girl to death, I will not burn your big brother's yard."

Thinking of this, Madam of Duke Xing felt that her heart was still painful at this time. They were her treasures, her yard and all her painstaking efforts. She would not spare that person once she found out who had done it.

"Mother, since you cannot bear to give the courtyard to her, you should not have given her a place to live. She is just a girl who came into our mansion. It is normal for Mother to have only an ordinary relationship with her. Why do you have to think so much about seeking fame?"

Shao Yanru's voice was very soft and pleasant. If one did not listen to the content clearly, one would feel as if they were bathed in the spring breeze. However, the content of her words was a direct accusation against Madam of Duke Xing and she did not spare her mother's dignity.

Madam of Duke Xing's face turned blood red and she argued forcefully, "I thought wrongly at that time. I thought she was just a bumpkin from Jiangzhou!"

"But it turns out that you were wrong. You are the bumpkin, aren't you?" Shao Yanru narrowed her eyes slightly and her expression became more and more unpleasant.

Originally, the plan she made was to be appreciated by her grandmother and father, which was very good. But now, it was destroyed by her mother. Shao Yanru felt that even if she was in a good mood, she would still vent her anger at this time.

"But... but..." Madam of Duke Xing was embarrassed.

"Mother, there is no 'but'. If you feel that you cannot deal with it, just tell my father directly. Don't talk so much that it is delayed. My eldest brother will be back. If my eldest brother sees his burned out courtyard, he will not be happy. Think about how you are going to explain it to my eldest brother!"

Shao Yanru waved her hand and started to drive her away in an unpleasant manner!

"I will explain this to your eldest brother! Your father... I can't discuss this with him. I don't know what he thinks about it in his heart. Maybe he will also..." Madam of Duke Xing said.

"Mother, you don't need to explain anymore. Does it make sense for you to be jealous all day long? The relationship between father and that woman has nothing to do with you. Such a crazy woman does not deserve to be always in your thoughts for so many years. What's worse, it makes you lose control of yourself! Mother, are you really that stupid? Why do you have to be jealous of a mad woman? No wonder father likes you less and less now!"

Shao Yanru coldly picked up the tea by the table, took a sip and said this with a smile that did not reach her eyes.

Being ridiculed by her own daughter, Madam of Duke Xing could not bear it, no matter how well-cultivated she was. What she said cut Madam of Duke Xing to the heart.

“Ru’er, you don’t understand this kind of thing. You don’t need to defend your father. It is not that I am jealous...”

“Mother, you had better forget about it. It does not make sense. You can tell them that I am sick, at this banquet. Just tell them that I got a cold after coming down from the mountain. Let the doctor in our mansion take a look at me and then the doctor outside the mansion.”

Shao Yanru became impatient and raised her eyebrows.

Being provoked by her daughter over and over again, Madam of Duke Xing was so depressed that she could not breathe properly. But now she could not ignore this serious matter. So she pretended that she did not hear the first half of Shao Yanru’s words. She calmed down and said with a dry smile, “It is fine to ask the doctor in our mansion to say that you caught a cold. I am afraid that you cannot ask for a doctor from outside.”

It would be a crime to deceive the emperor if someone who was not sick, feigned illness, to avoid attending the banquet held in the palace. Although the banquet was held to choose imperial concubines and it was said to be a process of selecting imperial concubines, it was still the Empress Queen’s order. If she really went against the Empress Queen’s order, it would be a big deal!

“Mother, you really have no ideas. You can get someone to pour some water on a few servant girls and then let the girls stay up for a night in their wet clothes. Look for the one who becomes seriously ill, then they can carry her to me and let the doctor have a look at her. Then that will be okay!”

Shao Yanru said unconcernedly.

It was cold even if one dressed in heavy clothes on such a cold winter’s night. If someone had a few pots of water poured over them during such a cold winter and stayed in their wet clothes for a whole night, she might get sick and die.

However, the lives of a few servant girls did not matter.

Madam of Duke Xing’s eyes lit up when she heard this. She immediately nodded and said, “Good, good, good, you have a good idea. I will go and ask someone to do it now.”

“Don’t you think it is too early now? Mother, the sun is still high up in the sky. When you do this kind of thing, don’t you have to do it in the evening, so few people can see you?”

Shao Yanru felt that she really could not talk to her mother anymore. It was not a routine at all. No wonder her mother was defeated by a bumpkin who just arrived in the capital city. She had to leave the mountain because of this.

In this way, that bumpkin was only a little smarter than her mother. She still did not take her seriously.

She ignored Madam of Duke Xing, who was still smiling. She thought to herself whether she should see Prince Yue first, or Prince Zhou, in private. Of course, this meeting was not meant to be a special visit. She had to meet them accidentally and express her helplessness.

Only keeping in touch with both sides could help her secure the position of Empress in the end.

She could afford to wait for three or four years. With her beautiful appearance and excellent talent, she would succeed no matter who became the Crown Princess.

However, knowing oneself and one's enemy was the only way to obtain the final victory. She would not fight without confidence.

After thinking it over, she sat up and walked to the window. A servant girl had already prepared the ink for her. She picked up the brush and thought about the names of several ladies from the aristocratic families who might become Princess Chu and Princess Zhou. She wrote down the names one by one, and then carefully analyzed the shortcomings and advantages these ladies had.

Only after understanding all of this would she be able to plan and make a move...

As for Shao Wanru, she did not need to care at all...

Chapter 476 Lost in the Unchangeable Fate

The grand consort selection banquet soon ended.

It turned out that nobody was eligible. Many ladies went there hopefully but left disappointedly. It was said that some of them even cried so badly that they couldn't walk out their mansion.

Hearing that no lady was selected, Empress Dowager and the Queen made a decision that they would hold the selection again in the next few years, which meant that no lady of the right age from those aristocratic families was chosen this time.

The result of not being selected meant that these ladies would miss the chance of marrying princes. Even though one or two ladies might be able to stay here, the majority had lost the final chance and had to rearrange their marriages. Several ladies who were from those grand and high-ranking families had not accepted any engagement before this banquet was held just because they attempted to marry these princes.

Since most ladies had to marry other men, there had emerged an engaged boom after the consort selection. As these ladies knew they had lost the chance, they couldn't wait any more. As a result, many of them had decided to marry others, while those who were unwilling to marry were forced to get married by their family. Those who had not been engaged were still very young.

Some still decided to wait around as the imperial examination in the spring was around the corner. Moreover, it was popular for those wealthy and influential families all over the country went out to choose those who passed the exam as their sons-in-law when the result was released. Thus, these mansions thought they still had time.

The examination this time had become many mansions' focus.

Soon, the examination which had been expected by many people started and then came the result. Those who passed the exam were in great excitement while those who failed were downhearted and were bemoaning their fate.

The best and the third scholars were acquaintances.

The result was exactly the same as Shao Wanru's memory that Qi Tianyu ranked third. She was informed this message when she was parading the street on a horse that day, which made her anxious and she looked spiritless.

Walking into the yard and heading to Shao Yanru's silence room with Yujie, she suddenly hesitated when her hand just touched the door.

"Come in." A refined voice sounded inside.

Pressing her hand silently on the door and pushing it after a pause, she beckoned to Yujie not to follow her into the room.

When Yujie knew who was in the silence room, she felt reassured. Then, finding Xiao Xuanzi appeared at the corner, she walked to him consciously and stood outside the room with him together.

Chu Liuchen was sitting on a mat close to the window lazily, leaning against a little table on the mat. He said without looking back, "Come here."

On the table was a pot and two steaming cups of tea. A haze of smoke coming from the cups made his handsome face look much more mature. The person who was in front of her seemed a little bit different!

They had not seen each other for a long time. Although Mingqiu Nun was in charge of Chu Liuchen's body conditioning, she had to always go to Prince Chen's Mansion. There was a saying that Prince Chen's health was not good and he seldom left his mansion now while he had used to visiting Empress Dowager in the imperial palace in the past.

However, now Empress Dowager would go through the side entrance of the imperial palace to visit him in Prince Chen's Mansion when she missed him so much.

There were even rumors telling that this Prince Chen's time was running out as he was badly ill and was unable to get up, which meant that he would die soon.

However, the rumored Prince Chen, who should be gravely ill and unable to get up, was leaning against a table near the mat in a leisurely manner which looked perfectly well.

Checking his countenance, Shao Wanru found he was good even though he still looked a bit sick and his lips were pale, making him look like the Adonis who looked elegant and refined in the ink wash painting.

But he looked gloomy, seeming that somebody offended him.

Walking to the other side of the table near the mat, Shao Wanru took a seat. She picked up the cup and sipped gently, raising her eyes and saying, "Shouldn't you be in recovery in your mansion?"

No matter who was the one he wanted to puzzle, he should be inconvenient to move since he had done so. However, if some people saw this, some plans would be made snakingly.

Looking at Shao Wanru, Chu Liuchen answered gently with a smile and his bright eyes, "My health condition today changes abruptly so I asked people to bring me here to see Mingqiu Nun."

Shao Wanru was in a black robe which she had worn since she arrived at Yuhui Nunnery. Her unfitted dress, her face without any makeup, her hair without ornament and her look, which seemed that she felt at ease as if she were at home, made her fair face tenderer as curd while her shimmery eyes were as clear as a crystal-like pool.

There was another charm beyond this simple but elegant appearance while a seductive appearance and attractive manner were discovered in her shining eyes.

He had not seen her for just a few months but Shao Wanru did surprise him.

"Why are you here then?" Shao Wanru asked impatiently as she now was depressed when knowing Qi Tianyu ranked third in the exam. She picked up the cup and played it for a moment with a bitter look.

Couldn't she change her fate? Qi Tianyu ranked third, which was exactly the same as the result in her last life. Was she doomed to face the tragedy in her last life? Would the result always be the same however she tried?

"Shao Wanru, do you know what does a woman value most?" Chu Liuchen asked in a leisurely manner while shaking his sleeves.

Staring at Chu Liuchen, not understanding his words, Shao Wanru blankly repeated, "What does woman value most?"

"The female virtues. You know you are now with me, don't you?" Chu Liuchen said with a smile. Although he put the cup down the table gently, it seemed that he made a thunder-like sound.

"I don't understand." Shao Wanru had no idea about the reason why he said those words to her and it seemed that he was interrogating her.

"I mean, you must end your relationship with Qi Tianyu no matter what relationship did you two have in the past! You are my woman. I don't allow you to have anything to do with any other man!"

Chu Liuchen's face suddenly got livid. The gentle smile on his face immediately vanished and was replaced with a sullen and cold look.

Shao Wanru was dumbfounded by the sudden change of his countenance and totally forgot what he just said.

The next instant she felt Chu Liuchen kicked away the stool with great force. After that, Chu Liuchen hurriedly grabbed her hands and pushed her over suddenly.

Shao Wanru was shocked by his sudden move. When she tried to reach out and get up, she found Chu Liuchen grabbing her wrists with a great force which she couldn't get away with. Then she was forced to lean back and lay on the mat because of his strength. Sleeves brandishing, Chu Liuchen pinned her down with his extremely handsome face toward hers.

His slightly slanted eyes squinted at her. Shao Wanru couldn't discern what his expression was now and couldn't understand what he meant.

"Prince Chen, I don't understand! I don't know Qi Tianyu well!" With her eyelashes fluttering, she finally figured out what Chu Liuchen was talking about. Her face immediately reddened because of anger and embarrassment. She struggled to push him away when she answered.

Qi Tianyu was the last person Shao Wanru wanted to have anything to do with in the world.

Thinking of the fact that Qi Tianyu colluded with Qin Yuru and persecuted her together, she became furious.

Her hand strength was no match for Chu Liuchen's. Chu Liuchen pinned her down and towered over her without any other move. He stared at Shao Wanru who was of very small stature with an inexplicable look.

"If you were not familiar with him, then why would you have been so restless today because he just ranks third in the exam? Or do you want to see him parade the street on a horse?" Chu Liuchen sneered, reaching out and pushing her hands controlled by him above her head.

Shao Wanru felt hurt in her hands which were grabbed heavily by Chu Liuchen. She suddenly got mad when she failed to get away with his control. Glaring at Chu Liuchen, she said, "How can you make such a ridiculous conclusion? Given the event in Jiangzhou, the war between Qi Tianyu and me would end unless one of us dies! Thus, why would I feel happy because he ranked third in the exam and would even want to see him? Your Highness, don't you feel that I want to take his life now?"

She didn't lie but was telling her true thoughts. Her shimmery eyes were covered by her hatred toward Qi Tianyu. She stretched out her leg and tried to kick Chu Liuchen away.

The feeling of being suppressed and being unable to move was the same as her last life in which she was pushed into the abyss and was controlled by others.

She had been very tired today because of Qi Tianyu and she had always been thinking whether she would be cut in half and die with her body disassembled in this life.

With her hands grabbed and her legs suppressed by Chu Liuchen, the nervous tension finally wore her out. The thought that it was her fate that was pinned down occupied her mind and she only knew that she could finally get free after she got away with her fate.

She struggled to escape from this constraint with her arms waving and legs kicking, trying to kick Chu Liuchen away. She now was totally frantic. There were countless pieces of memory blooming like fireworks in her mind. She felt like her memory was smashed into pieces in which she could see herself painfully struggling.

"Are you okay?" Noticing Shao Wanru's abnormal behavior, Chu Liuchen asked when he reached out and pressed Shao Wanru's lips.

The instant he put his finger on her lips, Shao Wanru opened her mouth and gave him a hard bite.

Chu Liuchen felt hurt and frowned. He used his thumb and the middle finger to flip Shao Wanru's mandible. Feeling hurt, Shao Wanru opened her mouth subconsciously but she still was staring at Chu Liuchen in a frenzied way.

Chu Liuchen's gaze fell upon Shao Wanru's face. She looked so pale that it was obvious that there was something wrong with her. His slender fingers moved slowly from her chin to her slim neck.

It was so slim that he could snap her neck like a twig.

He grabbed her neck fiercely. The sense of choking made Shao Wanru start to struggle for air with her body slackening. She gradually lapsed into unconsciousness.

The moment Chu Liuchen stopped holding her neck, Shao Wanru finally felt revived. At the very beginning, she could see nothing but gradually, Chu Liuchen's appearance became clear. This time, there was no piece of memory but only Chu Liuchen.

Shao Wanru began to cough severely. When feeling the constraint on her arms disappeared, she hurried to pull her hand back and covered her chest, started to cough heavily and gulped fresh air. She could tell that Chu Liuchen did want to suffocate her.

This thought sobered her up. The man in front of her was Prince Chen, the man who was moody and the one who drowned the imperial palace with blood!

Chapter 477 Who Was Whose Shield?

"You want to murder me?" Chu Liuchen said slowly and eerily as his lips were close to Shao Wanru's cheek and licked her white and tender cheek.

Shao Wanru now looked normal and her eyes were shining again. She glared at Chu Liuchen, gasping, "No!" She just wanted to get away with his control but what she did later was totally out of subconsciousness.

Seeing the hatred vanish in Shao Wanru's eyes, Chu Liuchen took a cold glance at her and also laid beside her and snorted. "I know you don't dare!"

Reaching out, he half cuddled Shao Wanru and said, "Tell me about Qi Tianyu. I don't allow your affair with Qi Tianyu to screw up my plan!"

Shao Wanru closed her eyes and felt a little dizzy. As she still felt the back of her head was throbbing, she then rubbed lightly her head subconsciously.

"I have nothing to do with him. You saw what happened in Jiangzhou. He attempted to plot against me with Qin Yuru together! Given that, how would I have an affair with him?"

Shao Wanru gradually calmed down and explained.

A large hand put on the back of her head and was rubbing softly. "It is said that when you were still in Qin's Mansion, you two mansions even attempted to get united by marriage. So I suppose it should be Qi Tianyu and you, right?" said he.

Shao Wanru now felt a little comfortable because of Chu Liuchen's vigorous massage on her head. "Yes." Shao Wanru answered as she was particularly clear that it was impossible to hide this matter from the public, especially Chu Liuchen.

"However, Qin's Mansion and Qi's Mansion had a bad relation because of that event, but how would Qin Huaiyong let you engage to Qi Tianyu?" Chu Liuchen's voice sounded much gentler and softer. Although Shao Wanru didn't open her eyes, she knew he now was placid.

She smiled bitterly inwardly. This prince's race of changing mood was much faster than that of turning a page.

"Well, during that time, General Qin has always been in favor of Qi Tianyu. I suppose he might consider Qi Tianyu as a perfect son-in-law so he has always liked him. However, it was just his thought and I have told Madam Shui that I was unwilling to marry him," Shao Wanru said.

Since she had promised Chu Liuchen to be his shield, she would not screw up his plan.

As for the reason why Chu Liuchen asked her about this, she now felt it was reasonable. After all, they were on the same side now. Moreover, Empress Dowager had agreed with them, so if some bad rumors about her were spread, Chu Liuchen would be the one who had to suffer from this. No wonder he would be so angry just now.

"Anyway, nobody can determine my marriage!" To assure Chu Liuchen, Shao Wanru added and tried to show that she would not drag him down.

Actually, Shao Wanru thought she should appreciate Chu Liuchen as Duke Xing's Mansion was unable to decide her marriage as they wanted since she now was Chu Liuchen's shield.

Even if Madam of Duke Xing had other plans or tried to make her marry others, she now could not decide Shao Wanru's marriage.

Since Empress Dowager had known the relationship between Chu Liuchen and Shao Wanru and also had agreed with this matter, Emperor should also know this matter. Moreover, with her grandmother's support, Duke Xing's Mansion was unable to decide her future with her marriage.

This made Shao Wanru relieved. Without this, she didn't have to behave passively anymore.

Given this, it could also say that Chu Liuchen was her shield!

"It will be good if you have nothing to do with him. I heard that Master Qi is very nostalgic. Even though he was wronged and was dumped by Qin Yuru, the current wife of the heir of Duke Yong, he has never spoken ill of her in the public."

Chu Liuchen said leisurely as he took a glance at Shao Wanru who frowned and closed her eyes.

"A fish for fame!" Shao Wanru snorted without hiding her disdain for Qi Tianyu. She curled her cherry mouth in a sarcastic way.

Chu Liuchen was satisfied with her response and kept rubbing the back of Shao Wanru's head. He rubbed vigorously but also very softly. "A fish for fame? The First Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion is very suitable for this title!"

“This is no easy task to deal with Shao Yanru! You have to be very careful!” Thinking about Shao Yanru, Shao Wanru still decided to warn Chu Liuchen. In her last life, Shao Yanru had entered the imperial harem and become the Emperor’s beloved concubine. This matter would definitely be directly relevant to Chu Liuchen. However, she couldn’t figure out why Shao Yanru would enter the palace and become the Emperor’s beloved concubine. Given her disposition, what she wanted most should be the title of princess of one of those princes or, in other words, the Empress in the future.

“When Empress held the consort selection banquet, this First Miss Shao even claimed that she was seriously ill. It was said that they even invited the imperial physician to treat her. All said that she was seriously ill. They even said that it was because she had abandoned herself to learning painting in Yuhui Nunnery without taking a rest that she got ill!”

Seeing Shao Wanru’s eyebrows relaxed a little bit, Chu Liuchen then reached out his hand and cuddled her in his arms, putting her head on his arms.

Shao Wanru tried to push him away but failed because his strength was great. No matter how she tried, Chu Liuchen didn’t move at all but, in turn, Shao Wanru got very tired and even sweaty because of this. Moreover, the back of her head which got better just now got painful again. Thus, she gave up and just laid there.

She didn’t expect that this man who looked so weak that he might get hurt when being touched would be so strong.

“Who is chosen by Shao Yanru?” Shao Wanru asked casually when she kept closing her eyes. She now finally gave up struggling and didn’t dare to shake her head as she feared that she might get painful somewhere.

“Everyone!” said Chu Liuchen.

Shao Wanru understood this. However, she started to get curious about the reason why Shao Yanru would enter the harem and become the current Emperor’s imperial concubine, which should be her last choice!

Even though she could be the Emperor’s most beloved concubine, she could not be the Empress. Since the current Empress gave birth to Prince Zhou, her status was very solid which meant that a beloved concubine could not shake it. Even if Shao Yanru was so fortunate that she also gave birth to a son, she had to let the son get recognized by the Emperor and let everyone admit that this boy was much better than other princes. Thus, it was impossible.

In her last life, the sixth prince who was suffocated by Shao Yanru was not Shao Yanru’s biological son but a palace maid’s. The palace maid later died in childbirth, leaving this boy alone. Then the boy became Shao Yanru’s child and was raised by her. In the end, the sixth prince’s death in turn brought Shao Wanru to death.

“If I don’t get married, they can’t either! Thus, even if she takes a fancy to one of us, she can do nothing about this!” Chu Liuchen blurted out.

His words silenced Shao Wanru. After a while, she asked tentatively, “So there will not be any consort selection?”

“For now. Maybe two or three years later!” answered Chu Liuchen casually. He didn’t want the other princes to get support. Before he worked out a comprehensive plan, he didn’t want them to get married and to have support from their consorts.

“Will anyone find out what you have done?”

Silence for a while, Shao Wanru continued to ask. She knew Chu Liuchen must do something to the selection as Empress Dowager and the Empress both looked forward to this consort selection.

“Those who don’t want to get married are not only me, but also Prince Cheng. Although he doesn’t marry any woman, he doesn’t want the others to get married!” Chu Liuchen curled his lips and gave a gentle smile while his eyes looked cold and fierce.

In a word, there were various people trying to get involved with this matter and each of them shot extraordinarily. Some attempted to get married hurriedly while the others undermined this matter. The plan had been made very early.

The room was very quiet. After a while, Shao Wanru suddenly said, “You can also find a princess whose family background is very strong and powerful. Then you can have support!”

Even though other princes could not get married, Shao Wanru knew Chu Liuchen could get married if he wanted to and this would not be a problem for him.

She was only a shield for him. The only thing she could do was let Empress Dowager and Empress not bother him with the marriage, since they knew Prince Chen had a consort who had engaged to him. However, she could not help him actually. Shao Wanru now was not Qin Wanru anymore so it could also be said that she had a strong family background.

But the so-called strong background was just a decoration.

The whole Duke Xing’s Mansion disliked her and everyone knew that Duke Xing’s Mansion would not support her but just maintain a semblance of kinship. When it was a crucial moment, they might smash this kinship into pieces.

Her grandmother was very worried about her. Although her status was high, she had no exact power. If Shao Wanru needed someone to say something good for her in front of Empress Dowager, compared to her grandmother, Rui’an Great Elder Princess, Chu Liuchen might be a better and more useful choice for her.

Given these reasons, Shao Wanru thought Chu Liuchen still needed a consort who really had a strong and powerful family background.

“I don’t need any support but a woman who would not drag me down!” Chu Liuchen patted on Shao Wanru’s head, right on the place where he rubbed for her just now. The pain made her shrink her neck suddenly and she felt the place was throbbing again. How bad the man was!

“With the strong support, you could implement your plan much more leisurely!” Shao Wanru blinked her shimmery eyes and didn’t want to fuss about his. Prince Yue and Prince Zhou were all trying hard to find women who could bring them strong supports. But why didn’t Chu Liuchen? This confused her.

He was also very ambitious!

However he pretended to be weak and innocent, he showed his ambitiousness to Shao Wanru. Otherwise, he could not win everyone and became the crown prince again in her last life.

"If I want to get support, should I have to show my sincerity?" Chu Liuchen gave a pat on her head again, that place again. Shao Wanru felt so hurt that she covered the back of her head with her hands and didn't know what she did had offended this Prince Chen.

"Yes. The prince and the consort are on the same side. Only in this way can he get the support from the consort's family!"

"Those ladies? Would each mansion only have one lady? Maybe the other ladies in the mansion would marry my First Brother or Second Brother! Moreover, they might not support me. My weakness might even be exposed to everyone, and I might have no idea about how I die!" Chu Liuchen snorted.

Then he wanted to give a pat on Shao Wanru's head. However, when he found she had covered her head, he suddenly smiled and thought Shao Wanru had been taught for getting hurt.

With hands covering the back of her head, Shao Wanru finally figured out his meaning and kept nodding.

No people in the capital city would like Chu Liuchen. Even if a lady of a powerful aristocrat family, she might not be willing to marry him. Moreover, this lady might even expose his true strength and mess up with his plan. Thinking in this way, she felt a lady with strong family background might not be useful for him.

"But, I can't help you much either, right?" Shao Wanru asked hesitantly.

Chapter 478 There Were Differences between Two Lives

"Yes but you are the only granddaughter of Great Elder Princess!" answered Chu Liuchen confidently.

What he said, actually, was true. Shao Wanru was speechless. Given she was Rui'an Great Elder Princess' only granddaughter, her status was much higher and better than the others'.

At least, no one could replace her when considering this factor.

However, even so, she didn't know how Chu Liuchen could gain support from Great Elder Princess.

"But before you mentioned this, you didn't know that I am Great Elder Princess' granddaughter, right?" When Shao Wanru tried to turn to look at Chu Liuchen's eyes, he reached out and turned her head back. Thus, she closed her eyes and asked curiously.

She had been Qin Huaiyong's daughter at that time. Did he want to collect Qin Huaiyong? However, she had been just an adopted daughter and she could not let Qin Huaiyong stand by her actually.

"I have known that you are Rui'an Great Elder Princess' granddaughter!" said Chu Liuchen gently. Reaching out to softly pull her white earlobe, he surprisedly found that her earlobe gradually changed from white to scarlet. Then he wanted to keep playing her ear.

His answer made Shao Wanru speechless again. She then tried to take away the hand which was touching her ear.

“You are so farsighted.”

“Of course. When I saw you at the very beginning, I have known that you are a good choice. And it turns out that I am right!”

Chu Liuchen now looked much more confident and she could tell that he was very proud of himself from his gentle voice, which made Shao Wanru not know what to say.

Constantly taking Chu Liuchen’s naughty hand away several times, Shao Wanru decided to ask him about proper business, “Do you feel better now? You seem to be better than the last time I saw you.”

Although she didn’t check his pulse, she did feel Chu Liuchen was different when she saw him this time. He seemed to be another person now!

This description might not be proper. Chu Liuchen still looked like a weak handsome man outwardly, but he was totally different inwardly. When he grabbed her, he was so powerful and strong, which she never knew he could do this. A “dying” man should not have such great strength.

“No, I still feel uncomfortable.” The hand which was touching her ear suddenly fell. He looked powerless and weak as he even coughed slightly. He took a feeble look and said, “I suppose I couldn’t hold on too long. Please remember to remain a widow of Prince Chen. Please let me know there is still a person remembering me!”

His words were so annoying that Shao Wanru wanted to beat him. This devil could be much eviler!

But after that, a sorrow overwhelmed her. He was a son of the Emperor who should be respected by everyone, but now was disdained by the whole city. Sincerely? How many people did treat him with sincerity on earth actually?

She couldn’t help but turn to look at Chu Liuchen. This time, he didn’t turn her head back. Then there she saw an extremely handsome man lying beside her. His pale face and his pale lips even made his breath seem to be weak and faint. His long eyelashes then casually covered his pale eyelids.

He was so handsome and outstanding. His appearance should not appear in the vulgar world and only those handsome men in the books or paintings could be comparable to his!

He now looked pale and quiet. Especially when he closed his eyes and looked innocent, she still felt distressed about him when seeing this handsome man who closed his eyes even though she knew he was wicked.

She thought that maybe she was older than current Chu Liuchen when she died in her last life. Seeing this man who was as handsome as the person in the painting and thinking about what he just said, she now felt pity for him.

Reaching out spontaneously, she gently touched his handsome face. She did feel sorrowful and sad when seeing his look that he seemed to stop breathing with his eyes closed.

Suddenly, her hand was grabbed by a large hand. Then Chu Liuchen released her hand with a confused look and pressed his forehead.

He did that out of subconsciousness. Every time someone tried to get close to him, he would sense it quickly and react like this. However, he didn't sense anything until Shao Wanru almost touched his face. His response was slow this time.

There was no sound in the room but their breaths, light breaths.

When Shao Wanru was embarrassed and tried to explain, she found Chu Liuchen turned his head to the other side and kept closing his eyes, which made her feel speechless again. Since he didn't ask, then there was no need for her to explain. Thus, she also turned to another side and began to think about their current situation with her eyes closed.

Chu Liuchen's sudden arrival made her worries disappear. Calming down and thinking carefully, she found that many things had been different even though Qi Tianyu had ranked third in the exam.

Compared to the same period in her last life, Qin Yuru had become the nominal granddaughter of Old Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion by taking her place and had been favored by Old Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion. Since she had shaved two years off her age, she was able to put off her marriage. Thus, now she should not have been married to someone.

But what now? She got married together with her notorious reputation!

In her last life, Qin Yuru lived a comfortable life with support from Duke Xing's Mansion, Ningyuan Army General's Mansion and her mother's family, Duke Yong's Mansion. Madam Di was in charge of all affairs of the inner courtyard and thus she shifted all the blames on Shao Wanru, which in turn made Qin Yuru lived a great life.

As for why Rui'an Great Elder Princess didn't support her, it should be the fact that there might be some reasons for Rui'an Great Elder Princess to think that Qin Yuru was definitely not her biological granddaughter!

Even though she didn't know the reason, she was clear that her grandmother had always been strong. If she firmly thought that Qin Yuru was not her granddaughter, she would not change her mind whatever other said.

This time, even though Qin Yuru married into Duke Yong's Mansion, she would not have a good life. Shao Wanru had asked Shui Ruolan about the matter that day.

It was obvious that Qin Yuru plotted against Di Yan and let him have to marry her in a hurry. Duke Yong's Mansion was going to cancel the engagement and Qin Huaiyong also agreed with that. At the beginning, they happily came to Qin's Mansion and were ready for getting rid of this encumbrance but they didn't expect that they would have to hurriedly let Di Yan marry Qin Yuru. Given that, everyone knew that it was a trap.

However, Di Yan could say nothing to defend himself because of the nature of this trap. Moreover, since Qin Yuru was crying badly and even tried to kill herself, this scandal would become worse if Di Yan refused to marry her.

Since Qin's Mansion demanded Di Yan must marry Qin Yuru whatever happened, it also meant that she would not lead a good life in Duke Yong's Mansion. Even though she had Old Madam of Duke Yong's Mansion who supported her, her life would be tough in Duke Yong's Mansion.

Countess Yong had always disliked Qin Yuru. In the last life, Di Yan and Qin Yuru had both pretended to enjoy the harmony between the husband and wife in the public as Di Yan didn't dare to treat Qin Yuru badly because of her identity. Even though later he had an affair with Ning Caixian, he didn't dare to admit but acted in a sneaky way. It was because they could not hide anymore that his affair was exposed.

At least, at the very beginning, Di Yan was willing to marry Qin Yuru sincerely.

This time, everything was totally different. Given Di Yan's disposition, he would not be quiet and would not let Qin Yuru live a peaceful life in Duke Yong's Mansion after being laughed at in the public since he was forced to marry Qin Yuru who was notorious.

Qin Yuru was not a person who could bear being wronged! Thus, the whole Duke Yong's Mansion would not be tranquil!

Two lives were totally different. Even though some parts of them were the same, it didn't matter. Thinking in this way, Shao Wanru finally felt relaxed.

She must get possessed just now!

Pinching her hand heavily, she clearly felt hurt in her hand and clearly realized that she was different from who she was in her last life.

This time, she had consolidated at every step. She would not repeat her tragedy and would not die hopelessly by being wronged by others...

"Hello? What is wrong with you? How can you just fall asleep after trying to flirt with me furtively?" Feeling her body was shaken by something, Shao Wanru opened her eyes and looked in the air blankly, not knowing where she was.

"Shao Wanru, you won't be a woman who would discard me after having made use of me, will you?" The gentle voice sounded a bit disdainful. Shao Wanru turned around blankly and caught the right sight of Chu Liuchen in front of her.

His head supported with his elbow, he looked at Shao Wanru in a contemptuous and reprobative way.

Touching her head subconsciously, she found Chu Liuchen's arm which should be under her head disappear. Finding that she didn't know when he pulled his arm back, she finally realized that she fell asleep when thinking about those things.

Chu Liuchen felt funny as seeing Shao Wanru's look changing from blank to surprised and noticing the red mark made by his jade when she put her face on his arm. How adorkable Shao Wanru was! She looked funny but also delicate.

Reaching out and touching her tender face in a very natural manner, he said, "You just want to touch me furtively so now I am going to want my touch back and maybe something more."

"Something more?" Since Shao Wanru just woke up, she looked blank and repeated his word spontaneously with her shining and watery eyes fixed on Chu Liuchen.

"Of course. You know who I am. How can you touch my face so casually?! Since you have done this, you must let me touch yours. Haven't you ever heard of the saying that debts should be paid?" Chu Liuchen explained in a leisurely manner, but inwardly he was totally amused by the red mark on her cute face!

Unlike the intelligent look she usually presented, she now looked so adorkable and cute.

"This, well, no. That's not true." Shao Wanru kept blinking her shining eyes, feeling something was wrong when hearing his words.

"Not true? For example, if you owe me a dinner, should you buy me one the next time you see me?" Chu Liuchen pretended to censure her and put on an innocent look.

Shao Wanru nodded in agreement and thought it was reasonable.

"However, if I buy you a dinner first, shouldn't you need to buy me twice out of courtesy? And that is the 'something more' I just told you!" Chu Liuchen kept saying without hesitation.

It sounded a bit reasonable. Shao Wanru first nodded but then shook her head, confused.

Laughing, Chu Liuchen sat up and also helped Shao Wanru get up. "Come on. I wanna take you to meet a person!" Patting her head, he said happily.

"No, I am on silent retreat!" Shao Wanru finally became sober again and answered as she pulled Chu Liuchen's sleeves.

"You won't leave Yuhui Nunnery. There is a person who wants to meet you!" Chu Liuchen smiled gently. He stopped taking her hand, walked to the door and said to Xiao Xuanzi who had always been guarding the door, "Prepare the bamboo curtain."

"Yes, I got it!" Xiao Xuanzi answered with a smile. Winking at Yujie, he chuckled and ran away.

When a silence fell in that room, Yujie was scared and was almost ready to run into the room. It was Xiao Xuanzi who stopped her.

See? Everything was fine, right?

Chapter 479 The So-called Old Friend Who Was There to Meet Shao Wanru.

Qi Tianyu came here in a hurry. He had changed his clothes which he wore to parade in the street on horse. Now he was in a simple but elegant light green gown, which made him look normal.

Seeing his clothes, people could hardly believe that he was the one who ranked third in the exam and the one who just paraded in the street on horse and was favored by thousands of young ladies. Now he was just an ordinary pilgrim who came to visit Yuhui Nunnery, claiming that he wanted to meet Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion, as her old friend.

A nun of Yuhui Nunnery was going to inform Shao Wanru of this matter. Since Qu Le told her that Shao Wanru was in silence room, she then came here and told her about this.

After Yujie informed her lady of this message, she came out and talked to the nun who brought the message. The nun nodded when hearing Yujie's words and soon she led Qi Tianyu who was in light green and looked extraordinary and vigorous to come here.

Yujie had been waiting outside the courtyard. When she saw Qi Tianyu coming, she hurried to bow to him and said, "First Young Master of the Qi Family, my lady was still painting in the silence room and hasn't finished yet."

"It doesn't matter. I can wait for her," said Qi Tianyu softly and then he strode into the courtyard.

The courtyard faced the mountains. Even when people stood in the courtyard, they could appreciate the view. It was early spring but it was still like winter at the foot of mountains. On the mountains, different colors were closely connected and formed a ring together with colorful flowers, indigo blue mountain ranges, dark stones and wildflowers interspersed with them.

A beautiful scenery.

Qi Tianyu was shocked by this extraordinary view. He just stood in the courtyard silently and had kept appreciating the mountains for more than an hour. During that time, he just moved slightly, which seemed that he was a very patient one.

After a long time, when Yujie heard some noises coming from the silence room, she hurriedly came in and checked. However, Qi Tianyu seemed to not notice this but kept appreciating the mountains with his hand at the back, seeming that he had no idea to check the silence room.

"First Young Master of the Qi Family, my lady invites you to come in!" Yujie came out and said to Qi Tianyu.

Nodding, Qi Tianyu turned around and walked toward the silence room with a peaceful look.

The doors of silence room were open. Qi Tianyu walked into the room slowly and saw a mat facing the entrance. Behind the mat was a bamboo curtain which hid the windows at the back. The whole room was not as bright as he imagined. However, as the windows at the front were open, the room was not too dark.

A little table was on the mat on which Shao Wanru sat back on her heels with a calm look. She wore a dark robe and her dark hair was arranged with only a hair clasp. Hearing the noise at the entrance, she slowly raised her beautiful eyes which looked placid and delicate as a shining pool. The dark silence room seemed to become brighter because of her shimmery eyes.

Seeing this, Qi Tianyu paused for a while but then he quickly walked toward her.

Yujie took a round stool for them. However, she didn't put it on the mat where Shao Wanru sat but in the middle of the room, which made the stool face Shao Wanru. After Yujie brought a table which matched this stool here and served them cups of tea, she stepped back and stood beside Shao Wanru.

"Fifth Miss Shao?" Looking Shao Wanru up and down, Qi Tianyu said gently with his hand folded in front. Since Shao Wanru had been recognized by Duke Xing's Mansion and came back to her family, it was the first time for her to meet Qi Tianyu.

"Have your seat, First Young Master of the Qi Family," Shao Wanru said smilingly.

Hearing her words, Qi Tianyu then sat down directly.

"Why do you come here?" asked Shao Wanru.

"I heard from my sister that you have experienced many things. I was going to visit you but considering the fact that you just faced so many things, I supposed that it was inconvenient for me to see you. And I was too busy to help you at that time."

Qi Tianyu answered very softly. He looked placid but he sounded that he was concerned about her.

He had been parading in the street on horse but now he was on the mountain, which had shown his eagerness. Now it seemed that he did care about her to some extent.

With only a hint of affectionate concern, he sounded so sincere and not ambiguous, which would make people think well of him.

On the other side of the bamboo curtain, Chu Liuchen smiled lightly, then he slouched back and laid down. He even pulled the belt of Shao Wanru's robe, who was just sitting in front of him, put it in his palm and began to play it.

The bamboo curtain perfectly hid him. With the windows at the back closed, the place where he was seemed to be very dark. Thus, Qi Tianyu didn't expect that there was not only Qin Wanru in the silence room, but also an ominous character for him.

"Thank you for your concern. I am fine now," answered Shao Wanru flatly. Her watery eyes looked cold and unemotional.

"We two mansions have always been on good terms with each other and children like us also have grown up together. The friendship would not be affected by the change of our identity. If you need any help, I will do my best to give you a hand. I might be incapable in the past, but I will do better in the future!" He sounded much softer and even a bit guilty.

"I have to admit that I was possessed when facing the event in Jiangzhou. I have always wanted to apologize to you but I didn't have the chance and I have always feared that you would think that I might not be sincere. I was overwhelmed by anger and thus I said something really bad to you. I am really sorry for that!" Standing up, Qi Tianyu bowed to Shao Wanru deeply.

He didn't try to defend himself.

"You don't have to do that, First Young Master of the Qi Family. Just let it be. It is useless to mention it again." Shao Wanru looked much more placid, saying, "Please sit down. Moreover, Qin Yuru now has become Princess of Duke Yong so just let it be!"

It was an easy task for everyone to say something generous, including Shao Wanru herself.

Without the memory of her last life, she would be deceived into believing Qi Tianyu's words and believing that he had let go of the event which happened in the past and tried to apologize to her out of sincerity.

"Selfish and domineering" was the best way to describe Qi Tianyu.

In her last life, Qi Tianyu almost ruined her chastity once. She could still hear what he said near her ears when he was drunk. He threatened her that he would never forget the feeling of being humiliated because of what she had done, so he would ruin her to get rid of the shame. He even said that he had always been the most respected master in Jiangzhou but he was forced to leave there because of her.

The ferocity underneath overwhelmed Shao Wanru. Luckily, Qing Yue was there. When she came into the room and found Qi Tianyu was there, she quickly hit him with a pot on the table and shouted loudly to let people outside come in.

Even so, people sent by Madam Di still reprimanded Shao Wanru's behavior for being fussy and even for attempting to seduce Qi Tianyu. The memory that they tried to put all the blames all over the world on Shao Wanru was still fresh.

What impressed her most was that Qing Yue was punished severely and those people almost broke her legs. It was lucky that she found a good physician who saved Qing Yue by using a lot of good medicine and herbs without taking her too much money.

"Anyway, it was my fault and I have to be responsible for it. Sister Wanru, you were still a little girl at that time while I, as a man, not only vented my anger on you but even censured you in that way. I am really sorry for that! Please forgive my ignorance!" Qi Tianyu bowed to her deeply again with an extremely self-condemned look.

He sounded a bit affectionate.

When they were in Jiangzhou, they did call each other in this way. However, this call was quite strange as if a life had passed. Frankly speaking, a life did have passed!

"You don't have to do this. Please sit down. As for the old call, I think you'd better not use that. Even if I still were Second Miss of Qin's Mansion, it is inappropriate for you to call me like that. Moreover, I am not the daughter of Qin's Mansion now!" Shao Wanru's voice sounded flat but cold with a sense of distance.

She looked at him with her cold and unemotional eyes.

She still looked a bit childish but it didn't make her look innocent and ignorant but made her look like a person who had been sophisticated and had seen through the secular world.

Qi Tianyu now was not sure about Shao Wanru's attitude. Was she really calm like this? Or did the event in Jiangzhou make her estrange herself from him?

It shouldn't be! Since he had arrived in the capital city, he had been making up for this. He had done so perfectly that even Qin Huaiyong could forgive him and almost promise the marriage between Shao Wanru and him. An eleven- or twelve-year-old girl would not know this!

Qi Tianyu was regretful. Had he done much better and worked harder to let Qin Huaiyong promise him to engage Shao Wanru to him, he would have two strong and powerful affinities now.

Since he had not considered too much, he had not spent more time and energy persuading Qin Huaiyong and performing himself in front of Shao Wanru, which made him miss a perfect chance.

It was lucky that he still had other chances. Shao Wanru came to Yuhui Nunnery as she could not live in Duke Xing's Mansion. Given that, there might be only him who came to visit her. The reason why he chose this time to see her was that he wanted to let Shao Wanru feel how he cared about her when he hurried to change his gorgeous clothes and went to see her on the mountain.

“Take your seat!” Seeing Qi Tianyu still standing aside, Shao Wanru slightly reached out and gave a sign to him.

Qi Tianyu sat down resignedly and said with a smile, “I am so anxious and worried that I chose the wrong name. I haven’t realized that things aren’t how they used to be. Please forgive my abruptness, Fifth Miss Shao.”

When he put away his nostalgic expression, Qi Tianyu now looked much more elegant and gentler. His appearance was outstanding and he was famous for his appearance in Jiangzhou. His behavior and her expression were perfect. Nobody could find any fault with him now.

He also knew he was handsome so in his mind he just needed time to make Shao Wanru fall in love with him. Besides, he had always felt that Shao Wanru had feelings for him.

However, it was Qin Yuru who made his plan suspended. But now, Qin Yuru and Shao Wanru had nothing to do with each other. Thus, there would not be any problems for him to continue to seduce Shao Wanru!

“Fifth Miss Shao, would you like to have a walk? I heard that the scenery here is good. May I ask you to come with me?” Qi Tianyu looked mild and decent. At least, in his mind, he presented a very soft and gentle look. He stared at Shao Wanru with his emotional eyes. Leaving the important words unsaid, he seemed to be much more sincere with his affectionate look.

“I have just been to Yuhui Nunnery and I have not been to many places here. If you really want to have a walk, you can ask a nun to show the way for you.” Shao Wanru’s long eyelashes fluttering, she turned him down as a proud look emerged on Qi Tianyu’s face.

His triumphant smile suddenly froze on his face but he quickly responded, “You can go where you like. We can just walk around casually!”

“It is still inappropriate. You can take a walk yourself. As I have to paint, I am afraid that I can’t stay with you!”

Shao Wanru lowered her head and started to look at a piece of painting put aside on the table. Obviously, she refused his invitation!

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“Then I’m not going to bother you, Fifth Miss Shao. I still have some things to do, so I’m going down the hill. I’ll come back to see you when I have time!” Qi Tianyu stood up and smiled at Shao Wanru, as if he did not know what she had said was to refuse him.

“Yujie, see First Young Master of the Qi Family off!” Shao Wanru answered lightly without raising her head.

This kind of casual and somewhat indifferent look made Qi Tianyu very uncomfortable, and he almost failed to keep the warm and elegant smile on his face.

Qi Tianyu suppressed his anger and stopped bothering her. He turned around and went out with Yujie. When arriving at the yard, he stopped, looked at Yujie and said, “How is your Miss doing after coming up the hill? I heard that she was frightened in Duke Xing’s Mansion.”

“Thank you, First Young Master of the Qi Family. Our Miss is fine!”

“She has always lived a luxurious life, and what she can eat and use on the hill is very simple. If she needs anything, you can come to me. I will get everything prepared for your Miss.”

Qi Tianyu continued to advise her gallantly. If anyone heard what he said, they would think that he had a special relationship with Shao Wanru.

Yujie’s face turned cold. She reached out to casually point at the door and said, “First Young Master of the Qi Family, please stop talking. Our Miss has nothing to do with you, so it is inappropriate for us to trouble you. First Young Master of the Qi Family, please leave!”

As a servant girl, Yujie had a different education from the ordinary servant girl at a young age. There were some things that other servant girls dared not to say, but she had no burden on talking about it.

So, she also spoke straightforwardly to drive him away.

Qi Tianyu had not expected that even a servant girl dared to talk to him like this. He was so angry that his face changed, but looking at the quiet room with the door slightly opened, he immediately suppressed his anger and forced a bitter smile on his face. “Your Miss and I have nothing to do with each other now, but we have grown up together... I cannot just look at her... All right, I won’t say more. If you have any problem, just come to me!”

After saying that, he did not wait for Yujie to say anything against him, and turned to go outside.

His words were not aimed at a servant girl who did not know anything about it. He aimed to let Shao Wanru hear his words, who was in the room with the just-open door.

These words were so sincere that he didn’t believe that Shao Wanru was not moved at all after hearing them!

He couldn’t be anxious, and he had to do it slowly. It didn’t matter if she had a heart knot, because he knew where the heart knot was and it would slowly be undone!

In terms of this point, Qi Tianyu was very confident. At the beginning, the Qin sisters had been interested in him. At that time, the younger sister had still been a child, so he couldn’t have any feelings for a child. But now he found that the child at that time had grown into a beautiful girl.

He could control Qin Yuru, so he could also control Shao Wanru!

He had only thought that Shao Wanru had still been a child at that time, so she had not come into his sight. But he had never thought that since she had only been a child, how could she have the idea that adults would have on him? For her, he had just been a dear elder brother from next door!

The bamboo curtain was pulled off, showing Chu Liuchen’s impatient face behind the curtain. He lay behind Shao Wanru, still playing with the ribbon tied around Shao Wanru’s waist.

The bamboo curtain was violently pulled down by him. Shao Wanru was shocked and the painting in her hand also fell down to the ground. She looked up at Chu Liuchen’s handsome and elegant face in astonishment, and then looked at the painting on the ground. She picked it up helplessly and said, “Prince, this painting belongs to Shao Yanru. It’s extremely rare!”

This was brought here by Chu Liuchen, who just asked Xiao Xuanzi to take it with him.

"It's not rare. We can get another one if we keep finding!" Chu Liuchen casually reached out to pull the silk ribbon on her waist again.

Shao Wanru reached out hurriedly to grab it. Even though the silk ribbon was used for decoration on her blouse, it would be very ugly to be pulled off, if he gave a hard pull at it.

"Prince, this ribbon is going to be broken!"

"Qi Tianyu looks very different today. Does he wear some makeup on his face?" Chu Liuchen suddenly asked.

Shao Wanru blinked her eyes and shook her head in puzzlement. "I didn't pay attention to him!"

She only glanced at Qi Tianyu when he came in, and then she didn't look at him.

"When riding horses to parade, someone would wear some makeup for the dignity of the royal family. Qi Tianyu's appearance obviously shows that he has worn some makeup! He even comes to Yuhui Nunnery with makeup on his face. Does he want to hook up with the nuns in Yuhui Nunnery?" Chu Liuchen pulled the silk ribbon in his hand again.

"Your Highness, you can leave now. If you come out for a long time, you will be discovered!" Shao Wanru said helplessly.

"Come on, let's go to see whether he has worn the makeup." Chu Liuchen stood up and reached out to pull Shao Wanru up as well. He pulled her out of the quiet room and went out the door of the courtyard. Xiao Xuanzi had already come out from a secluded place. He stretched out his finger and pointed to a direction with a proud smile.

He knew that his master would not allow this new 3rd scholar in the imperial examination to go down the hill so easily. There was some mystery in the road over there, so he had led him to go there.

Chu Liuchen took Shao Wanru's hand with great interest and followed Xiao Xuanzi to walk down the road. Not long after, they saw lots of steep mountains with the same color in front of them as a wall, and they went around them.

Yuhui Nunnery was on the mountain, and there were many mountain roads stretching out.

Chu Liuchen pulled Shao Wanru to walk up an obliquely upward mountain road. There was a big stone on the top of the mountain road and a few pine trees beside it. Chu Liuchen pulled Shao Wanru to stand beside the big stone. Looking down, they saw Qi Tianyu still making a detour on the mountain road below in the distance.

Xiao Xuanzi left.

In fact, this mountain road was not only mysterious and puzzling, but also difficult to go out. They had been here for a period of time. Qi Tianyu had not yet made a way out of the mountain forest. At this time, he had to stand beside a stream to think carefully about which direction to go out was the best.

He thought that he was knowledgeable and knew a little about some unorthodox formations. It was impossible for him to be really trapped. That was why he walked around and was confident that he could get out of here. But now he had been trapped for so long, so after careful consideration, he felt that he didn't have to pretend to be strong.

He could just retreat. Even if it was seen by the servant girl named Yujie around Shao Wanru, so what!

He thought like this in his heart and wanted to turn around. However, before he could turn around, a black figure appeared before him. He was pushed heavily and he stumbled a few times. He pulled on the rock by his side forcefully, wanting to steady himself. However, the rock beneath his feet had gotten wet after all these years. There was already some slick moss growing on it. How could it take so much weight of him?!

With a "plop", he fell heavily into the stream, slipped a few more times, and then sat directly in the water.

The stream was not deep, and it was clear like a mirror. But when he fell down like this, his clothes were completely wet, and the splashing water poured on his head. Not only the clothes, but also his whole body was wet.

A smile appeared on Shao Wanru's face. She was sincerely willing to see Qi Tianyu in such a pathetic state.

The new talent who achieved number three in national civil examinations didn't stay in his mansion, but went to the nunnery and got wet. What a shame!

"Think about what he will say when he goes back?" Chu Liuchen proudly pinched Shao Wanru's little hands. This time, he played her delicate fingers.

"What will he say?" Shao Wanru asked curiously.

"Of course, he would say that he wanted to go up the mountain to enjoy the scenery and worship the Buddha, and accidentally fell into the cliff." Chu Liuchen laughed to the extreme.

"He... Would he talk about me?" Shao Wanru looked at Qi Tianyu, who was trying hard to get up. She thought carefully and thought that it was possible. It seemed that Qi Tianyu was trying hard to show his favor to her.

In her previous life, Qi Tianyu ganged up with Qin Yuru to destroy her.

She was still the same one. The difference between her and that in the previous life was that she had a very good reputation and her status had changed. Qi Tianyu had a totally different attitude toward her in this life compared with the previous one. She silently smiled and sneered at him.

Qi Tianyu seemed to have had a plan for her, which was why he was suppressing the resentment in his heart!

"No!" Chu Liuchen said.

Shao Wanru stared at Chu Liuchen with her watery eyes, expressing her surprise.

"He wouldn't dare!" Chu Liuchen smiled and stretched out his hands to hold hers, indicating for her to look down.

A guard in black appeared by the creek and pulled Qi Tianyu up. He looked him up and down a few times and said coldly, "In the future, you should stay away from our Miss. Our Princess asks our Miss to go up the mountain to observe the mourning for her parents. She doesn't allow anyone to disturb her! If you ruin our Miss's reputation, she will not let you go!"

The guard shouted loudly with his hands on his waist, and his expression was fierce. At first glance, one could know that he was not easy to get along with.

The mountain breeze blew, and Qi Tianyu shivered with cold, but his mind was sober. He immediately realized that the guard in front of him should be the servant of Rui'an Great Elder Princess.

Immediately, he said respectfully, "Please don't worry, Elder Brother Guard. Sister Wanru won't be involved in this matter today. Please report to Great Elder Princess."

After saying that, he forced himself to turn around and leave. Even though he was very cold, it seemed that he had walked with manner.

Only Chu Liuchen, who was on the mountain, was laughing silently and couldn't stop laughing for a while.

Seeing Qi Tianyu leaving along the way, Shao Wanru went back to pull Chu Liuchen's sleeves and said, "Your Highness, we can go back now. We have finished this scene!"

With the words of "the guards of Great Elder Princess", Qi Tianyu didn't dare to make irresponsible remarks, which saved her a lot of trouble. She was very unwilling to get into a relationship with Qi Tianyu.

"If he dares to lay his eyes on you the next time, I'll take his life!" After laughing, Chu Liuchen's face darkened and he looked in the direction of Qi Tianyu. His beautiful eyes immediately turned cold and brutal.

Shao Wanru looked speechlessly at the change in his face. He changed from a cute young man who couldn't stop laughing to the gloomy and cold King of Asura. Chu Liuchen was definitely worthy of being called the King of a Thousand Faces.

"Come on, let's go up and have a look!" Chu Liuchen looked up at another road diagonally upward, and the expression on his face became meaningful again.

"Let's go down first. I'm tired now!" Shao Wanru looked at Chu Liuchen, whose face was paler than before, and his fingers, which were slightly cold. His hands were holding hers, so that she could feel his physical condition at the first time. He must be tired on the way here.