

Medical Princess 491

Chapter 491 We Meet Again After More Than A Year!

The collar was close to the neck. In this area, a bit more fabric was required and it also had to be slighter softer. There were only a few type of materials that had these two characteristics. However, Colorful Yarn had two unique characteristics, which made it suitable for the collar of the dress.

The dress was designed to be gorgeous, but how it was made depended on the embroidery maids of the sewing room. Shao Wanru was sure that the dress came from the sewing room of Duke Xing's Mansion.

Even though Shao Yanru had schemed well, there had still been a slight error. Of course, the error was based on Shao Wanru's knowledge of the Colorful Yarn.

It was because she knew about the dress given by her mother Madam of Duke Xing and Wang Yishu's handkerchief. Otherwise, as a Young Lady who just arrived in the capital city, how could she know about such a rare tribute? It was even not easy for the imperial concubines to get a piece of material the size of a handkerchief.

But Wang Yishu had it. Why did Wang Yishu have it? Of course, Duke Xing's Mansion had it!

That time, Wanru also guided Wang Yishu to say that she had a lot of handkerchiefs like this. At that time, she saw that several of the Misses were surprised. Although most of the Misses could not see anything, it was enough. At least some Misses recognized the cloth and knew that it was the most precious Colorful Yarn and they knew that it belonged to Duke Xing's Mansion.

Such a rare material had definitely not been given to Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion. She had just returned to the family and she was not favored in Duke Xing's Mansion.

"Madame Dong said that this is indeed the Colorful Yarn. Originally, Madame Dong did not know what it was. But later, she met several noble people and showed them the material," Yujie said with certainty.

Shao Wanru nodded and asked, "When you went to my maternal grandmother's mansion, you also asked her about the Colorful Yarn. And whether Grandmother had it?" That was still something she was uncertain about, so she had to ask her Grandmother for confirmation.

When Grandmother taught her about the Colorful Yarn, she was still an outsider. There were some things that Grandmother would not tell her in detail.

"I know. So... do I need to take this dress?" Yujie asked.

"You do not have to take the clothes. Take this longevity lock with you. You do not have to go there today. Just go tomorrow!" Shao Wanru looked out of the window. It was getting dark outside. Going out of Yuhui Nunnery at this time would not only attract people's attention, but it was also not safe. The doors of the Nunnery would be closed by the time she returned.

Now that she had made the decision, Yujie put the clothes back into the box at the corner again. It was not locked. The previous lock had been broken, so she had to find another lock.

The original lock was also a lock that had been changed not long ago. It was as if it had been used from time to time.

Shao Wanru wrote a letter under the lamplight and told Rui'an Great Elder Princess about all that had happened in detail. She was not clear about many things, but she did not hide anything. She would never compare her weakness with others' strengths.

Old Madam was experienced and knowledgeable and so was Rui'an Great Elder Princess. She was even better than Old Madam. Now she had to rely on her grandmother, lest Old Madam suppressed her repeatedly as an elder.

She would go back to Duke Xing's Mansion, but it was not the right time now!

As for the so-called kinship of Duke Xing's Mansion, others did not care about it and she did not care about it either. Who would take it seriously?

The so-called kinship was full of schemes and strong malice. She did not need it, nor did she care about being abandoned!

Everyone just wanted to maintain a cordial relationship on the surface. As for the other things, Duke Xing's Mansion did not care about her, so she did not care about Duke Xing's Mansion.

After she finished the letter, she let out a long sigh of relief and put down the brush. Suddenly, she looked up subconsciously and saw a slender figure leaning against the window.

A round moon slowly rose from the huge window and the moonlight was reflected on his robe which was a light cherry color. As the wind blew across, there seemed to a kind of devilish aura emanating from his robe sleeves.

His face looked gentle under the light and he was extremely handsome. He used to be a handsome young man, but now he was an extremely handsome gentleman. The only thing that had not changed was that he seemed to have come out of a painting. He was elegant and handsome. He saw that Shao Wanru was looking at him, so he walked over slowly and sat down on the other side of the table.

He reached out elegantly and poured himself a cup of tea. Then, he took a sip slowly and asked lazily, "What is wrong? Don't you recognize me?"

Due to his undergoing the main part of the treatment, they had not really seen each other for a year.

Shao Wanru stretched her hand out to hold Chu Liuchen's wrist and felt his pulse with her slender fingers. Feeling that his pulse was still feeble and low, Shao Wanru could not help frowning. She did not think that he was much better than a year ago, because his lips were still pale and the illness seemed to be etched in his bones.

"Isn't it effective?"

As her heart throbbed, she wanted to loosen her grip, but suddenly she felt the pulse in his hand jump wildly. Immediately, her face changed greatly and she pressed her fingers down heavily. This time, she really felt the speed of the pulse in Chu Liuchen's wrist, which was incomparable with that of the previous sluggish speed.

"Your Highness..."

Suddenly, the pulse slowed down again. It was still the same as before, neither too fast nor too slow, as if it was going to die.

Shao Wanru finally understood what was going on. She let go of Chu Liuchen's hand and asked, "Your Highness, is it interesting?"

"Of course it is interesting. Do you think it is boring?" Chu Liuchen smiled and stretched out his hand to pat Wanru's head. Then his hand dropped and fell on her long hair. His slender fingers were entwined in her hair and a strand of it was coiled around his fingers!

He tugged her hair slightly and it hurt Shao Wanru. She reached out and slapped him in the face. Only then did his hand fall.

He did not know when he started having such a hobby.

"Your Highness, are you feeling better?" Shao Wanru asked with her eyes wide open. She was surprised and happy and she seemed to heave a sigh of relief.

"I am not!" There was a gleam of surprise in Chu Liuchen's slender eyes and he smiled gently.

"Is there anything wrong?" Shao Wanru's smile froze on her face. She blinked her big black eyes, looking a little nervous.

Chu Liuchen picked up the teacup, took another sip and said slowly. "I need to treat it slowly and I will not be fully cured in a short time!"

He would not be able to recover in a short while. Did that mean that he could recover as long as he nursed his health well? Shao Wanru heaved a sigh of relief when she heard that. She relaxed immediately.

Picking up the teacup at hand, Shao Wanru was about to drink it. Suddenly, she found that Chu Liuchen was looking at her with a faint smile. Her hand became stiff and she silently put down the teacup in her hand. Her tender face turned a little red. There was only one teacup on the table and that was only hers.

Chu Liuchen drank her tea just now. Now when she picked the teacup up, it was the one which he used. Chu Liuchen seemed to be in a good mood.

"Prince, why are you here at this time?" Shao Wanru wiped her hands with a handkerchief as if nothing had happened. She pretended not to look at the tea cup which made her blush.

"I heard that Zhuozhuo is going to celebrate her birthday, so I naturally had to come and see her!" Chu Liuchen smiled and lounged on the mat. His beautiful eyes lit up. Apart from his laziness, he really looked like a handsome child. Unfortunately, his limp posture made him look very lazy.

"Your Highness, where did you get this news?" Shao Wanru turned her head slightly. Her beautiful hair fell like a waterfall from her shoulders, making her look even more petite.

"Where else can I get the news? Many people in the palace have already known about it. I heard that it was said by the First Miss in your mansion in front of the Imperial Grandmother. It looks like she is very sincere and she is different from the others in Duke Xing's Mansion!"

The corners of Chu Liuchen's lips lifted and there was a trace of elegance and nobility in him.

The so-called difference between herself and the other people in Duke Xing's Mansion was that the other people in Duke Xing's Mansion were unkind to Shao Wanru. The rumor had spread in the capital city a long time ago and there were various versions because of the fire in Duke Xing's Mansion. However, no matter which version it was, this Fifth Miss Shao was always made out to be a poor and unpopular child.

A poor child, who returned to the family but had not been valued by her family and had to leave home to observe her filial piety.

Because of Shao Wanru, there was a lot of controversy about Duke Xing's Mansion, which had always had a good reputation.

Even the Queens in the palace felt that Duke Xing's Mansion did something wrong. At some banquets, they always heard someone talking about it. All the womenfolk in Duke Xing's Mansion felt that it was a shameful thing whenever they went out and they were even more reluctant to mention Shao Wanru's affairs.

Shao Yanru's words today immediately made people admire her. On the one hand, she showed her goodwill to Shao Wanru publicly. On the other hand, she was not in Duke Xing's Mansion when that incident happened at that time.

Shao Wanru raised her long, shapely eyebrows and asked. "Your Highness, what do you think I should do?"

"Remain unchanged to deal with all the changes. Recently, Imperial Grandmother is choosing the concubines for Prince Yue and Prince Zhou. I do not think she can sit still!" Chu Liuchen leaned over lazily and directly laid on the mat with his face up to the sky. He kicked away the table on the mat and tugged at Shao Wanru's sleeve to pull her over.

Before Shao Wanru could react, he pulled her into his arms as usual and tightened his grip. Shao Wanru could not break free even if she wanted to.

"Your Highness..." Shao Wanru really wanted to push him away. She did not expect him to be so skilled even though they had not seen each other for a year. It was as if they had just met each other. It was as if they were still together yesterday.

She had no choice because her head was held tightly in his grip and his arms were wrapped tightly around her slender waist. She struggled to free herself, but she could not. After sensing that his rigid chest was not weak at all, Shao Wanru fell silent. Then, she did not struggle any longer.

The sense of unfamiliarity that she felt when she met him again after a year vanished subconsciously.

"Your Highness, who do you think she will marry?" Shao Wanru asked.

"I think she wants to marry everyone!" Chu Liuchen's smile became brighter when he saw how docile Shao Wanru was. He suddenly sat up and blew out the lamp on the table that had been kicked away. Then the light went out and the room inside suddenly became dark. However, the bright moonlight outside became more luminescent as it shone through the window.

The moonlight was as gentle and light as water when it fell on the pair who were embracing each other.

Chapter 492 I Think She Can Marry No One

Shao Wanru was shocked by Chu Liuchen's action. Her long eyelashes fluttered twice and she closed her eyes. When she opened her eyes again, she found that it was not dark anymore. She could not help looking out of the window. Outside, the mountains seemed to huddle together and the moonlight was gentle and beautiful.

The atmosphere in the darkness became increasingly intense, then she felt her waist being strongly hugged and Chu Liuchen played continuously with the jade pendant hung around her waist.

Feeling hot, Shao Wanru wanted to push Chu Liuchen away. She reached out her hand and asked. "Your Highness, who do you think is most likely to marry her?"

However, Chu Liuchen grabbed her hand and pulled it aside, saying, "I do not think she can marry anyone!"

This answer made Shao Wanru fall silent. In her previous life, Shao Yanru was indeed unmarried. The man she was going to marry could not be the Emperor. It could only be Prince Zhou or Prince Yue. But in the end, neither of them was hers. Shao Yanru did not wait to marry them because she had entered the palace.

"Shao Yanru's reputation is so good and she is so beautiful. Why can't she get married? Her family background should be good enough!" Shao Wanru was puzzled. She could not figure this out ever since she was reborn.

Shao Yanru could be said to have gained the upper hand and all the benefits. Why could she not marry whom she wanted to marry? Besides, she was a scheming woman and she even resorted to all kinds of means.

"A woman who thinks that she can play with men all over the world and thinks that all men will bow and scrape to her pomegranate-colored dress. She is thinking too highly of herself! It is too much!"

Chu Liuchen casually played with the jade pendant in his hand.

This jade pendant was bestowed by the Empress Dowager. He felt that it was quite a good thing to fiddle with, especially when it was hung on her slender waist.

"Do Prince Yue and Prince Zhou also have any special feelings for her?" Shao Wanru thought over his words and asked tentatively.

"Stay away from this woman from now on, or you will not have a good ending!" Chu Liuchen snorted coldly. She did not know whether it meant that Shao Wanru was right or wrong. He reached out and patted her on the head to warn her.

"If she does not have anything against me, then that is fine. But if she has something planned for me, then I am not that easy to bully!" Shao Wanru said, her red lips curving in a sneer.

She was certain that Shao Yanru had no good intentions toward her and would definitely do something bad to her and she would not show any mercy, of course.

Things that happened in the last life were too mysterious. Shao Wanru did not want to tell Chu Liuchen about these mysterious happenings. But she could not explain her hostility toward Shao Yanru. This was the only explanation. There was a reason why she targeted Shao Yanru in the future.

"I have sent secret guards to protect you. If you need anything, just use them!" Chu Liuchen said lightly and then changed the topic, "Did Chu Liuxin come here today?"

"Yes, he was here. He seemed to have visited with a few other Misses. I suppose he is on a blind date!" Shao Wanru said. She could not see Chu Liuchen's expression clearly in the dark, but she knew that he did not look happy at the moment, so she tried to explain.

Chu Liuxin did not hide the truth from her when he came over. When he talked about this, Chu Liuxin even complained that his brothers were not married at his age. Why were they so anxious to ask him to get married?

"The blind date is not in the capital city. What is he doing here? Is it possible that he can find someone in the nunnery to go on a date with him?" Chu Liuchen said unpleasantly.

"This... I don't know!" Shao Wanru was speechless, but she also felt that Chu Liuchen was absolutely right. This blind date should not have taken place in the nunnery.

"The next time he comes, you don't need to pay any attention to him!" Chu Liuchen said with a snort.

"He even helped me bring a letter to Shao Yanru today!" Shao Wanru's shimmery eyes shone in the moonlight.

"Why is he even involved? If he brings the letter to Duke Xing's Mansion, he will get himself involved in this matter!" Chu Liuchen said lightly. Although his voice was gentle and refined, there was a trace of sarcasm in it.

Shao Wanru was surprised and said, "Is it possible that Shao Yanru wants to marry Prince Xin?"

"Why not? Doesn't he have a good impression of her? Although Chu Liuxin did not make much progress, he is still a prince. Maybe she can trigger some sparks with him!"

Shao Wanru fell silent when she heard these words. She did not speak for a long time. Chu Liuchen seemed surprised by Shao Wanru's silence at this moment, so he touched her pink cheeks with his hand and pinched them maliciously. Shao Wanru was in so much pain that she pushed his hand away.

"What about Your highness? Didn't she look for you before?"

Chu Liuxin was a cold person, so too was Chu Liuchen. Since Chu Liuxin could be sparked, Chu Liuchen might also be targeted by her. Although he had an awkward status and was in poor health, he was still favored by the Empress Dowager Queen and the Emperor.

"Of course, she also looked for me. But after being slapped by me, everything became peaceful!" Chu Liuchen said lazily.

"What, Your Highness slapped her?" Shao Wanru was stunned for a moment before she got up. She supported herself on Chu Liuchen's chest with one hand and said in surprise.

This was something she had never heard of in her two lifetimes. "When did it happen?"

"It was about three years ago. I can't remember the exact time. When she almost fell into my arms. I was so angry that I slapped her and then I fell down!" Chu Liuchen reached out and knocked away her elbow which she was supporting herself on. Shao Wanru's hand felt sore, then her body went limp and she was pressed against Chu Liuchen's chest.

This time, she was in an even more embarrassing position than the previous time.

Shao Wanru blushed greatly as she turned to the side in a hurry. It still looked as if her waist was being firmly grasped by him.

At this time, she was glad that the light was off, otherwise, this person would laugh at her.

She composed herself and asked again, "This must have happened before she arrived at Yuhui Nunnery, right?"

"I suppose so. I did not notice that. As long as she does not come and bother me, I don't care how many men she hooked up with. But she cannot come and make me feel disgusted!" Chu Liuchen's expression remained unchanged and he reached out to let her lie down more comfortably. In the darkness, nobody could see that he had a vicious look on his face.

"Your Highness, do you know why Shao Yanru wanted to build this quiet room? Was it just for her to learn how to paint? This location is really not bad." Shao Wanru finally calmed down and asked.

"I really did not take note of this. If you want to investigate, you can ask someone to do it. I left the secret guard you used in Duke Xing's Mansion to you. If you need anything, you can look for him! Next time, let Xiao Xuanzi instruct the servant girl named Yujie who accompanies you. This servant girl seems to be strong and capable. You can ask her to come to my mansion to study martial arts when you have time."

Chu Liuchen closed his eyes and said this with a calm expression. The light fragrance of the girl which drifted to his nose was not the fragrance of powder, but just the slight body scent of a woman. In such a dark night, it gave people a feeling of peace and the place that had been left empty in his heart for many years was filled up somehow!

As his voice became softer and softer until it disappeared completely, the sounds in the house suddenly quietened down.

Suddenly, there was a soft knock on the door. One time, two times, three times.

Shao Wanru was shocked. She opened her eyes hurriedly. She had almost fallen asleep just now.

Chu Liuchen stretched out his hand to grasp her slim waist and pulled her into his arms again. After holding her for a while, he put her down and sat up. He tidied his clothes and said, "I will go back first. If there is any noise, remember not to come out."

Shao Wanru nodded silently and sat up as well. She watched him open the door and leave. Then, she frowned and looked at the darkness beyond the door.

After waiting for some time, she suddenly heard a loud noise from outside, as well as the clashing sounds of weapons. She could not help gripping her knees as a nervous look flashed in her eyes.

"Miss." Yujie hurried in and closed the door of the quiet room. There was no light in the room, so she could not locate where Shao Wanru was for a moment.

"Come here, I am on the mat. Be careful of the table in front of me." In the dark, Shao Wanru saw Yujie clearly and reminded her softly.

The table that had been kicked aside happened to be in front of Yujie at this time.

Yujie hurriedly reached out to hold it. Sure enough, she came across the low table. She said, while holding the table to walk toward the mat, "Miss, Prince asked you not to go out."

"What is going on outside?" Even though the door was closed, she could still hear the clashing of weapons.

"I don't know. Just now, I peeped out and found that it came from beyond the high wall. I do not know what happened, or if there is something strange going on at the other side of the high wall!"

Yujie said uneasily.

She had just received Xiao Xuanzi's warning not to go out. This matter had nothing to do with the two of them, master and servant, and it was definitely not something they should get involved in.

"On the other side of the high wall?" Shao Wanru frowned and she intuitively felt that it had something to do with the previous imperial concubines. She guessed that Shao Yanru had chosen this place for self-cultivation and said that she would study painting as well. Wasn't it just for seeking fame? Or was she planning something else? Otherwise, why did she spend so much energy and money on it?

This quiet room looked simple on the surface, but it was actually not that simple. Every patch of grass and tree inside was extremely exquisite. It was obvious that they had spent a lot of effort to build this room. Moreover, it was not built in one day. It seemed to be a little too much just to gain a reputation for it.

Furthermore, the high wall was just next to it and the side door was much closer than the courtyard where she lived!

What was the Shao Yanru looking for, or in other words, what was Duke Xing's Mansion looking for?

She quickly thought about what happened in her last life. Suddenly, an idea came to her. She remembered a person who was related to Shao Yanru. It seemed that this person had a deep connection with Shao Yanru, but there did not seem to be any special connection between them. In fact, she was also surprised that she suddenly thought of this person at this time.

Because that person was found from the folk place!

Could the statement be false? Could it be that the person was not among the common folk, but within the high wall? Could it be that Shao Yanru's quiet room was said to be an auspicious place where the Buddha manifested because of this person?

Chapter 493 Ministry of Justice Entered into Yuhui Nunnery

The news that a bandit suddenly appeared in Yuhui Nunnery and attempted to grab the former Emperor's concubine shocked the whole capital city.

Yuhui Nunnery was famous not only for a saying that prayers could be heard by the Buddha but also for the other one that the former Emperor's concubines were grounded here. However, these were just sayings as nobody had the access to the deepest part of Yuhui Nunnery and seeing those concubines who were shut here.

However young and beautiful they used to be, they now all were accompanied by an oil lamp and an old statue of Buddha and led a lonely life. It was a pity for them not to have their own child as they were unable to give birth!

It was the first Emperor and the former Emperor who founded the Kingdom of Dongcang together, which made a majority of ministers who had been loyal to the former Emperor still devoted to the current Emperor. For them, it was a very normal thing. However, with decades passing by, the issue referring to sons and heirs was surely the former Emperor's biggest problem and as for this issue, there was nothing really left for those ministers to say. Although Prince Chen was still alive, he was waiting for his death.

Given his health condition, he seemed to be dying!

Even if someone attempted to use Chu Liuchen, the very first thing they should know was that Chu Liuchen must be usable! It was said that this prince had been always lying in bed and nobody knew whether he would die or live. It just seemed that he was unable to survive.

Many ministers loyal to the former Emperor all swore inside that how these concubines could be so trashy that even unable to give birth to an heir! They even thought inwardly that these women deserved it because of their infertility!

However, no matter how disgruntled these ministers were, they never showed their true feelings in public. Moreover, since time had passed and Chu Liuchen, the former Emperor's only son was about to die, it was no use cursing those women, not to mention assassinating them. These concubines were waiting to die in the deepest part of Yuhui Nunnery and thus, it was troublesome and unnecessary for these ministers to take their lives.

Only several nuns were arranged to watch them and there was no need to care more about these women.

But, it was when everyone was negligent that something bad descended on Yuhui Nunnery. Hearing that there were not only nuns but even the former Emperor's concubines being killed, which had astounded the whole city, the current Emperor was furious and immediately sent people to investigate the matter. The current Emperor had given an order that everyone must get to the bottom of this matter and could not let the former Emperor's concubines get killed casually!

The deeper meaning was enough to make the current Emperor fidget on his throne.

Although these concubines were useless and waiting to die, it was totally different when they got killed by someone as people might be suspicious of the current Emperor's legitimacy. Given that, this matter was unable to be underestimated.

Thus, Ministry of Justice entered into Yuhui Nunnery where males seldom appeared. Many soldiers and ministers began to come in and out the nunnery, which forced those ladies of aristocratic families who were about to cultivate themselves in the mountain to go back home so as to avoid getting involved in something bad. They all knew that it was better to keep themselves away from this kind of matter as far as they could for nobody would be willing to be involved in those issues related to the throne.

If one was not careful enough, he or she might be sentenced to nine familial exterminations by the Emperor.

Shao Wanru didn't move out of the nunnery. When people from Ministry of Justice came to investigate, Rui'an Great Elder Princess had been here. Thus, the Prefectural Judge from Ministry of Justice had to wait for a long time and then finally met Great Elder Princess.

"It is my honor to see Great Elder Princess, Your Highness!" The Prefectural Judge walked forward and bowed to Rui'an Great Elder Princess.

"What?" Great Elder Princess answered coldly.

Fearing that he might irritate the Great Elder Princess, the Prefectural Judge replied in an extremely careful manner. "I wonder where Fifth Miss Shao was at that time and what Fifth Miss Shao might hear or see? As the silence room where Fifth Miss Shao had been is not far away from the incident site, she might hear something I suppose."

"Are you doubting my granddaughter?" Great Elder Princess' face looked darker and colder.

"No, no I just want to ask whether Fifth Miss Shao, whether she..." The Prefectural Judge swallowed and answered vexatiously. It was his superior who gave this order and he had to follow it, which, in turn, obviously would offend Rui'an Great Elder Princess. He once heard that Great Elder Princess was quite fond of this rediscovered Fifth Miss Shao and even treated her as the apple of her eyes.

"How dare you!" Great Elder Princess banged the table with her hands so heavily that the cup almost fell off the table. Sweat immediately broke out on the Prefectural Judge's forehead.

"Grandma? Don't get mad. It is his job and just let him finish it. Everyone can feel reassured after this." Shao Wanru came to the Prefectural Judge's rescue and said softly to Great Elder Princess.

"Yes, yes. Great Elder Princess, it is the Emperor's order and I am doing my job. I just want to ask Fifth Miss Shao some questions and I would not bother you after that!"

The Prefectural Judge kept nodding as he feared that Great Elder Princess would get angry if he delayed his answer.

It was impossible to doubt this Fifth Miss Shao who had cultivated herself in the mountain for nearly three years. Before coming here, they had investigated every lady's background, who had cultivated themselves here, and thus, they were clear that this Fifth Miss Shao was observing mourning and the duration of three years would be expired soon.

Since she was still young and her identity was so special, unlike those artsy-fartsy ladies who only appreciated the beautiful view and scenery in the mountain with the excuse of cultivating themselves, this miss was a respectable woman who was determined to observe mourning for her parents for nearly 3 years. Given this, this Prefectural Judge thought highly of this determined lady in his mind.

Hearing she was coming to his rescue, he admired this Fifth Miss Shao much more.

"Then you'd better ask here and I want to know." Rui'an Great Elder Princess paused for a moment and then said calmly.

"Thank you very much. The interrogation will end soon and Thank you again for understanding that I am doing my job!" Wiping away sweat, the Prefectural Judge kept expressing his gratitude to Great Elder Princess. Then he raised his head and took a look at Fifth Miss Shao. After entering the room, he didn't dare to see anything except Great Elder Princess. When he saw Fifth Miss Shao, he was stunned spontaneously.

However, he reacted very quickly. The instant he saw her, he lowered his head and was amazed by her appearance inwardly. This was the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua's daughter. She looked so pretty and gorgeous that she deserved the title of alluring fair. He once saw the first beauty in the capital city but compared with this lady, the appearance of the so-called beauty was inferior to hers.

"Fifth Miss Shao, what were you doing when the incident happened?" The Prefectural Judge was also a resolute person. After marveling at her appearance, he quickly organized his mind and asked when lowering his head.

Considering this Fifth Miss Shao who now was in front of him, he thought he had better not see her shimmery eyes, or he would feel that these questions were insulting to Fifth Miss Shao.

"I have gone to bed early that night! But I did hear some noises which sounded like weapons colliding together. My servant girl also heard that as she was with me that night."

Shao Wanru answered directly.

Chu Liuchen had blown out the candle. Thus, even if someone noticed her, they would think she had been asleep at that time. Actually, she did fall asleep at the usual time.

"Anything else? Something unexpected?" The Prefectural Judge paused for a moment and then asked, looking serious.

"No. I fell asleep by leaning on my servant girl. When I woke up, things had been in chaos outside. The nun of the nunnery sent several groups of people to check if I was safe and then there came my grandma," said Shao Wanru.

She was telling the truth. When Yujie came in and accompanied her, they said nothing but just heard the weapons colliding. Yujie had been worried whether someone would come but Shao Wanru didn't worry anything and just fell asleep leaning on the mat.

Hearing Shao Wanru's answer, the Prefectural Judge found there was no problem and nodded. Then he asked, "Fifth Miss Shao, may I ask your servant girl the same questions?"

"Of course." Shao Wanru nodded.

Then Yujie went to the yard and was questioned by the Prefectural Judge.

“Didn’t you get scared yesterday?” Checking whether her granddaughter was alright, Great Elder Princess asked with concern. However, not until she said something more did the Prefectural Judge of Ministry of Justice come in the room.

“Don’t worry, grandma. I am fine!” Shao Wanru answered with a bright smile, pulling Great Elder Princess’ dress and shaking lovingly.

She did love her grandma. Before she knew her true background, she had been very close to Rui’an Great Elder Princess. Moreover, it did turn out that her grandma really liked her. She not only always considered her granddaughter but also stood by her side every time.

“Good, good. Given your situation, do you want to go downhill? It seems to be dangerous here and it is hard to know what other things might happen next!”

Even though Rui’an Great Elder Princess felt relaxed inside, she was still worried about her granddaughter.

“Grandma, please don’t worry. The place might be dangerous before but now it is safe as Ministry of Justice is guarding here. Thus, no other incidents will happen in Yuhui Nunnery. Moreover, Duke Xing’s Mansion? I don’t want to go there,” Shao Wanru answered directly and sweetly.

Her answer made Rui’an Great Elder Princess feel distressed.

The hatred towards Old Madam of Duke Xing’s Mansion kept growing in her mind. Had not Old Madam of Duke Xing’s Mansion been so merciless, her dear granddaughter would not have come to this situation!

“Grandma, if I come back to Duke Xing’s Mansion now, I will not only be controlled by them but my two-and-a-half-year cultivation will also be wasted. Others will laugh at me as they will consider me as an unfilial person with a little backbone. My dead parents might also blame me for this,” Shao Wanru said sadly with her red-rimmed eyes.

If she came back now, her good reputation which she had spent time and energy saving would all get wasted.

Rui’an Great Elder Princess was clear about this but she was reluctant to leave her dear granddaughter as she was really worried about her granddaughter and feared that something bad might happen to her. Irritated and sorrowful, she was choked with sobs.

“Grandma, if you have time, you can come here to see me. You can live in my courtyard and I will still live in this room. Madam of Duke Xing has sent me letters to let me go downhill. Old Madam also claims that she wants to hold a birthday party for me in Yuhui Nunnery!”

As her mouth curved into an ironic smile, Shao Wanru told her grandma what she wanted Yujie to tell her after going downhill.

“What? Does she think Yuhui Nunnery is the same as the back yard of her mansion which she can come in and out as she wants?” Rui’an Great Elder Princess snorted and her face turned pale because of anger. She was to come to Yuhui Nunnery as she wanted to tell Shao Wanru what she heard from

Empress Dowager that Miss Shao claimed she had a good relation with Shao Wanru in public and said that she was to hold a birthday party in Yuhui Nunnery for Shao Wanru.

Even Old Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion also said this now. She must be an old fool.

"Don't worry, Zhuozhuo. You have me and I will never allow them to cause any other troubles like the party as they wish! Yuhui Nunnery is not a place which Duke Xing's Mansion can control easily!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess smiled coldly as she got more irritated. Since such a thing had happened in Yuhui Nunnery, up to now Duke Xing's Mansion sent nobody to ask about her granddaughter. Given this, she would never forgive the old fool.

"Miss, Miss Shao is here!" Qu Le hurriedly came in and informed them of this news.

Chapter 494 Meet the Past Enemy Again

At the door, Shao Yanru came in with a servant girl following her. She wore a turquoise light eight-piece long dress whose waist was winded and twisted by a plum-shaped ribbon. A light violaceous gauze jupe and a pair of light pink elbow sleeves, with Shao Yanru's elegance and grace together, made people feel amazed by the refinement and freshness of the woman in front of them. Her gorgeous appearance even let her seem much more outstanding.

After she entered, she didn't look around but bowed reverently to Rui'an Great Elder Princess who was sitting in the middle of the room and said, "Nice to see you, Great Elder Princess."

"Get up." Great Elder Princess waved her hands calmly and let her get up.

"Great Elder Princess, do you know where my fifth sister is? When my grandma and mother heard something bad happened to Yuhui Nunnery, they became quite anxious. My grandma even suffered a relapse of her old illness. My mother now is taking care of her and thus, she asked me to see whether my fifth sister is alright. If she doesn't want to live here, she can get back to our mansion temporarily and can come back here after things are settled."

Shao Yanru raised her head and a gentle smile with concern was on her face.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess' gaze fell upon Shao Yanru's face. During these two years, Shao Yanru actually seldom appeared in public, claiming that she wanted to devote herself to learning painting. Now, it seemed that this Miss Shao was unusual indeed as her words sounded very reasonable.

"Zhuozhuo was frightened by the incident last night. She now is unable to get up." Great Elder Princess took a deep sigh, putting an anxious expression on her face.

"What? Fifth sister falls sick because of being shocked by the matter?" The smile on Shao Yanru's face suddenly disappeared and was replaced by a worried look. Her moves and expression seemed that she did care about Shao Wanru, which made people think highly of her.

"Since such a terrible matter happened near the place where she lives, how can't she, a little girl not get scared when living alone here?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess' voice suddenly sounded cold when saying these words, "A relapse of her old illness? Is she also scared by the matter at this moment?"

Shao Wanru was very close to the incident site while Old Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion was far away from here. It sounded obvious that Rui'an Great Elder Princess was sneering at her.

“She has suffered this for years. She always gets sick and has to lie in bed to have a rest when the autumn comes. These days are no exception. Had not been because of this relapse of her illness, grandma would come to see fifth sister now. Fifth sister has been in Yuhui Nunnery for years. Every time she mentions this, she always bursts into tears.”

Shao Yanru explained gently, seeming that she was unaware of the irony in Great Elder Princess’ words. She still answered and listened to Great Elder Princess sincerely and patiently.

Shao Wanru, sitting behind the bamboo curtain, curved her mouth into a cold and ironic smile.

Shao Yanru was quite formidable. Hearing her words, everyone would think that she tried to build a good relationship with Shao Wanru. Even if those elders in Duke Xing’s Mansion had done something wrong before, she was trying to compensate. If she failed to make amends for the past, she was not the one who should be blamed as those people were her elders in the mansion!

What a sophisticated and exquisite lady! No wonder she would earn such a good reputation. In Chu Liuxin’s mind, she was also a perfect woman who valued sisterhood very much!

But sisterhood? It was because Shao Wanru had changed her situation this time and disclosed her background that Shao Yanru would try to maintain the so-called sisterhood. In her last life, Shao Yanru had never taken their sisterhood into consideration.

Obviously, it was not unconditional for her to mention this so-called sisterhood. Moreover, it was a provisory presentation for someone.

Shao Yanru’s answer was perfect as she not only explained the reason why Old Madam wasn’t here but even showed how Old Madam cherished Shao Wanru. Even though Great Elder Princess didn’t believe her words, she would not embarrass Shao Yanru at least. No matter how Great Elder Princess disliked Old Madam and Madam of Duke Xing, she would not attack Shao Yanru with all her strength.

“Ru’er now is uncomfortable and it is inconvenient for her to meet you. Please go back, First Miss Shao.” Although Rui’an Great Elder Princess would not wrestle with her, she didn’t like her. Thus, she said as waving her hands.

“I understand. These are some herbs which do good to one’s health. It is my grandma who asks me to bring them to fifth sister. Please give them to fifth sister!” Pointing at the present held by the servant girl, Shao Yanru said gently.

Great Elder Princess nodded and seemed unwilling to talk any more. After letting her servant girl put the present next to the entrance, Shao Yanru then left.

When she went to the yard, she found there were two servant girls standing beside. She motioned to Yujie and asked about Shao Wanru’s diet and details of last night’s event with concern after checking Yujie was Shao Wanru’s servant girl in the yard.

Yujie had been interrogated by the Prefectural Judge of Ministry of Justice before. Thus, when being asked by Shao Yanru, she then repeated her answer again.

After Shao Yanru asked her to take good care of Shao Wanru and told her to inform Duke Xing’s Mansion if something happened, Shao Yanru then left with her servant girl.

After she walked out of the yard and took a look back at it, later she turned and left without hesitation.

She then went to Pushan Nun's Zen room as she could also be said to be Pushan Nun's pupil. Since she had gone to Yuhui Nunnery, she also needed to visit her master.

After talking with Pushan Nun for nearly two hours, Shao Yanru then left.

Compared with the past, the number of people who came in and out Yuhui Nunnery nearly doubled, among which most people belonged to Ministry of Justice. Shao Yanru stood at the entrance. She didn't get on the carriage at once but just squinted back at the nunnery and took a glance at those rushing officials of Ministry of Justice. Later she lightly covered her lips with her handkerchief, to hide her ironic smile.

Soon she got on the carriage of Duke Xing's Mansion and headed to it.

After the carriage stopped, she quickly got off the carriage and found her brother leaving the mansion in a hurry. On the other side, seeing his sister getting off the carriage, his brother stopped immediately and waited for her.

"Brother, where are you going?" Shao Yanru came and asked.

"Wen Xichi invites me to join the tea party." Swinging the fan in his hand, Shao Hua'an, the First Young Master of Duke Xing's Mansion answered in an elegant manner.

Shao Yanru and Shao Hua'an both looked good. Shao Hua'an was very handsome and gentle and he also enjoyed a good reputation. However, since he missed the last spring exam, he wanted to have a try in the next exam.

Qi Tianyu ranked third in the last exam while Wen Xichi ranked first!

Wen Xichi first worked in the Imperial Academy and two years later, he joined the Ministry of Justice, which seemed that he had a very bright future. Those who entered the official circle with him at the same term were still struggling in the Imperial Academy. Nobody except him was eligible to get promoted to a position in the six ministries.

The six ministries had always been the skeleton frame of the imperial government.

Shao Hua'an and Wen Xichi had grown up together and they didn't get estranged because of Wen Xichi's promotion.

Such a serious incident happened in Yuhui Nunnery. However, Wen Xichi, who worked in Ministry of Justice, didn't go to investigate but still had a mood to hold a tea party. It was quite weird.

"Only you?"

"No. Many masters in the capital city will also attend the party. The tea party has been arranged and we all have been invited earlier. The tea party should be canceled today but Wen Xichi says it is unnecessary to call it off. He claims that he is available in the morning and he only needs to work in the afternoon. Therefore, he asks us to get together in the morning."

As Shao Hua'an explained, he looked at Shao Yanru, checked around, frowned and said, "Fifth sister is not going to go downhill? Didn't a terrible incident just happen? It is inappropriate for her, a little girl to stay in the mountain!"

"You hope her to go downhill?" Smiling thoughtfully, Shao Yanru seemed to mean something.

Shao Hua'an threw up his hands and said, "Do I have the right to decide these things?"

Shao Yanru smiled much more brightly. She said impliedly, "We do have no right to decide this but since it is our mansion's internal affairs, it is not easy for those people to get involved in this."

"Since you understand, just do it as you wish. I am going to meet my friends now!" Leaving these words, Shao Hua'an hurriedly strode away.

They both understood.

Seeing her brother leaving, Shao Yanru smiled and walked in the mansion. She had to try harder to persuade Old Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion. Having Rui'an Great Elder Princess as grandma? Her grandma was much more powerful than Shao Wanru's.

As Rui'an Great Elder Princess needed to take care of Shao Wanru, she now temporarily lived in a room in Shao Wanru's courtyard while Shao Wanru lived in Shao Yanru's. Her two servant girls, Qu Le and Yujie also came to serve her. Besides them, there came a new servant girl named Qing'er.

Since she was only a rough maid who was in charge of something inferior, most people didn't pay more attention to her but only thought it was Rui'an Great Elder Princess who sent her to take care of Shao Wanru.

People in Yuhui Nunnery were questioned again and again while even Shao Wanru whose identity was so special was interrogated twice, not to mention others.

Since Yuhui Nunnery had experienced such a misfortune, the number of pilgrims had halved. Those people just wanted to pray to the Buddha tranquilly and were unwilling to get involved in these issues.

One day, Wen Xichi suddenly came to meet her.

Although Shao Wanru didn't leave the courtyard, even the silence room, she was clear about what had happened outside. As Qing'er was able to walk around outside, she could obtain a lot of information. Compared with Yujie and Qu Le, she was less conspicuous.

"Ask him the reason why he comes here." Hearing the message that Wen Xichi asked for meeting her, Shao Wanru paused for a moment and then said to Yujie.

Yujie nodded and quickly she came back, saying, "Master Wen says that he once misunderstood miss and intends to apologize in person."

Putting down the pen in her hand, Shao Wanru stared at an osmanthus tree in the painting. Paused, she said, "Tell him it is okay. There is no need to apologize and just let go of it."

Two years ago, Wen Xichi not only doubted her but even had an ulterior motive to get close to her. With time passing by, she had saved those people whom she tried to save and she had requited favors as she could.

In her last life, Wen Xichi had been involved in trouble and lying in the bed now. Moreover, he didn't rank first in the same exam which Qi Tianyu also joined. Obviously, his life had been changed. Considering the way he treated Gu Xishu, she knew he would not experience the tragedy again. Given that, he now had nothing to do with her.

She had done her best to help him. Since she now was in trouble, if others found out that she had something to do with Wen Xichi, the saying would not do good to them!

She had finished her tasks. And she would have nothing to do with this man no matter what might happen next...

Chapter 495 The Woman Who Ran Away from Her Wedding

Nobody knew when it started to rain. It was only sprinkling but the chill in the air swept away the heat in late summer and early autumn.

Standing at the gate of Yuhui Nunnery, Wen Xichi turned back and stared at the cascading lofty Buddha halls which seemed much more tranquil in the dimness of the rain. However, he clearly knew that it was not the scene in his dream.

In that scene, it was also raining but he was not standing here but lying in the bed next to a window, with a delicate and slender female silhouette beside him. He could not see the woman's face clearly but he could feel that she was feeding him medicine tenderly. Reaching out and touching his forehead, she smiled mildly with her watery eyes shining.

Although he could not figure out who she was, he couldn't stop thinking of Shao Wanru.

When he woke up, he couldn't help associating the female figure with Shao Wanru while he was clear that there actually was no comparison.

Shao Wanru he saw today was the one she was two years ago. Thus, her figure was totally different from the female's, not to mention her weight and height. However, he just could not help thinking that the silhouette belonged to Shao Wanru. Frankly speaking, the female was Shao Wanru, who was two years older than the one she was now. He then intended to take this opportunity of investigating in Yuhui Nunnery to have a look at Shao Wanru and to see whether she was the one in his dream.

In fact, the female seldom appeared when he went to dream. However, since he had dreamed of this same female three times, Wen Xichi began to have great interest in figuring out this matter!

Reaching out and touching his head, he felt that he might think too much when seeing his servant holding an umbrella for him. It was merely a dream and how could he take it seriously. How could he even associate the female silhouette with Shao Wanru who had nothing to do with him? What a joke.

He had always been very sober and bright but his mind must wander now.

Wen Xichi looked back at Yuhui Nunnery. "How is the clear and bright girl who I met two years ago going on now? However, no matter how she is now, I have nothing to do with her. After all, she must become

an extraordinary woman enjoying a high status now. But if she needs my help, I will do my best to support her.”

The matter of misunderstanding the girl aside, he was clear that he should thank her for helping him know who Gu Xishu really was. However, it was unnecessary for him to appreciate her in person. As it was inconvenient for a male and a female to get too close, they might be unable to see each other any longer. Thinking of this, he suddenly felt heavy-hearted namelessly.

But soon he gave a sour grin!

“Master, do we go back to our mansion now?” Seeing Wen Xichi getting on his carriage, the coachman asked with his whip snapped.

“No, Prince Yue’s Mansion!” Wen Xichi paused for a moment and then answered, leaving those messy thoughts behind.

Although Ministry of Justice was in charge of the matter of Yuhui Nunnery, Prince Yue was the one who held the reins. Thus, the ministry should report to Prince Yue.

Actually, it should be the minister of Justice who should report to Prince Yue as however important Wen Xichi was, he was only an ordinary official in Ministry of Justice. But since he was really good at writing, the minister quite favored him. Several days ago, he even had asked Wen Xichi to make a detailed memorial to the throne for this matter and let him send it to Prince Yue who later would also send this memorial to the Emperor.

Significant as the matter of Yuhui Nunnery was, which even shocked the Emperor, nobody figured out the truth in the end. Nobody knew where those men in black came from and what their purpose was. Inside the nunnery, everyone was still there, except those deads.

Minister of Justice himself actually was very frightened as he still didn’t find out the truth of this matter which had been known by the Emperor. Thus, he asked Wen Xichi to present the memorial to Prince Yue first, which, obviously, seemed that Wen Xichi ran errands for him.

The coachman quickly veered the carriage and then headed to the Prince Yue’s Mansion which was located under the mountain.

Wen Xichi lifted up the curtain and his gaze fell upon Yuhui Nunnery spontaneously again. It had been more than 2 years since Shao Wanru had moved into Yuhui Nunnery. In another half a year, she might get down the hill. Given that Duke Xing’s Mansion had always been restless, he could give a hand to her as his mansion was close to hers.

Wen Xichi had been willing to help Shao Wanru in order to pay her back for her warning him of his schemed cousin. However, everything was unpredictable and he didn’t know that he would stand on the opposite side against her.

Yuhui Nunnery became quiet again, which delighted Shao Wanru. Shao Wanru didn’t walk outside until Qing’er told her that all officials of Ministry of Justice had withdrawn from Yuhui Nunnery.

The drizzle made the whole mountain misty and foggy, which made people feel relaxed and delightful and brought them an ethereal quality.

The drizzling scene in Yuhui Nunnery was very beautiful. Standing in the doorway and watching the view outside, she felt peaceful and tranquil.

It was very quiet in the nunnery. Those servant girls were doing their own jobs and nobody came to spoil her mood. However, a continuous bang sound on the door broke the serenity.

“Go and check it,” Shao Wanru said to Qing’er who now was standing in the doorway.

Qing’er answered, then she quickly ran to the door and opened it. The instant she opened it, a person hurriedly broke in which scared her and made her almost fall down. Holding the door, she looked at the woman in front of her, stunned.

“You are?” Qing’er didn’t know her as she just began to serve Shao Wanru and was not familiar with people in the nunnery.

“Is your lady here?” The woman looked confounded. Raising her head and finding Shao Wanru standing in the doorway, she hurriedly ran to her.

“Miss Mo, how are you?” As Yujie knew her, she quickly walked forward and greeted her.

She was Mo Qiuyi, who also lived in Yuhui Nunnery to cultivate herself. She was also the one whom Chu Liuxin mistook. She had been living in the mountain for a long time, even longer than Shao Wanru. It was also said that she was a relative of a nun of Yuhui Nunnery while she had no other relatives in the world so she decided to cultivate herself in Yuhui Nunnery. She had met Shao Wanru for several times, but they seldom had much to do with each other.

“Fifth Miss Shao, could you please do me a favor?” Mo Qiuyi bowed to Shao Wanru and said. She looked pale with her hair sticking to her forehead, which covered her fair appearance.

“May I ask what that is?” Looking her up and down, Shao Wanru answered gently.

“My best hometown friend had planned to accompany me in Yuhui Nunnery for several days, but we didn’t expect that such a thing would happen. Although Ministry of Justice has withdrawn, the interrogation under the mountain is still very strict. May I ask you whether you can let Rui’an Great Elder Princess bring her downhill when she leaves?”

Wiping sweat, Mo Qiuyi gasped and said.

“Didn’t Ministry of Justice find her in the mountain?” Looking at Mo Qiuyi’s anxious face, Shao Wanru asked in a confused way.

If she had been interrogated by Ministry of Justice, she just only needed to answer when being questioned again, as meeting people of Ministry of Justice who guarded the roads under the mountain.

“I let her hide. The reason why she comes here is that she wants me to help her. Her family intends to force her to marry a seventy- or eighty-year-old as his step-wife.” Biting her lips, Mo Qiuyi answered helplessly, “I don’t dare to let others find her. Every time when people come here, I will let her hide in the back mountain.”

The mountain behind Yuhui Nunnery was very large. Although it enjoyed some beautiful scenes, there were still some places where people seldom went even though Yuhui Nunnery was next to it. Some

places which were heavily forested were cliffy and very dangerous. It was also very dangerous for those who enjoyed strong limbs. Moreover, nuns in Yuhui Nunnery seldom went there.

"You let her hide in the mountain behind the nunnery? It is too dangerous. A loss can result in death!" Shao Wanru screamed with shock while her eyes were shining.

"We have no idea. She says if being found and forced to go home, she would rather die than marry the old man!" said Mo Qiuyi helplessly.

No sixteen-year-old girl would be willing to marry a seventy- or even eighty-year-old man as this would drive one crazy.

Shao Wanru paused for a moment and she didn't promise her immediately.

"I heard Fifth Miss Shao is Rui'an Great Elder Princess' granddaughter. If Great Elder Princess can help her, she can definitely get away from the interrogation! I really hope you can do me this favor!" Mo Qiuyi bowed deeply to Shao Wanru and said hurriedly without caring about her messy look.

Shao Wanru seemed to be aware of something while she looked hesitant.

"Fifth Miss Shao, please? You have been cultivating yourself in the mountain and observing mourning for your parents. You would not do nothing to save a girl who has no relative from ruin. If she is caught, she might really try to kill herself! She has been very stern since she was a little girl. And that's why she would run away her wedding. If, if Fifth Miss Shao, you refuse to save her, I fear that she might run to another extreme."

Mo Qiuyi cried bitterly with tears dropping on her face and looked pitiful.

"Miss Mo, I am afraid that it is inconvenient for grandma to do this. I think you'd better wait for another couple of days. When people of my mansion come, I can let them bring your friend downhill. Is that okay?" Shao Wanru asked softly.

"Fifth Miss Shao, I know you are from Duke Xing's Mansion. However, a servant from Duke Xing's Mansion cannot compare to Rui'an Great Elder Princess'. If the latter can help, it must be safer for her."

Mo Qiuyi wiped away her tears and stared at Shao Wanru, begging, "The thing should be done sooner rather than later! If others find that she is with me, she will lose her life!"

"Where are you from? Is that place close to here?" Shao Wanru asked surprisedly.

"Not very far, so I fear that someone will find out the truth. Hope you can help me!" said Mo Qiuyi vaguely.

Even Qu Le felt something was wrong. Walking behind Shao Wanru, she stared at Mo Qiuyi and was suspicious of this neighbor, Miss Mo.

"Miss Mo is too hurried. Is that really urgent? Will that old man go to the mountain and look for her now?"

“Miss Mo, I can’t decide for my grandma. If you can wait for another couple of days, I will plan to let your hometown friend leave here and nobody will find out in case your hometown friend gets hurt,” Shao Wanru said gently with a much milder look.

However, Mo Qiuyi changed her face and stood up, saying, “Fifth Miss Shao, if you can help, then you can help her immediately. But if you are unwilling to help, then just let me know. You don’t have to find these answers to fool me.”

Then, she turned around and ran outside.

“What? Miss, how can she!” Qu Le was so angry that she wanted to stop Mo Qiuyi but this Miss Mo ran too fast and soon disappeared in the distance.

“Miss, what does she want to do? She even can’t wait for another couple of days. Even if her hometown friend doesn’t want to marry the old man, it is unnecessary for her to do this so hurriedly. I heard that her hometown is quite far away from here, so even people there find out her friend is here, they will not come to catch her so fast! Moreover, you have promised her that you can help her.”

Yujie was more incisive but she also got confused.

“I don’t know what she wants to do but since we are in a very special time, we cannot get grandma involved!” Shao Wanru said, looking dark. As she watched the rain, a thought occurred to her. Although the matter had nothing to do with her last life, a trace of coldness appeared in her watery eyes.

Mo Qiuyi was a sophisticated person..

Chapter 496 Did the Former Emperor Have a Posthumous Child?

She was not sure what had happened to Rui’an Great Elder Princess in her last life. As it was a distant memory, she now was a bit confused. She was only a painter who entered the palace to paint for the Emperor’s harem. Moreover, she was a temporary staff so she had no access to those matters of the imperial family.

But she felt that it was because of a woman that the incident happened to Rui’an Great Elder Princess in the end. It seemed that the woman had something to do with Yuhui Nunnery. That day, two palace maids were gossiping aside secretly while she hid in the bushes to avoid meeting domineering and arrogant Shao Yanru. It was during that time that she heard something.

“The former Emperor... Great Elder Princess felt pity for... A woman surnamed Mo confessed... Yuhui Nunnery...” Many pieces of memory were dug out.

Mo Qiuyi had been her neighbor for a long time but she had never thought of this matter. Now, these pieces of memory came to her all of a sudden.

According to her memory and her deduction, Mo Qiuyi might be the one who ratted out Great Elder Princess in her last life!

However, Shao Wanru could not figure out what rebellious thing Great Elder Princess had done and how a stranger could rat her out.

They were not in the same boat. On one hand, this woman, Mo Qiuyi had been in the mountain for years and had been peaceful and docile; on the other hand, she had been helping Yuhui Nunnery handle some little things and had seldom walked out of her own courtyard. Thus, the Great Elder Princess should not have anything to do with her.

However, Mo Qiuyi was too suspicious that she could not think of other people!

Who was her hometown friend? Why did she keep asking Great Elder Princess to take her away? Would she find Great Elder Princess and also beg her to take her hometown friend away in the last life? A terrible incident just happened in Yuhui Nunnery and nothing had been found. Would Mo Qiuyi's hometown friend have something to do with this?

If so, then she must pay more attention to this suspicious so-called hometown friend!

Shao Wanru's eyes looked darker. No matter whether Mo Qiuyi led to the end of Rui'an Great Elder Princess in her last life, this woman was suspicious enough.

"When will grandma come?" Taking a deep breath, Shao Wanru appeased her anxiety with a trace of indifference in her watery eyes.

During these days, Rui'an Great Elder Princess had always come to her and talked with her. They both got along well with each other and they both were content with this peaceful and happy life!

"Great Elder Princess should have come! Let me have a look!" Qing'er quickly ran away. She was the youngest and most lively one among those servant girls. She looked innocent but actually she was sent by Chu Liuchen.

She actually was a servant girl who knew martial arts. Chu Liuchen sent her here to protect Shao Wanru. If something happened, she could resort to others and then secret guards owned by Chu Liuchen, whom Qing'er could also command would come soon.

"Miss, the woman stops Great Elder Princess!" Qing'er's voice suddenly sounded at the entrance.

Shao Wanru strode towards the door while Yujie immediately took an umbrella and held it for Shao Wanru to keep rain off.

It had been drizzling all day long, which dampened the ground. Not tens of feet away from the entrance knelt Mo Qiuyi, looking embarrassed. She was kowtowing, crying and begging Rui'an Great Elder Princess.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess looked indifferent but actually was very kind-hearted. Seeing such a little girl kneeling down in front of her, she could not help asking about her.

Shao Wanru was far away from them. When she walked towards them, she found Mo Qiuyi had raised her head and begun to whisper in Rui'an Great Elder Princess' ear.

Shao Wanru's intuition told her that something was getting wrong. Quickly picking up a stone beside her, she broke her female discipline and threw it to Mo Qiuyi.

Seeing this, Qing'er also picked up another bigger stone and threw it to Mo Qiuyi after weighing it in her hand.

Shao Wanru missed. However, the noise that the stone dropped aside also shocked those people. They looked around and wanted to see who was so rude.

"Great Elder Princess, you have to save her because she is your..." Mo Qiuyi ignored the stone but continued to whisper in Great Elder Princess' ear.

She was interrupted and screamed when feeling hurt. Her body was shot sideways by the stone and she almost fell down.

It was Qing'er!

Seeing her best-loved granddaughter coming, Rui'an Great Elder Princess raised her head and showed a warm smile, then she ignored Mo Qiuyi and didn't care about what Mo Qiuyi had told her at all.

Mo Qiuyi realized that something was wrong! However, even if she wanted to tell Rui'an Great Elder Princess the truth secretly, she had no chance to do that but only could glare at Shao Wanru with hatred. "Shao Wanru ruins my plan again!"

"Grandma, does she ask you to take a person downhill?" Shao Wanru hurriedly walked towards her and asked gently.

"She sounds pitiful!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess lightly touched Shao Wanru's head and when finding her hair was wet, she said, "Why do you come here? It is raining. It is easy to catch a cold if getting wet!"

"I am here to pick you up and she just asked me for the same thing and hoped I can tell you this thing that she wants you to take her fellow downhill. However, since I find that Yuhui Nunnery has been in chaos during these days and nobody knows what happened before. Thus, fearing that you might be involved in troubles, I let her wait for my answer. I told her she can wait for another couple of days until I find some ways to help her. But I didn't expect that she suddenly became angry. She first blamed me and then came to you!"

Glancing at Mo Qiuyi standing aside quietly, Shao Wanru answered.

She now was sure that this woman was complicated. When she walked towards them, she found Mo Qiuyi glaring at her with extreme hatred in her eyes. She was sure about what she just saw and she wondered about the reason why Miss Mo hated her so much.

Was it because she didn't promise her to let her grandma help her fellow? If so, Miss Mo was too petty! How could she hate others so much when the ones refused to do her a favor! Ridiculous!

Shao Wanru said in a very casual way but since Rui'an Great Elder Princess was an imperial member, she quickly realized the true meaning hid in her words. Nodding, she looked at Mo Qiuyi and said, "Sorry, I can't help you."

Before Mo Qiuyi raised her head, she turned around and left with Shao Wanru.

Her dear granddaughter tried to help her but she even blamed Shao Wanru. Rui'an Great Elder Princess thought this woman was not a good person. Moreover, since Yuhui Nunnery just had experienced such an incident which was relevant to the former Emperor's concubines most of whom she was familiar with, it was necessary for her to keep herself away from this matter to avoid arousing suspicion.

In the past, Rui'an Great Elder Princess might act much more casually than now because at that time she always dared to do something that others didn't dare to do. However, now she got Shao Wanru and her little brother so she could not behave like that anymore. She was clear that she could not get involved in some kinds of things, especially those which were related to the former Emperor and the current Emperor.

Seeing Rui'an Great Elder Princess leaving with a large group of people, Mo Qiuyi indignantly resented Shao Wanru. She could have almost accomplished her task but she had not expected that Shao Wanru would come to ruin her plan.

Glaring at Shao Wanru's back resentfully, Mo Qiuyi was clear that she had to find another way. Turning around, she left in the rain and thought she had a plan B which could be implemented...

When going back to the silent room, Shao Wanru helped Great Elder Princess sit down, took over the cup given by Yujie and finally was able to take a sip of water.

"Grandma, what did she talk to you? It seems that she even intended to tell you something secretly, right?" Putting down the cup, Shao Wanru asked curiously. Tilting her head slightly, she now looked quite lovely and very adorable.

Shao Wanru was so cute that Great Elder Princess felt her heart was melting. Then she answered leisurely, "It is about her hometown friend. She wanted me to save her and told me that I would not regret helping her. When she found me unwilling to agree, she then attempted to tell me her hometown friend's identity."

"Her identity?" Shao Wanru suddenly got nervous.

"I don't know. She didn't tell me and I know nothing about her hometown friend's identity. Does a miss of a mansion run away from her wedding? But I don't hear there's a miss going to marry a seventy- or eighty-year-old man as her mansion dislikes her."

Rui'an Great Elder Princess found it very funny and ridiculous. She was also very confused about this thing and how this woman found her.

Seeing her kneeling in the mud, Great Elder Princess did feel sympathetic to her and even wanted to promise her once.

Thanks to her granddaughter, since Shao Wanru warned her, she realized that it was not appropriate to do this, especially at this moment. Since the former Emperor's concubines were killed, she was the one who would be paid special attention to because of her royal blood.

Had she really promised to help her, she might be put at a disadvantage when something was found out in the future.

The less trouble, the better. Since Zhuozhuo and her little brother were still young, they might be severely bullied by others without her support. Considering this, Great Elder Princess thought it necessary to be more careful in the future.

"Grandma, why would people aim at those concubines? They have no child, don't they?" Rotating the teacup in front of her, Shao Wanru said with her shimmery eyes blinking which made her look much

lovely. However, soon a trace of darkness flashed upon her eyes. The intuition told her that this matter would not be easy.

Even so, she had no idea about this issue at all. However, her grandma who seemed to know a lot about this matter might know something.

“Neither do I. A group of concubines without a child. Or does one of them give birth to the former Emperor’s posthumous child? Well, it can’t be!” Shaking her head causally, Great Elder Princess replied as she did know nothing about the reason why someone would choose those women as his or her goal.

Chu Liuchen was the former Emperor’s only son. Since he had always been sick, he could do nothing even if someone wanted to make use of him.

“Grandma, are you sure that the former Emperor only had Prince Chen?” Although Shao Wanru seemed normal, she was a bit shocked inside actually.

“Of course, only one. The former Emperor had no other child except Prince Chen. Thus, it is totally meaningless to save those concubines!” Rui’an Great Elder Princess sneered. Now she spoke as the imperial princess. Thinking of those who conceived a conspiracy, she could not help laughing at them.

Shao Wanru was silent with her eyes squinted tightly. There was a person in her last life but she was not sure whether this one was the former Emperor’s child. They just said that the person might have royal blood but the imperial palace had not acknowledged.

If there was a posthumous child, why didn’t the current Emperor acknowledge? If not, then why those people treat the person so nicely?

Shao Wanru was very regretful for dying too early as she could not figure out everything! Since she still had memory loss, she only had a smattering of those matters with her head in the clouds.

“Miss? Duke Xing’s Mansion comes again,” said Qing’er in the doorway.

Chapter 497 Going too far! Old Madam 欽樅 Gift!

It was Nanny Yu who served Old Madam. 欽湏ifth Miss, Old Madam sends me to see you and to inform you that she will come to Yuhui Nunnery to meet you after a few days. Besides, she will worship Buddha and pray for the nunnery. Here are the birthday gifts she gives you, Fifth Miss, 欽?said Nanny Yu after she presented those gifts to Shao Wanru with a bright smile.

Although she had been serving Old Madam for a very long time and even enjoyed a relatively high status in the mansion, she now still treated Shao Wanru very reverently, especially there sat Rui欽欒n Great Elder Princess who was glaring at her.

欽湏ow thoughtful your Old Madam is. It seems that she doesn欽樅 worry that her preparation will cut short your Fifth Miss 欽?normal span of life. 欽?Rui欽欒n Great Elder Princess sneered.

Hearing this, Nanny Yu felt not at par. Rui欽欒n Great Elder Princess had always been in bad terms with Old Madam of Duke Xing欽樅 Mansion. This situation didn欽樅 vanish with time passing by but even became much more terrible.

Id Madam has not seen Fifth Miss for long and she misses her so much. Moreover, since such a thing just happened in Yuhui Nunnery, she worries about Fifth Miss. Thus, she plans to celebrate Fifth Miss birthday and then she can have a look at Fifth Miss. Nanny Yu tried to explain with a smile.

he is a young girl. She now cultivates herself in Yuhui Nunnery and observes mourning for her parents. But according to your Old Madam plan, she wants to make this birthday as noisy and messy as possible. Does she even want the whole city to know this just in order to make Zhuozhuo unable to live a tranquil life in Yuhui Nunnery?

Great Elder Princess sounded much colder.

Nanny Yu face changed. She had talked to Old Madam in a euphemistical way that it was inappropriate to hold a birthday party for Fifth Miss who was observing mourning for her parents.

However, Old Madam had listened to First Miss and thought Yuhui Nunnery was a good place to arrange the party and the time was perfect as she could come to see her biological granddaughter by taking this opportunity that Shao Wanru birthday was coming and such a terrible thing just happened in Yuhui Nunnery. Unlike the saying that Duke Xing Mansion disliked Fifth Miss Shao, now it obviously seemed that Old Madam was very kind to Fifth Miss and she did like her.

When you go back, you just tell your Old Madam that if she really wants to treat Zhuozhuo sincerely, just don't mention the birthday party. She can choose whether she wants to send Zhuozhuo gifts.

Seeing Nanny Yu face, Rui Great Elder Princess immediately understood. Slightly smiling and looking cold, she glanced at those gifts lying on the ground and said, Take these things away. How can Zhuozhuo wear those gorgeous clothes? Or did your First Miss wear these kinds of clothes when living here?

Shao Wanru gaze fell upon those gifts when hearing what Rui Great Elder Princess said, and on the top of them were Several rolls of brocades. They both had the brightest colors, brightest red and brightest green. Since these colors actually quite fit young girls like Shao Wanru, it thus could not say that the colors were totally wrong.

However, it was not suitable for this place.

Pulling lightly the dark robe, Shao Wanru curved her mouth into an ironic smile.

The color of her lips was much brighter than that of others. Even if she didn't wear lipstick, others would still think her lips were very fascinating and enchanting. If she did put on these gorgeous clothes, nobody would believe that she was observing mourning for her parents and was cultivating herself.

When Shao Yanru left the mountain, the first thing she did was to build a good reputation for herself. Now when she was about to leave, the very first thing Shao Yanru intended to do was to make her notorious.

What a sophisticated woman who thought everyone was a fool!

Had she not noticed the brocade in the box and had she received these rolls of brocades, the clothes before which didn't belong to her would become hers.

Eyelashes fluttering, she glanced at the eight servant girls behind Nanny Yu. What a big group. It seemed that there must be many more people on the way to here.

But, they are only a small part of the gifts Old Madam gives Fifth Miss. If I take them back after bringing them here, I am afraid that Old Madam will get angry, Nanny Yu replied anxiously. She then turned around and talked to Shao Wanru, Fifth Miss, can you just receive them? Even if you dislike them, you cannot embarrass Old Madam. One should not say no to things that the elderly gives.

Nanny Yu, I like them but it is not appropriate to receive these kinds of brocades in Yuhui Nunnery. If Old Madam really cares about me, she will understand!

Shao Wanru smiled coldly but didn't show it on her face. Squinting a little bit, she answered in a gentle manner.

If she was concerned about her, she would know that it was inappropriate to give her gifts at this time. If not, then there was no need to pretend that she liked her.

Shao Wanru explained it in a very direct way.

Just go. Servant! Send them out! Rui's Great Elder Princess gave an order without hesitation. Nanny Gao who stood beside her waved her hands and soon several servant girls came and put away those gifts on the ground.

There came also eight servant girls!

Nanny Gao took Nanny Yu's hand and sent her out of the door with a smile. Although she looked gentle, she pushed Nanny Yu out in a not gentle way.

Seeing Nanny Yu outside the room, the eight servant girls of Duke Xing's Mansion looked at each other and then looked at Rui's Great Elder Princess who looked serious and indifferent. They were scared by her expression, quickly lowered their heads and hurriedly left the room.

Nanny Yu, this way. Great Elder Princess is in a bad mood. You better leave now. Let me send you out. Pretending to be kind and warm-hearted, Nanny Gao took Nanny Yu's hand and tried to force her to walk outside the room.

Nanny Yu tried to struggle but when hearing her words, she gave up and left with taking Nanny Gao's hand very resignedly.

Since Great Elder Princess was in a bad mood, even Old Madam didn't dare to provoke her. If she kept asking to stay, she would die immediately.

Duke Xing欽樾 Mansion sent nine servant girls here, including Nanny Yu. Now including Nanny Yu and Nanny Gao, there were eighteen servants sending people from Duke Xing欽樾 Mansion to the gate of Yuhui Nunnery. The pomp was much significant than that of Duke Xing欽樾 Mansion, which amazed people around. Some had seen Nanny Yu walk in and now they saw her walking out with gifts and Nanny Gao who was sending her out.

Many people started to talk about this matter. Some people who were well-informed immediately realized that it was Duke Xing欽樾 Mansion who tried to send gifts to Fifth Miss Shao who cultivated herself and observed mourning for her parents in Yuhui Nunnery. When seeing those bright colors, they all thought Fifth Miss Shao could not leave this gorgeous stuff behind her mind even though she claimed she wanted to remain silent. However, seeing those brocades being given back, the person who prepared these must have no idea about Fifth Miss!

Although they didn欽樾 figure out who sent these gifts, they thought the one from Duke Xing欽樾 Mansion was really impolite and stupid.

After Nanny Yu was brought outside the room by Nanny Gao, Shao Wanru stood up and took out the gorgeous clothes from the box aside. She turned back and walked towards Rui欽驤n Great Elder Princess with showing it to her grandma, saying, 欽滄randma, do you think that the collar is made up of Colorful Yarn?欽?

Great Elder Princess looked at the box at the corner in astonishment and then watched the clothes in Shao Wanru欽樾 hands carefully. Suddenly, she felt sympathetic for her. Shao Wanru was at a perfect age now and was really pretty but now she had to stay in Yuhui Nunnery and could not wear her favorite clothes but hide them. Thinking about this, she felt more resentful towards Old Madam of Duke Xing欽樾 Mansion.

Without the old fool, her dear granddaughter would not become like this!

欽滄randma? Don欽樾 you know either?欽?Not noticing Great Elder Princess was absent, Shao Wanru then thought she didn欽樾 know how this collar was made or she didn欽樾 recognize the Colorful Yarn as it was not obvious. Then she asked again when lightly pulling her sleeves.

This time, she brought Great Elder Princess欽?mind back. She first touched the collar and then lifted up against the sun. She finally was sure after a while. 欽淚t is Colorful Yarn but why there was just little Colorful Yarn made in the collar! If you like it, I will ask Empress Dowager tomorrow whether she has Colorful Yarn and I will make a suit for you!欽?

Shao Wanru was stunned but soon she realized that Great Elder Princess misunderstood. She chuckled.

欽滄hy? Am I wrong?欽?Rui欽驤n Great Elder Princess was confused because of her reaction and then she looked at Yujie who was also giggling.

Great Elder Princess, it doesn't belong to my miss but we found it in the box. Before we came here, the box has existed and been locked. Once my miss asked me to break it open and then we found this dress in the box.

Yujie hurried to explain with a smile.

There was a lot of information in her words. Hearing that Rui Great Elder Princess looked darker. Picking up the clothes, she checked carefully and then her face turned serious all of a sudden.

huozhuo, the First Miss of Duke Xing Mansion is vicious!

ou also think that? So do I! However, I have no idea why she hates me and I have even never met her before!

Shao Wanru organized her expression and said in confusion. When Shao Yanru came that day, Shao Wanru hid herself, which meant that they didn't meet each other actually.

everyone in Duke Xing Mansion is vicious! Like father, like son! Her mother is venomous and no wonder her daughter would also be such a malicious person!

Rui Great Elder Princess sneered with hatred towards Duke Xing Mansion. Shaking the clothes in her hand, she said, he piece of clothes looks good. The brocades and this piece of clothes seem to be made up of the same material. The Colorful Yarn used in the collar makes it much expensive. Although there is only a little yarn here, it is enough as the whole imperial palace doesn't have much Colorful Yarn. How rich Duke Xing Mansion is!

What do you mean? Shao Wanru nodded. Since she knew it was made up of Colorful Yarn, she was much surer that Shao Yanru planned this.

Let me take this piece of clothes and throw it back to the old fool! Let her know what kind of the person her favorite granddaughter whom she has praised for decades is! Rui Great Elder Princess suddenly stood up and was about to leave.

However, Shao Wanru stopped her. Grandma, even if you show her this dress, she will not think that this piece of clothes belongs to Shao Yanru but will only feel that I, or you try to plot against Shao Yanru! Shao Wanru rolled her eyes and slightly opened her mouth. A clean smile appeared on her face. What about this? Grandma, can you look for a lock, a very old lock and have a look at a gift with me?

Chapter 498 - Bring Buddha Offerings to the Mountain!

"What do you find?" Hands behind, Chu Liuchen stood next to a window with his eyes looking peaceful and mild. The sunlight in the morning was not hot and the oblique band of sunlight shone on the window.

It was a good place as people outside could not notice this extra hidden attic with the gradient eave sheltering. Although people outside could not see it, people inside could see the view outside very clearly.

"Nothing. They said nobody is absent. The palace just sent people to check again secretly," Xiao Xuanzi said reverently and handed over a confidential letter.

Chu Liuchen took and looked through it. The letter was a name list which included all names of the former Emperor's concubines who were locked in the nunnery. Some with a high status were locked with their servants followed while others were grounded there alone.

His gaze fell upon several names at the bottom of the list. Then he turned around and put it on the desk. He wrote on the paper casually with a pen in his hand and then he knocked the table while pointing the list with his chin, saying, "Just these."

"Yes, Your Highness. I am about to finish the task!" Xiao Xuanzi stepped forward when putting the confidential letter into his sleeve. However, he said when he was about to leave, "Your Highness, a girl in the palace, well, she, she wants to see you."

He pointed outside the window across which it was the imperial palace.

"I don't feel good. Send her away," answered Chu Liuchen coldly.

"But, what about the soup?" Hesitant, Xiao Xuanzi asked. He was very familiar with this scene which would be played all these days. He also knew that his master would refuse but as his servant, he had to report to his master.

"As usual, dump it." Sitting in a chair, Chu Liuchen picked up a document and began to read. There was no other expression on his calm and cold face. Even though he just said those words, he didn't look as cold as he actually was, which Xiao Xuanzi was very clear about.

He tried to persuade him but when noticing Chu Liuchen's expression, he gave up and left resignedly as smacking his lips. After all, he didn't know how to persuade his master.

Standing under the attic, he then headed to the side entrance which was connected to a palace gate.

Near the side door stood a beautiful palace maid with a food basket in her hand. Seeing Xiao Xuanzi coming, she quickly ran to him and asked, "Your Highness' answer?"

"You'd better take it back. My master says he will dump it if bringing this into the room," said Xiao Xuanzi, staring at the palace maid with a resigned expression.

The palace maid looked sad and the basket fell down. But soon she picked it up and brought it to Xiao Xuanzi, sobbing, "I make this by myself. I, I got up very early in the morning and made this by myself. If Your Highness doesn't like it, then dump it. At least, I have brought it here and Your Highness knows that!"

After that, the palace maid wiped away her tear and left directly.

Looking at her figure and the basket in his hand now, Xiao Xuanzi shook his head very resignedly. Then he brought it back and dumped it according to his master's order.

After dumping the soup, he had to deal with a series of affairs. He didn't expect that Yuhui Nunnery would witness such an incident so his master might have to rearrange the plan. As for the stuff which he had to send to Fifth Miss Shao, he needed to find a more suitable one.

"This lock seems to be very old, isn't it?" Shocked, Shao Wanru stared at the closed lock which was hung on the wall. Actually, there was not only a lock but also its old chain. The conjunction of some parts had become a little rusty, which would definitely make people think it was an old lock.

Compared with the two locks Rui'an Great Elder Princess gave her, this was much more suitable.

"This one is much like a lock which has been used for two or three years!" Watching the lock carefully and then the two locks Great Elder Princess brought, Yujie found this one was definitely better than the one lying at the corner. It seemed to have a history of two or three years but it wasn't too rusty when compared with those locks Great Elder Princess took.

Great Elder Princess brought two locks; one was too rusty while the other was not old enough which didn't seem like an old lock. However, the one Chu Liuchen took was in sync with what Shao Wanru thought.

"Send the highly rusty one back to grandma. Throw the other lock sent by grandma and the lock before deep into the mountain!" Shao Wanru was content with the lock and then said.

"Miss, why not send two locks back to Great Elder Princess?" Yujie asked confusedly.

"If we send both these two locks back, when the plan begins to be implemented, grandma has to ask the source of the lock!" Shao Wanru smiled and meant it.

Rolling her eyes, Yujie quickly understood and immediately picked up the highly rusty one, saying, "Miss, now I would let the servant from Great Elder Princess' mansion bring back this one and leave the other one here!"

Great Elder Princess left Yuhui Nunnery yesterday but today she sent a servant to bring gifts to Shao Wanru, among which there hid two old locks.

The servant of Great Elder Princess' mansion was still waiting outside. If Shao Wanru was not satisfied, it was necessary to find another suitable one according to Great Elder Princess.

"Off you go," said Shao Wanru, nodding.

Yujie walked out with the lock but soon came back with her eyebrows tightened. "Miss, Old Madam brings some Buddha offerings to Yuhui Nunnery and wants you to take care of those things these days."

Buddha offering was oblation prepared by a mansion. They had to be put in a nunnery for a few days. If people from that mansion who brought to the sacred place took care of it, it would seem much more sincere and useful by lighting the candles in person everyday than only putting the offerings in the nunnery.

The instant her grandma just left, then there came people from Duke Xing's Mansion. How anxious they seemed to be!

"Nobody else?" Lifting up a corner of her mouth, Shao Wanru smiled with a trace of sarcasm in her enchanting eyes.

"It is said that First Miss is about to take care of these offerings but she can't come because of something else. Old Madam has made her wish to Buddha before so she claims that she intends to send

these offerings in order to redeem her vow to the Buddha. Since you are here, she then doesn't send others to come. Old Madam will come here to present her votive offerings in a few days."

Yujie said.

"Let her in." Shao Wanru paused for a moment and then said.

Yujie nodded and then she brought an old maid inside.

The old maid first bowed to Shao Wanru with a smile after entering the room. The instant she saw Fifth Miss Shao's face, she was amazed by it. The whole Duke Xing's Mansion had believed First Miss Shao was the pretties one and had always been proud of it. However, when she saw clearly Fifth Miss Shao, she realized that First Miss Shao could not compare with hers.

Seeing the old maid staring at her miss, Yujie gave out a low cough unpleasantly.

"Are you only in charge of sending the Buddha offerings to the mountain?" Shao Wanru looked the old maid up and down and found she didn't know her before. Thus, she asked softly.

The old maid was shocked by Yujie and quickly organized her mind. Hearing Shao Wanru's question, she smiled and said, "Old Madam means since you are here, she decides not to send other people here. After all, she wants to redeem a vow to the Buddha for the former heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua."

Since her parents were mentioned, Shao Wanru could do nothing but agree!

A trace of darkness flashed upon her watery eyes. "Which Buddha?"

"The most famous Buddha temple in Yuhui Nunnery. You only need to offer an incense to Buddha respectively in the morning and in the evening," answered the old maid.

There were many Buddha temples in Yuhui Nunnery. While the most famous one, or in other words, the most efficacious one was not the biggest one but the one with a medium size. Coincidentally, it was the temple where Shao Wanru unmasked Huiqing two years ago.

At that time, Prime Minister Zhang held the religious rite right there.

"Does she need to hold a religious rite?" Shao Wanru nodded.

"Yes. When Old Madam gets better these days, she will come here to hold the rite with people in the mansion followed." The old maid paused for a moment and then answered.

"So, it has not been decided yet?" Keenly noticing her hesitation, Shao Wanru quickly asked.

"According to Old Madam, well, it can be sure that she will attend the rite but whether other madams and ladies will come, it has not been decided."

The old maid didn't expect Fifth Miss would be so sensitive so she had to answer directly.

Third Madam claimed that she was not well so she would not attend the religious rite while her two daughters also refused to come, saying that they needed to take care of their mother. According to Old Madam and Madam of Duke Xing, they had planned to hold a grand religious rite which attempted to let

the whole capital city focus on it. However, because of the Third Madam, the plan would not seem as perfect and harmonious as it used to be.

Third Madam had been in a position of weakness but two years ago, Third Madam suddenly became strong and even dared to go against Madam of Duke Xing. Every time when this happened, Madam of Duke Xing would always give in, and even Old Madam turned a blind eye to this situation.

Servants in the mansion were quite good at judging the situation. When they found Third Madam getting strong, they immediately didn't dare to ignore and even look down upon her.

"What else?" Seeing the old maid's hesitant look, Shao Wanru knew she must hide something and then decided to keep asking.

"Well, Third Madam is in poor health so we have to take this into consideration at that time." The old maid was very embarrassed but she bit the bullet and answered.

"Third Aunt is in poor health?" Shao Wanru suddenly seemed to realize something. A slight smile appeared on her face. It seemed that Third Madam was not stupid. She did catch Madam of Duke Xing tripping by using the trace left by Qin Yuru.

To turn down Old Madam when she decided to offer incense to Buddha and redeem a vow not only needed one's courage but also confidence. Without confidence, then one should catch the person tripping.

"Third Madam doesn't fully recover and she always gets sick after the accident. Old Madam and Second Madam are quite worried about her. Even though we have invited many physicians, she doesn't get better." The old maid took a deep sigh and hurried to explain. Madam of Duke Xing also asked her to answer in this way.

Shao Wanru nodded and stopped asking. She gave a sign to Yujie and then Yujie brought the old maid away and asked her about something detailed. After that, she came back and reported to Shao Wanru. Later, she let the old maid decorate the temple with people.

"Miss, it is said that Pushan Nun will be in charge of this religious rite for Old Madam," Yujie said until the old maid had left.

"Isn't Pushan Nun dedicated to Buddhism? Doesn't she even seldom walk out of her Zen room?" Shao Wanru squinted and found the thing had become much more interesting.

"I am also confused and then I asked her. She told me that it is because of First Miss Shao," answered Yujie.

"Good, let's have a look." Thinking for a moment, Shao Wanru stood up. She had not met this Pushan Nun yet. Was she really a person who had no desire?

Chapter 499 Eight Pairs of Silver Bracelets

Though having been in the Yuhui Nunnery for a long time, Shao Wanru had never met this Pushan Nun. On the one hand, the nun basically didn't deal with this kind of thing. She only focused on Buddhism and seldom went out in her daily life. On the other hand, Shao Wanru did not go out either, and she almost stayed in the back of the Yuhui Nunnery.

Most pilgrims were also forbidden in that place.

Since Pushan Nun had accepted the mission this time, she would definitely be there, because today was the first day to lay Buddha's offerings.

When Shao Wanru arrived at the Buddha Hall, the servant girls and old maids of Duke Xing's Mansion were busy with their work. There were seven or eight people. They were all stunned when they saw Shao Wanru. After Yujie said that this was the Fifth Miss, they all stepped back politely.

Fifth Miss had no parents in the mansion, and she was not favored by Old Madam. However, Fifth Miss had a noble grandmother, who would not stand by to watch Fifth Miss being bullied. If she made trouble, Old Madam would not be able to stand it!

Shao Wanru entered the hall with Yujie and saw Pushan Nun in the main hall.

Pushan Nun seems to be in her mid-forties. She was very beautiful and had the same kind of elegance as Shao Wanru. Even though she dressed in plain clothes, she also had a kind of softness that was condensed over the years, which made people feel relaxed.

Her beautiful hair had long been shaved clean. Even so, the impression she left on Shao Wanru was different from those from the other Nuns. There were wrinkles at the corners of her eyes, but they can still show her beauty before. Not only was she beautiful, but if she was in the nuns' group, she could still be seen at first glance. Even if she stood together with Mingqiu Nun, who had the outstanding looking, no one would ignore her existence.

She was a Miss from an aristocratic family. She had no choice but to enter the nunnery because of coming down in the world. However, her temperament was still very different from those of ordinary people.

Anyone who saw her would admire this Pushan Nun that she was indeed a Miss from a century-old aristocratic family.

Huiqing, standing next to Pushan Nun, had already seen Shao Wanru. She was stunned first, and then she quickly whispered something to Pushan Nun who closed her eyes meditatively.

Pushan Nun nodded slightly. She opened her eyes and looked at Shao Wanru calmly.

"I will have to trouble you this time, Master Pushan!" Shao Wanru came over and greeted her with a smile. Her eyes were bright as she saluted sideways.

Master Pushan smiled and made a bow with her hands clasped in front. "Fifth Miss Shao, you are too polite!"

Then, she closed her eyes again and lowered her head. The Buddha beads glided in her hands slowly and she continued to recite scriptures.

"Fifth Miss Shao, if you have anything to ask, you can tell me. Master usually does not react to affairs." Huiming smiled at Shao Wanru kindly.

Huiqing lowered her head and began to recite scriptures along with Pushan Nun.

Shao Wanru asked in a low voice, "Sorry to trouble you, Pushan Nun. Will you come here every day to recite scriptures? When will you come?"

"Master will bring us here every day, but the time is not settled," Huiming said with a smile.

"Sorry to trouble you all!" Shao Wanru said and walked to the Buddha statue in the middle. Huiming followed her with her hands folded slightly and said with a smile, "Fifth Miss Shao, if you think there is something placed in an inappropriate way, you can place it again after telling me."

"Is there a different way of placement?" Shao Wanru looked curiously at the things placed by several servant girls and old maids.

Most of them were pastries and fruits, and some offerings were cloths, and other things were like small houses and pavilions.

They were exquisitely made and placed according to certain standards.

"Yes, it's different. First Miss chose one at will before, but if Fifth Miss is not satisfied with it, you can choose again to put them in a different way."

Huiming took out a book-like object from behind the Buddha statue. Opening it, one could see the different ways to place offerings. Moreover, there were also special names with blessing words, and they were all very good names.

Shao Wanru saw the topmost one. Indeed, it was the pattern that was placed right now. It was also the simplest one, so obviously Shao Yanru had pointed it casually.

What surprised Shao Wanru the most was that the paintings of the placement. They were excellent and could even be said to be perfect.

"When First Miss Shao visited Fifth Miss last time, she also visited Master by the way. At that time, she mentioned this matter, so Master asked me to show First Miss this album. First Miss didn't look at it carefully and just pointed out the placement on the top. She also said that if Fifth Miss is not satisfied with it, you could choose another one."

Huiming explained with a smile.

Shao Wanru flipped down a few pages. Indeed, every following piece was more exquisite than the one on the top. And the placement was more beautiful too, and it immediately outdid the one on the top.

It was clear which one was better!

Shao Wanru flipped through a few more pages, and finally chose the most outstanding one in the album. It was obviously the best placement and the name "Ten Blessings As You Wish" was also good!

Huiming had been following her all the time. When she saw that Shao Wanru turned to this page again, she knew that Shao Wanru was very satisfied with this one, and immediately said with a smile, "Fifth Miss, you have good taste. This one is indeed the best. If you choose this, I will arrange it. There are many people from your mansion, so it will be very fast to rearrange these things!"

"It is almost set. If I rearrange... I'm afraid this is not good!" Shao Wanru looked up and saw that more than half of the offerings had been placed.

"Fifth Miss, you're too polite. It's originally the matter of our nunnery. We have to satisfy you, Fifth Miss. I heard that this is still for your parents. If you change it, it's also reasonable. Others will only say that you are filial and careful and you care about your parents!"

Huiming smiled and said with a kind attitude. It was just like the first time Shao Wanru had met Pushan Nun. No one could find her imperfect side.

"Forget it. It was chosen by Big Sister, and they have already been placed in this way." Shao Wanru shook her hand and returned the album to Huiming.

"Fifth Miss, it's really not troublesome. But if Fifth Miss insists on it, then forget it. If Fifth Miss feels that it's not suitable in a few days, you can tell me and I'll definitely ask someone to rearrange them." Huiming seemed to want to persuade her again, but she changed her mind after saying a few words.

Yujie followed Shao Wanru and looked at Huiming from head to toe. This Huiming Nun was really good. She was not only cordial, but also gentle and graceful. It seemed that whatever Shao Wanru asked her to do or wanted to do, she would do as Shao Wanru asked, and she was not reluctant at all.

She was more sophisticated than Puyu Nun, who was a nun familiar with pilgrims. Of course, the reception nuns in Jingxin Monastery couldn't even be compared with her!

"Thank you, Huiming Nun!" Shao Wanru nodded with a smile.

"If Fifth Miss is all right, I'll go and accompany Master to recite scriptures!" Huiming put the album again behind the Buddha statue and said with a smile.

"Help yourself, Nun!" Shao Wanru nodded.

Huiming went back to Pushan Nun and closed her eyes. She followed Pushan Nun to recite scriptures again, with a peaceful look on her face.

But Huiqing, who had sat down earlier, seemed to be a little uneasy. She slightly twisted her body and opened her eyes to look at the Buddha beads in her hand. After turning a few beads, she closed her eyes again.

Shao Wanru turned around in the main hall and then went to the side hall.

The arrangement in the side hall was very similar to that in the religious rite in Prime Minister Zhang's Chambers. The side hall was for the owner's family to rest in, and the tables and chairs were placed in a very standard manner. The other side was a vacant place. If the owner needed some sundries, he could put it in this side hall.

Most of the offerings for Buddha brought by Duke Xing's Mansion were placed here.

There were a lot of things brought here, and they had not completely been put in order. Some servant girls cleaned them up, and some old maids carefully took them to the main hall.

They were in a rush and a muddle!

When the servant girls and old maids saw Shao Wanru coming over, they all put down the things in their hands and saluted.

Shao Wanru waved them off, giving a sign to be free. Then, she walked over and looked at the offerings casually.

There were so many offerings. Those having not been sorted out were piled up in disorder. Shao Wanru's eyes suddenly fell on several pairs of bracelets. They were silver bracelets.

There were exquisite designs with the same thickness. Upon closer inspection, one could see that the designs were the same and there were eight pairs in total.

The silver bracelets looked a little fat, but they didn't have big circles. It seemed to be for children, and looked a bit old.

Seeing Shao Wanru notice these eight bracelets, Yujie pulled the old maid who had reported to Shao Wanru and asked her, "What's this?"

"These bracelets are worn by the Misses and Childes in their childhood. Old Madam also thinks that they should also be the offerings!" The old maid turned her head to look at them and answered with a smile.

"Won't they be brought back in the future?" Shao Wanru looked at the exquisite and beautiful paper-made pavilion in front of her and asked curiously.

These paper-made pavilions and stuff were going to be burned.

"Of course not. It's just good words for a blessing purpose. On the other hand, it's also to bless the Misses and Childes' safety and gentleness." The old maid explained with a smile.

She reached out and picked up a pair of small silver bracelets and said, "This pair is First Miss's, so it is placed in the first place. You see, there is a small print on it, and it's First Miss's name!"

Yujie took it and handed it to Shao Wanru. She indeed saw a small "Ru" character on the side of the bracelet, so this was worn by Shao Yanru in her childhood.

Shao Wanru put down the bracelets and picked up another pair with great interest. "Is this my bracelets? But I have never worn them before. Do I also have them?"

The old maid looked at the pair of bracelets in Shao Wanru's hands and said in a hurry, "Fifth Miss's bracelets do exist. When Master Hao was born, Old Madam remade everything. This pair of bracelets were prepared by Old Madam early. Now it happens to belong to Fifth Miss."

They quite matched the longevity lock before. They had been prepared for her early, but one had been sent to her and the other was still in Old Madam's hands.

She reached out and took Shao Yanru's bracelet and put it together with the one which could be viewed as hers. They were exactly the same, because they were made of the same mold. Both the patterns and the style showed no partiality. She could also see that the "Ru" character in her name was newly carved.

Shao Wanru looked through it carefully for a while, and the smile on the old maid's face almost turned dry after such a long time. Shao Wanru put down the bracelets in her hand and glanced at the old maid.

She didn't know whether it was because the old maid was tired after working in the morning. After all, the old maid sweated on her forehead for this short while...

Chapter 500 A Stained Delicate Album of Painting

Shao Wanru casually flipped through some offerings. There were some pastries that could not be placed long and they had to be replaced the next two days. The replaced pastries were considered to be blessed because they had been placed in front of Buddha. People from the mansion would replace them with new ones and take them back to share them with the people in the mansion.

As for those paper-made things like pavilions and towers, they would be burned when the religious rite was finished.

Those light-colored clothes would be donated to nuns in Yuhui Nunnery.

Some gold and silver jewelry to get good fortune and counteract evil force, just like those pairs of silver bracelets, would definitely be taken back. Even though these Childes and Misses couldn't wear them now, they could still be put in the closet. It would be a great blessing to hand them down to their children in the future.

Shao Wanru was really curious. She picked up this to ask from time to time and touched another one to ask about it. Seeing this, the smile on the old maid's face became vivid and the sweat on her face had dried. She followed Shao Wanru and answered questions gallantly.

It took about two hours for her to accompany Shao Wanru to walk around. The placement in the hall had almost been done. It was unknown when Pushan Nun and her two disciples, Huiqing and Huiming, had left.

Shao Wanru asked the old maid to do her own work, and she took Yujie to walk around casually.

A servant girl moved around with a few pieces of objects. It seemed that she couldn't move them for the moment, so a nun in the nunnery helped to move them. The things around them were squeezed, and they didn't notice that there was a plate of pastries on the side. With a clang, the plate of pastries fell to the ground heavily.

The plate where the pastries were placed broke into pieces.

The servant girl and the nun were shocked and took a few steps back. Then they knocked over several things. Fortunately, these things were not porcelain.

"Ah, what's wrong with you? Why don't you watch carefully? Why did you fall down?" The old supervisor maid rushed over in a hurry and said angrily while asking people to clean it up.

The servant girl was shocked and looked at Shao Wanru fearfully. She breathed a sigh of relief when she saw that Shao Wanru had not noticed her.

"Nanny, I... I will be careful next time!"

"Be careful next time? See what you have done? Get out and kneel at the door for two hours!" the supervisor said in a bad mood.

The servant girl did not dare to talk back. She put down the objects in her hands and walked to the door of the main hall, feeling wronged. She was about to kneel down.

"Kneel down on the other side. How can you kneel in front of the door?" the supervisor said angrily.

The servant girl wiped her tears and knelt to the side.

Although the nun in the Yuhui Nunnery was young, she seemed to be a clever one. She stepped back in a hurry, saw that the supervisor maid did not notice her, so she turned around and ran away.

She was not the servant of Duke Xing's Mansion, so the supervisor couldn't punish her and just turned a blind eye at this time.

"Fifth Miss, excuse me. You see, how careless this girl is. She made all these things fall out. Even Buddha would blame us then!"

The supervisor bowed to Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru obeyed and stepped back, but she asked Yujie to fetch something. The collision just now knocked out the album that Huiming had shown her before.

She picked up the album and stood aside, looking at it carefully.

The old maid carefully asked a group of servant girls and old maids to clean up the things broken just now, and then she took the rest of the people out.

Immediately, the Buddha hall became quiet.

Yujie saw that Shao Wanru was reading carefully, so she immediately looked at the door and asked curiously, "Miss, do you want to put them in another way?"

"In the past, were there so many rules for the placement in Jingxin Monastery?" Shao Wanru glanced at Yujie.

Yujie thought for a moment and shook her head honestly. "Maybe the monastery in the capital city is much more exquisite than our Jingxin Monastery. We placed things there casually and had no albums of painting. Even if there are albums, there are not so many rules in the album."

Yujie said as she pinched the album of painting and muttered to herself, "It must cost a lot to make such a good album of painting! Shouldn't such a good album of painting be in the hands of the Master of Nunnery or the greeting nun? In any case, when Pushan Nun left just now, she should take this album of painting away!"

Shao Wanru's hand paused. She suddenly stopped carefully reading the album of painting, lifted her head from the album and pulled its material. She was good at painting in both her last and present lives. She had studied paper, so how could she not know that this kind of paper was of great quality?

She was thinking just now that this album of painting was so vivid.

Now she knew that on one hand the artist had very good painting skills. On the other hand, it was because the material used for painting was very good.

Not only was the paper quite good, but the ink was also of the best quality.

Was the Yuhui Nunnery in the capital city so rich now?

Even so, it was impossible to do this outside in a glittering way. Every object and scenery in the Yuhui Nunnery was very beautiful, but it also followed the calm and indifferent standards of the nunnery in the former days. This album of painting was completely different from the usual style of Yuhui Nunnery.

She brought it to her nose and sniffed it. The smell of ink wafted through the air, which meant that it had not been a long time before being done. Could it be that it was newly made and coincidentally used by her mansion, and Pushan Nun specially brought it out to use?

"If Jingxin Monastery wants to make a magnificent object, do you think it will be their own use?" Shao Wanru held the album in her hand, and her watery eyes became serious with a trace of coldness flashing through. There was something wrong with this album.

"How could they use it! Even a Buddha statue, like a Buddha statue plated with golden light after the consecration, would be required by a pilgrim or given to an honored guest. It is impossible to be used by themselves!" Yujie shook her head repeatedly. She had stayed in Jingxin Monastery for a long time, so she had seen many things there, but she had never seen them use precious and gorgeous objects.

"Then, do you think that this is meant for me to flip through at will?" Shao Wanru lowered her head again and there was fleeting coldness in her eyes.

Be it the skill or material, the magnificent album with exquisite brush and ink was excellent work. But now it was thrown here so casually and happened to pop out. She had not seen it clearly just now, or she was still hesitating now. How could she not take it out and read it again when she saw such a book?

"Miss, put it away quickly!" Yujie said hurriedly, sweating on her forehead.

She understood what Shao Wanru meant!

"It's too late!" Shao Wanru's voice was gentle and graceful. Her eyes fell on the painting right in front of her. It was the "Ten Blessings As You Wish" that she had read again and again.

There were obvious stains on it, but they didn't appear when she took to look through them just now.

"Dirty... Dirty? When did it happen?" Yujie was stunned and looked at the dirty red spots, and she suddenly stammered.

She had seen her Miss looking at it just now, but there was indeed no stain on it. When did it appear?

She looked up at Shao Wanru and found that there was no big red stain on her face. But where did these stains come from? If there was such a big red stain just now, she would definitely be able to see it clearly!

Shao Wanru picked up the album of painting and sent it to the middle of the wings of her nose. There was no other scent other than the paint in it, but it was in line with her guess. She slightly blinked and her watery eyes grew even darker. This album of painting was indeed prepared for her.

"Come on, let's go out and have a look!" Shao Wanru closed the album of painting and said casually. Then she turned around and walked out.

"Miss, leave the album of painting first, otherwise someone will misunderstand." Yujie was anxious.

"Even if I put it back now, many people will still accuse me of ruining this album of painting. There were not a few people who saw me picking it up to take a look, and some even especially looked at this as they walked past me. They definitely saw that the album of painting was clean," Shao Wanru said as she walked.

This matter would not come to an end. She would like to see what on earth they were plotting, and what Duke Xing's Mansion wanted to do!

Seeing her extremely peaceful appearance, Yujie was in a panic, but she still breathed a sigh of relief. Her Miss would have a solution. That was great!

Although Shao Wanru was young, Yujie had been with her for a long time, so she admired her more. Even if Yujie couldn't understand Shao Wanru's words for the moment, she would do her best to act accordingly as long as it was said by Shao Wanru.

The master and servant walked out of the hall one after the other in no hurry. They saw a group of people gathering outside the hall. They were not from Duke Ying's Mansion. Most of them were pilgrims who had come to the Yuhui Nunnery. They gathered there and chattered about something. Shao Wanru and Yujie could not hear clearly from afar, and they could only hear them saying "Poor!"

"This is still in front of the temple. They punish her in such a way, aren't they afraid of being punished?"

"Yes, this little girl is really pitiful. She is punished to kneel here at such a young age. If her family could survive, no one would like to send their child to this mansion..."

There were all kinds of words, and of course they had no good meanings.

Yujie suddenly had a bad feeling. She reached out and pointed to the crowd, and then to the temple. She was shocked and stammered, "Is, is this the servant girl who broke the thing inside?"

Shao Wanru's eyes fell on the crowd. She couldn't see what was in the crowd from her position, but when Yujie asked, she nodded with a cold smile and said affirmatively, "It must be that servant girl."

"Why, why! It was the old maid who punished her, but she was left here and it looked as if she was punished by Miss!" Yujie reached out to point outside and then inside. After thinking for a while, she flew into a rage.

"Why? Because I'm the master here, and the only master. Shouldn't I be responsible for what happened to the servants?"

Shao Wanru smiled as she walked out of the room.

"Miss, please wait a moment and wear a veil!" Yujie took out a veil from her sleeve.

Shao Wanru stood still, and Yujie skillfully helped her wear the veil.

An album of painting and a servant girl. Just waited to see how they would deal with these. Or not just these? There were also silver bracelets, longevity lock, and that set of locked clothes...

The corners of her beautiful lips raised up slightly. Her lively but charming eyes were as cold as ice. It was such a big scene...