

Medical Princess 651

Chapter 651 Honored Consort Shu's Invitation

Every time Shao Wanru walked into Old Madam's room, she always felt depressed and ostracized.

When she visited Old Madam, she usually met two situations, one of which was that Old Madam sat in the seat of honor arrogantly with a straight face, and the other was that those in the room, who were talking and laughing in a good atmosphere, fell into weird silence after hearing the maid reported her arrival as it was now.

Then she heard Old Madam ask her to get in in a low voice.

She felt completely ostracized. Although they said nothing, she couldn't fit in. When she thought that her mother had also experienced such a situation, her eyes became sharp and deep. In Duke Xing's Mansion, Old Madam of Duke Xing's Mansion had absolute power and could trample anyone under her feet.

At that time, Madam of Duke Xing must be adding inflammatory details beside Old Madam. If her mother had not been driven to the wall, her mother would not have left Duke Xing's Mansion!

After bowing to Old Madam who was sitting on the middle couch, Shao Wanru sat aside as she was told. When she looked up, she found that not only Shao Yanru but also Shao Jie'er, Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing were here. What a family reunion!

Seeing her look up, Shao Yanru gave a gentle and dignified smile as usual. Shao Jie'er looked at her with a little disdain. If it were not for Rui'an Great Elder Princess as Shao Wanru's backing, Shao Wanru wouldn't have been able to compare with her in the mansion, so she looked down on Shao Wanru.

Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing were biological sisters of the third branch. Because the madam of the third branch got injured in the carriage crash three years ago and had been in poor health since then, they usually spent their time accompanying the Third Madam in the courtyard and seldom showed up in other places. They sort of lived in seclusion. Shao Caihuan, who looked more stable, became expressionless after meeting Shao Wanru's eyes calmly.

Shao Cailing, who was a little curious, stared at Shao Wanru for a while.

Now that everyone was here, Old Madam coughed in a low voice and said to her five granddaughters, "Since you are all here now, let's talk it over together! Wanru is the latest. Ru'er, tell her about it!"

After that, she picked up the cup of tea beside her and took a sip, giving the floor to Shao Yanru.

Hearing what Old Madam said, Shao Yanru, who was sitting next to Shao Wanru, turned her head and said, "Fifth Sister, do you know Honored Consort Shu in the imperial palace?"

Honored Consort Shu? Shao Wanru thought for a while and nodded.

She naturally knew Honored Consort Shu, who was one of the four Honored Consorts of the Emperor with no children. Even so, she retained her position, which showed that she had some extraordinary tactics.

"Honored Consort Shu and my mother are cousins and had a close relationship before they got married. Although Honored Consort Shu has married into the imperial palace, she often sends some gifts now. She did that again a few days ago. You can take the part of yours back later. Grandma wants us to enter the imperial palace to express our gratitude towards Honored Consort Shu!"

Shao Yanru said with a smile.

"I haven't finished observing mourning for my parents. I'm afraid it's inappropriate for me to do that!" Shao Wanru narrowed her eyes and said with a smile.

"It doesn't matter. Honored Consort Shu knew it and that you saved Prince Chen. She is particularly curious about you, so she especially told grandma that she wanted to meet you!" Shao Yanru said with a smile.

"But I'm afraid that I will offend Honored Consort Shu by showing up in front of her in such plain clothes!" Shao Wanru said, lowered her head, and hid the coldness in her eyes. Honored Consort Shu turned out to be Madam of Duke Xing's backing. Did she neglect something?

"Honored Consort Shu is a nice person. Since she wants to meet you, she won't think so!" Shao Yanru advised with a smile.

"Well, Wanru, you don't have to decline it. It's a blessing to you that Honored Consort Shu wants to meet you. You are going to the imperial palace to meet Honored Consort Shu tomorrow. I have handed in the visiting card!" Old Madam's voice came from above.

Since Honored Consort Shu wanted to meet her and Old Madam had handed in the visiting card, it had been decided. Therefore, Old Madam had Shao Wanru here to inform her about it rather than talk it over with her, and her tough approach indicated that Shao Wanru had to agree no matter she was willing or not.

Shao Wanru raised her head, looked up with a leisurely smile in her fluid eyes, and said gently, "Okay, I'll go as you wish, grandma!"

Seeing that she stopped declining, Old Madam said with her face looking better, "Since you are going to the imperial palace, you can't wear such ordinary clothes. Now pick something you need."

After Old Madam finished speaking, Nanny Yu brought several maids in. They lined up in a row and each held a tray on which the jewelry and brocade were obviously extraordinary.

Shao Wanru withdrew her gaze calmly. These must be the gifts given to her by the Empress Dowager. Now they were presented for her to pick, and the rest of them were certainly left for others!

During the period of observing mourning for her parents and cultivating in seclusion, how could she pick a good part of them, let alone any exquisite jewelry and brocade. Old Madam actually asked her to pick first as a mere formality so that she couldn't say anything against it when mentioning it later!

She slightly raised the corners of her lips. How could they be so greedy that they wanted to keep her gifts while making her take them on the chin?

Moreover, the most important thing was that Old Madam had not made it clear that these were the gifts given to her by the Empress Dowager until now. In addition, they had mentioned Honored Consort

Shu and said that Honored Consort Shu sent some gifts here, which was easy to make Shao Wanru think that these gifts were sent by Honored Consort Shu. Even if she said that she did not know that these were the gifts given to her by the Empress Dowager later, others would think that she deliberately stirred up trouble by saying that.

It turned out that Old Madam intended to make her misunderstand it!

Old Madam made quite a good plot!

“No, thanks, grandma. Since I haven’t finished cultivating in seclusion, I don’t dare to accept the gifts!” Seeing that several maids stood in front of her in a row and presented the gifts, Shao Wanru stood up and refused with a smile.

“Don’t decline it. Although you haven’t finished cultivating in seclusion, you should at least pick a few of them. Don’t let grandma down!” Shao Yanru also stood up and said with a smile.

If Shao Wanru didn’t pick some gifts, none of them could pick any. Otherwise, when the Empress Dowager asked about it, she would blame Duke Xing’s Mansion. Her grandma had promised to give half of the gifts to her, and she did need some exquisite jewelry recently, so how could she not be tempted by the gifts?

“No, thank you, grandma!” Shao Wanru shook her head and said firmly.

With her face darkening, Old Madam failed to maintain her artificial smile, squinted at Shao Wanru coldly, and said, “I intended to let your elder sisters pick first, but considering that you are the youngest and short of jewelry, they suggest that you should pick first. If you decline it, you will not only let them down but also make me go back on my words. There might be some people gossiping about my partiality!”

Old Madam involuntarily thought of the various rumors. It had been three years, and she thought that people had forgotten about them gradually. Unexpectedly, they became quite rampant recently, and it was caused by Shao Wanru, the granddaughter coming from outside. Thinking of this, Old Madam became even more displeased with Shao Wanru.

“Grandma, you are so kind to me as my elder, so you don’t have to care about others’ comments and no one will take them seriously. You should let four elder sisters pick what they want. I don’t need any of the gifts!” Shao Wanru ignored Old Madam’s gloomy face, reached out to point at the hairpin on her head, and said, “The hairpin on my head is exquisite and given by the Empress Dowager. I think that I won’t offend Honored Consort Shu when meeting her in the imperial palace with it on my head!”

Shao Yanru looked towards the hairpin in Shao Wanru’s black bun and found it actually valuable on hearing Shao Wanru’s words. Although it looked plain, its great quality and crystal clear texture could even enable her to see through it. It was quite an extraordinary work of art.

“Fifth Sister, the hairpin on your head is good, but one is not enough. Pick another hairpin. Don’t let grandma down!” Shao Yanru said with a smile and reached out to point the gifts on the tray in front of Shao Wanru. As long as Shao Wanru went through the motions, she could pick what she wanted from the rest.

Old Madam had Shao Wanru here as a mere formality because she was sure that it was impossible for Shao Wanru to pick a lot.

“Fifth Sister, what do you think of this one?” Shao Yanru reached out and picked up a hairpin similar to the one on Shao Wanru’s head, handed it to Shao Wanru, and said with a smile, “They look like a pair of similar hairpins. If you like this kind of plain hairpins, why don’t you pick this one?”

Shao Wanru looked at the hairpin Shao Yanru picked for her for a while, and then seemed to have discovered something. She tilted her head slightly and said with her eyes full of curiosity, “Is this hairpin also from the imperial palace? It is so similar to the one on my head even with a similar mark. They seem to come from the same person. Could it be possible that it’s given to Honored Consort Shu by the Empress Dowager?”

Her words were so abrupt that no one expected that she would ask such a question at this time. However, she mentioned it naturally, because it was Shao Yanru who started this topic. This hairpin was indeed similar to the one on Shao Wanru’s head. They were both given by the Empress Dowager, so it was reasonable that they had the same mark.

With her face darkening, Old Madam stared at Shao Wanru gloomily. Shao Wanru’s words ruined the trap she set.

It fell silent in the room. The intermittent discussion seemed to be interrupted by a slap. It was so quiet that everyone in the room could almost hear their breathing!

Shao Jie’er held the handkerchief between her fingers and glared at Shao Wanru angrily. She had been waiting here for a long time so that she could pick some good stuff after Shao Wanru finished picking!

Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing didn’t say a word, exchanged glances, and waited quietly for the development. Was Old Madam going to rebuke Shao Wanru in a shameful rage or pretend that she didn’t hear it and let it pass?

They could imagine that Old Madam would be displeased no matter what her decision was. Based on their mother’s repeated exhortations, both of them didn’t have a good impression of their grandma, so they didn’t say anything but just looked on coldly at this moment.

Chapter 652 Where Are the Gifts from? Nail the Lie!

“Fifth Sister, since they are both from the imperial palace, they are naturally similar!” Shao Yanru realized what Shao Wanru meant first, hurriedly put down the hairpin in her hand with a smile, picked up another gorgeous hairpin, and said. The hairpin including several strings of pearls with a small gold bead at the end of each string was dazzling when it was swayed slightly.

It was so gorgeous.

Shao Wanru, who was sharp-eyed, noticed there was a phoenix-shaped widget under the largest gold bead, and her eyes became deep. If she remembered correctly, not everyone could wear this kind of jewelry with a phoenix-shaped widget.

Even though there might be this kind of phoenix-shaped widgets on the jewelry from the imperial palace, only someone with an imperial mandate could wear them.

She looked at the tray in front, where there were eight hairpins including both plain and gorgeous ones, but all of them looked valuable. She then looked at several other trays around her, where there was also some jewelry but they seemed to be less valuable.

However, none of the jewelry on other trays was against the rules, while half of the eight hairpins on the tray in front of her were against the rules. So she had half the chance of picking a hairpin against the rules.

"Big Sister, this is beautiful and looks good on your head!" Shao Wanru said and reached out to take the hairpin, but inserted it in Shao Yanru's black bun instead of her own bun with a gentle smile.

"How... how can I do that? I can't pick before you!" Shao Yanru hurriedly reached out to pull the hairpin out of her bun, put it on the tray, and refused with a smile.

"Big Sister, you should pick first. After all, they are sent by Honored Consort Shu, it's reasonable for you to pick before me. I've got enough jewelry from the Empress Dowager." Shao Wanru still said with a smile, as if she didn't notice the displeasure across Shao Yanru's eyes.

It fell silent again in the room. Except for Shao Wanru, who came in last, everyone knew that these were the gifts from the Empress Dowager. They looked towards Old Madam.

With her face turning livid in an instant, Old Madam almost failed to suppress the urge to strike the table. In Duke Xing's Mansion, no one had ever embarrassed her like this.

Nevertheless, knowing that it was not the time to get angry, she held back her anger and said slowly, "Just pick one!"

"Big Sister, you should pick first!" Shao Wanru took a step back to make room for Shao Yanru, who was standing beside her, turned to Shao Yanru and said with a smile.

"Fifth Sister, after you!" Shao Yanru gave Shao Wanru a questioning look and said.

At this moment, she had to suspect that Shao Wanru had known something before and came to spoil the party. However, Shao Wanru did it so naturally by making use of the topic of hairpin started by her. If it were not for the fact that she started the topic of the hairpin, she would have suspected that Shao Wanru had been informed by someone!

"Big Sister, go ahead. As the youngest, how could I pick before several elder sisters? Honored Consort Shu sent the gifts for your sake, so it's reasonable even if you have them all. You are so considerate to us. How could we pick before you?"

Shao Wanru said with an increasingly friendly smile, but her words made Shao Yanru's face turn blue and white alternately. Besides Shao Wanru, there were also other sisters in the room. The sisters from the third branch, whom she had always looked down upon, now looked at her with a faint smile and scornful eyes.

Shao Yanru almost failed to maintain her hypocritical mask. Although she was scheming, she blushed in rage, clenched her handkerchief tightly with her fingers, and suppressed the impulse to slap Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru's words were like a slap in her face in front of everyone. However, Shao Wanru looked so innocent as if she didn't know anything. She had no excuse to lose her temper even if she wanted to.

"These are not given by Honored Consort Shu, but by the Empress Dowager. You haven't finished cultivating in seclusion, so you can't wear gorgeous jewelry. I decide to let you pick first and then divide the rest of them among your sisters. I'll give you some other jewelry as compensation after you finish observing mourning for your parents." Old Madam had to suppress her anxiety and said.

She had no choice but to say that, otherwise, she would be completely disgraced!

Shao Wanru and her maid were the only ones who didn't know the truth in the room. Under the gaze of those who knew the truth, if Old Madam still didn't explain it, she could no longer say pretend to be a person of high morals speaking sternly out of a sense of justice.

"They turn out to be the gifts from the Empress Dowager!" Shao Wanru whispered to herself with a surprised look, as if she really didn't know it, and then raised her head with a smile and said generously, "Grandma, since you've sent some of them to me, several sisters should have these!"

"Since these gifts are for you, you should pick first!" Old Madam said in a deep voice with no pleasure. How could she be pleased after she had to admit the truth, which was like a slap to her face!

"Okay. Big Sister, pick one for me. You always have good taste!" Shao Wanru turned to Shao Yanru and said with a smile, agreeable to Old Madam's request this time.

Shao Yanru clench her fists hard and then unclenched them. She reached out to pick a hairpin out of the tray, handed it to Shao Wanru, and asked, "Fifth Sister, what do you think of this one?"

"Big Sister, you certainly make the best choice, since you always have good taste!" Shao Wanru glanced at the hairpin, took it casually, put it in Qu Le's hands, and said, "How about having a look at the arrangement of the Piaoyun Courtyard when you are available? I don't dare to compare it with your courtyard and just want to make it similar to yours!"

"I will definitely go there when I am available!" Shao Yanru said. Although she was so furious that she almost wanted to spit blood, she had pretended to be a caring elder sister. After Shao Wanru pointed out the truth, it could be considered that all the sisters present received kindness from Shao Wanru. Strictly speaking, these gifts were given to Shao Wanru anyway.

Moreover, these were not ordinary gifts, but the gifts given by the Empress Dowager for Shao Wanru's saving Chu Liuchen.

Since Shao Yanru received kindness from Shao Wanru, Shao Yanru had no choice but to consent to Shao Wanru's request. Although she did not know why Shao Wanru asked her to have a look at the Piaoyun Courtyard and she was irritated, she reluctantly agreed.

Shao Wanru dropped the topic and picked a hairpin. After that, it became reasonable for Old Madam to let other sisters pick from the gifts.

Everyone felt very embarrassed and aggrieved when they were picking and looking at Shao Wanru, who was sitting there and drinking tea with a smile.

Even Shao Yanru, who intended to pick more jewelry, felt embarrassed at this moment, only pick three of them and stepped aside.

Before Shao Wanru pointed out the truth, it was reasonable for other sisters to pick more after letting Shao Wanru, the youngest sister, pick first.

But now Shao Wanru pointed out that the gifts were for her. In front of such a group of servants, Shao Yanru really didn't have the cheek to pick more.

In this round, not only did Shao Yanru fail to get the jewelry she wanted, but she also had to help Shao Wanru have a look at the arrangement of the Piaoyun Courtyard.

Fortunately, Shao Wanru was going to visit Honored Consort Shu with them. At the thought of this, Shao Yanru suppressed the anger in her heart and showed a much more sincere smile.

Old Madam kept the rest of the gifts in the name of putting them away for Shao Wanru. Shao Wanru didn't care about it, thanked Old Madam for her kindness, and then came out with her sisters.

When they got out of the courtyard, Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing made their farewells first. The two sisters seemed to be in a good mood and even specially said goodbye to Shao Wanru before leaving with their entourage.

"Big Sister, can you come with me to the Piaoyun Courtyard to have a look?" Shao Wanru invited Shao Yanru, who just wanted to leave, with slightly raised eyes and a faint but clear smile.

"Now?" Shao Yanru said hesitantly. Of course, she didn't want to go.

"Big Sister, it won't take you long to come to have a look at my courtyard. After that, you can help me fix the improper arrangement slowly later!" Shao Wanru said eagerly.

She winked at Qu Le, who was standing aside. Qu Le understood, left silently, and took a shortcut to the Piaoyun Courtyard. The Piaoyun Courtyard had been prepared, so she just needed to rearrange it slightly now.

"Big Sister, let's go and have a look together. I happen to be free now, so I'll go with you!" Shao Jie'er raised her eyebrows, looked at Shao Wanru with disdain, and said, "I heard that Fifth Sister's courtyard is the best in the entire mansion and picked by Rui'an Great Elder Princess. The decoration must be exquisite. I'll go and have a look!"

She suggested that Rui'an Great Elder Princess occupied the courtyard. Shao Jie'er also coveted the courtyard secretly, but it fell into Shao Wanru's hands in the end. How could a Miss returning from outside occupy such a good courtyard, while she, a Miss born and grew up in Duke Xing's Mansion, couldn't?

Shao Wanru certainly understood what Shao Jie'er meant, but now she pretended that she didn't, raised her watery eyes and said friendly, "Second Sister, since you are free now, come with us and have a look. However, you'd better not gossip about my maternal grandma. When she loses her temper, even I can't comfort her. What's more, as a member of the royal family, she always has a hot temper!"

Her words seemed to be cautionary, but they made Shao Jie'er blush in anger but unable to think of a word to talk back to her. Who was Rui'an Great Elder Princess? Someone intimidating enough to make

Shao Jie'er tremble when seeing her from a distance. How dared Shao Jie'er describe her as a tough person in front of her?

She said that in an attempt to displease Shao Wanru, but she didn't expect that Shao Wanru not only talked back to her but also made her so angry that she didn't know what to say. She stamped her feet in rage and went to the Piaoyun Courtyard ahead of them with the intention of seeing what good stuff Rui'an Great Elder Princess had prepared for Shao Wanru. If there was anything against the rules, she would immediately report it to Old Madam.

Old Madam almost didn't try to hide her deep hatred against Shao Wanru!

Since Shao Jie'er had gone, Shao Yanru couldn't find an excuse to refuse even if she wanted to and could only nod with a forced smile. She decided to look around casually and say everything her mother arranged was good. In this case, Shao Wanru couldn't make her say they were "not good".

With different intentions in their mind, Shao Yanru and Shao Wanru went to the Piaoyun Courtyard after Shao Jie'er. When they entered the courtyard and saw the furniture in the room, although Shao Yanru had made her decision, she immediately failed to maintain her composed look, looked at the furniture in front of her in astonishment, and failed to say "good" with her trembling lips!

She really couldn't describe anything in front of her as good!

Chapter 653 The Invitation With an Evil Intent from the Imperial Palace!

When they got into the room, they first saw a screen, which was so worn that Shao Yanru even couldn't think of a word to describe it!

One side of the screen was curled, and the other side was worn. The most terrible thing was that a part in the middle of the screen seemed to have been mended and looked quite conspicuous. The wide and large screen was supposed to look majestic and extraordinary, but it gave a sense of declining at this moment.

Looking around, they found that the cushion on each chair had been mended. However, they were all sewn casually with terrible stitches, which made them even more conspicuous than before. Some of them were mended with other cloth probably because there was no similar cloth.

It could be said that the cushions were mended with all kinds of cloth.

Shao Jie'er looked at everything in front of her, dumbfounded, opened her mouth, only to find that she couldn't say anything mean. All of these were more than she could imagine. Was this really the main room of a Miss? It looked like a room with piles of junk and no good stuff.

She looked up and found that the furniture was either damaged or unusable. The one who lived in this room tried her best to make them look decent by mending them, only to find that she not only failed to make them look decent but even infinitely magnified their flaws and made others think them shabby at a glance!

"Are... these mended by you, Fifth Sister?" It took Shao Yanru a long time to say something.

"Of course, they are mended by me and my maids. They look new and comfortable after that!" Shao Wanru said with a calm smile.

Shao Wanru looked exceedingly gorgeous with ripples in her soft eyes, red lips, and a delicate face. However, such a face made Shao Yanru so angry that she even wanted to beat Shao Wanru. She gnashed her teeth, managed to suppress the anger in her heart, and said, "I'm afraid that it's done by those restless servants. I will report it to my mother after returning, and she will definitely change the servants!"

She meant to shift the blame onto the servants so that Madam of Duke Xing didn't have to take the blame!

"I don't care whether they are new, as long as they are usable. I just think they are eyesores. If I have a guest here and she sees these, she will probably think that I, the Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion, am not good at arranging my room and make it look in a mess!"

Shao Yanru was good at pretending, but Shao Wanru could even do it better.

She winked at Qu Le as a hint for her to come over before them to place what she had prepared in the room. There was a set of teacups on the table. They looked fine, but there was actually a gap inside the lid of each of them.

In fact, the furniture and other utensils sent by Madam of Duke Xing were not so bad. After Shao Wanru moved in, she led several maids to damage them and deliberately place them in this way. If someone saw such furniture and other utensils in her room, where she had just moved, the one would know that Duke Xing's Mansion treated her lightly.

If she mentioned it after she finished observing mourning for her parents and the Spring Festival, during which Madam of Duke Xing was busy, passed, others would say that she damaged the room Madam of Duke Xing meticulously decorated for her rather than Duke Xing's Mansion deliberately sent some unusable furniture and other utensils to her courtyard when she moved in.

Madam of Duke Xing did that based on the thought that it was inappropriate for Shao Wanru to make it known to others during her cultivation in seclusion.

However, Shao Wanru intended to react in opposition to what Madam of Duke Xing had expected!

Since she had returned to Duke Xing's Mansion, she did not intend to restrain her anger and keep silent. Three years were long enough for her to learn the history of Duke Xing's Mansion and figure out how to deal with Duke Xing's Mansion after her returning to Duke Xing's Mansion.

In front of her unamiable grandma and the hypocritical and vicious second branch, she would not back out. In the last life, she was forced into a dead end. In this life, if she backed out, she would definitely be forced into a desperate situation step by step again and die with her blood staining the stone stairs as she did in the last life.

In this life, after preparing for three years, she didn't have to back out when faced with Duke Xing's Mansion.

Making use of the decoration of the room to fight back was just the first step...

"We should at least change a few of the furniture. I'll tell my mother now!" Shao Yanru couldn't stand it anymore and said, only feeling that every word of Shao Wanru's was penetrating and directed to her mother.

She took a deep breath, suppressed the anxiety in her heart, turned around, and left before Shao Wanru said anything!

Looking at Shao Yanru, who had left, and then at Shao Wanru, Shao Jie'er said with a scornful look, "Fifth Sister, are you so short of furniture and utensils that you accept such shabby stuff? Or the furniture and utensils in the Qin's Mansion are so terrible that you consider such stuff good?"

"Everything in the Qin's Mansion is good. Isn't everything in Duke Xing's Mansion like this? I thought all the masters of Duke Xing's Mansion use such stuff." Shao Wanru said coldly.

Shao Jie'er was born to be a mean person, who always mocked those inferior to her and tried every way to trample them underfoot while flattered and tried to please those superior to her. It was really difficult to have a good impression of her.

"Ignorant!" Taunted by Shao Wanru, Shao Jie'er blushed in anger, turned around, and strode away after saying that.

Shao Wanru didn't say anything this time, but just looked at Shao Jie'er's back and slightly raised the corners of her mouth to show a smile.

"Miss, will Madam change the furniture for us?" Qu Le came out from behind her and asked with sweat all over her head. In order to seize the time to arrange the room, she ran over and placed the furniture quickly. Now she finally had time to take a breath.

"Yes!" Shao Wanru smiled slightly and said with a cold look.

The room was arranged on instructions from Madam of Duke Xing. It seemed that even Shao Yanru didn't know it, so she followed Shao Wanru here.

Madam of Duke Xing intended to displease her, and Old Madam and Shao Yanru intended to trick her into the imperial palace. There seemed to be no connection between the two things, so Shao Yanru was tricked into her courtyard to have a look. Since Shao Yanru had seen it and claimed that she would help her, if Shao Yanru didn't help her and she mentioned it in front of Honored Consort Shu tomorrow, Shao Yanru would be disgraced!

Shao Yanru had always cared about her reputation, so Shao Yanru would not risk her reputation and would definitely find a way to get her some good furniture and utensils so that she would not tell others that Duke Xing's Mansion treated her badly.

The best way to stop her from gossiping about such a scandal was to shut her up.

The opportunity coming to her was quite good!

Of course, Shao Wanru was not worried if Shao Yanru did not help her, because she had got Shao Yanru involved in it and could threaten Shao Yanru with it next time!

"Will Madam send us some good furniture and utensils?" Qu Le had a new question and asked uncertainly.

"Of course she will. Tell Qing'er to go to grandma's place later and ask grandma to sort out my mother's dowry list when she married into Duke Xing's Mansion." Shao Wanru said meaningfully.

"Miss, are you going to ask Madam of Duke Xing for Infanta's dowry?" Qu Le froze for a moment and said uneasily. It was inappropriate to ask the elders for the dowry. Besides, without Master Hao around, Shao Wanru was not qualified to ask Duke Xing's Mansion for Infanta's dowry.

"It's not me!" Shao Wanru shook her head and said. It was truly unreasonable for her to ask for the dowry. Both she and Shao Yuanhao were the descendants of Duke Xing's Mansion. In particular, they tried to obtain the Emperor's approval to determine Shao Yuanhao as the heir of Duke Xing's Mansion. At this time, it was even more inappropriate for her to ask for her mother's dowry.

However, not asking for them didn't mean that she would put them aside. She had to figure out the part belonging to her and Hao'er and couldn't be fooled by Duke Xing's Mansion.

She would definitely get her mother's dowry back when she had a chance. But she estimated that most of the dowry had probably fallen into Madam of Duke Xing's hands.

However, she couldn't argue about it now, so she decided to check it out slowly. Since Madam of Duke Xing got her mother's stuff, she would use some of them. Madam of Duke Xing, who was greedy, should worry that she might not be able to draw back her hand. Shao Wanru thought that she could definitely find something fishy on the dowry list.

"Miss, are you going to the imperial palace to meet Honored Consort Shu?" Nanny Zheng appeared at the door and asked. She seemed to come in a hurry and was out of breath.

"It is said that Honored Consort Shu sent something to Duke Xing's Mansion and said that she wanted to meet me, so grandma asked me to enter the imperial palace with other sisters to pay respects to Honored Consort Shu!"

Shao Wanru said casually, turned to the chair in the middle, and sat on the cushion on the chair.

To be honest, the cushion looked a little shabby with a red patch, but she felt comfortable when sitting on it.

After sitting down, she looked at Nanny Zheng, who wanted to say something but stopped on second thought, and asked softly, "Nanny Zheng, is there anything wrong?"

Nanny Zheng, who came in with a frown and a gloomy face, said after thinking for a while, "Honored Consort Shu doesn't like Prince Chen!"

"Is there any connection between Honored Consort Shu and Prince Chen?" Shao Wanru asked while squinting at Nanny Zheng with deep eyes. She didn't remember the connection between Honored Consort Shu and Chu Liuchen.

One of them was the legitimate son of the late emperor, and the other was the current emperor's imperial concubine with no children. The two of them even rarely saw each other, let alone bear

grudges against each other. However, Nanny Zheng seemed to suggest that they bore grudges against each other.

Shao Wanru attached great importance to Nanny Zheng's words!

"Honored Consort Shu... she doesn't like Prince Chen, and even... hates Prince Chen!" Although Nanny Zheng was a little hesitant, she still said her sincere words. When she heard that Shao Wanru was going to the imperial palace to meet Honored Consort Shu just now, she became nervous.

Shao Wanru saved Prince Chen, which would inevitably Honored Consort Shu's hatred against her. At this time, Honored Consort Shu sent some gifts and even wanted to meet Shao Wanru. Honored Consort Shu obviously had an evil intent towards Shao Wanru, so Nanny Zheng was very worried.

"Nanny, do you think that Honored Consort Shu will hurt me?" After thinking for a while, Shao Wanru understood Nanny Zheng's concern and said with a serious look. Honored Consort Shu's invitation came suddenly, and she had never heard of any connection between Duke Xing's Mansion and Honored Consort Shu. Could it be that she was Honored Consort Shu's target this time?

"That's possible, but... not necessarily true!" Nanny Zheng said, nodded, and then shook her head. She was really worried that something would happen to Shao Wanru in the imperial palace!

"Don't worry, Nanny. I will be fine!" Shao Wanru said with deep eyes. Honored Consort Shu obviously meant to do something by inviting her at this time, but Honored Consort Shu probably would not set her up directly. It seemed that she had to be more cautious tomorrow.

Honored Consort Shu, who invited her at this time, should have an evil intent!

Chapter 654 Swindled a Medicine Bottle with a Familiar Smell

Coming out of the desolate courtyard, Doctor Qiu picked up the medicine chest in her hand and carried it behind his back, and strode out.

He was the chief physician of Miss Wang, who specialized in pulse diagnosis and acupuncture. He always left at this time before. When he came out of the yard, he shook his head, because Miss Wang's condition was really terrible.

He turned a corner and was about to take another path when a servant girl hurried over with a plate of fruit. Because she walked too fast, the two of them bumped into each other.

Doctor Qiu was knocked to take two steps back and almost fell down. However, the servant girl who came from the opposite fell even harder and directly fell to the ground. She covered her face and screamed, "Ouch!" Maybe it was because she hit her face or lips when she fell down.

"Are you okay?" It was inappropriate for Doctor Qiu to leave directly, so he came over and asked.

"You... why don't you look at the road... Ouch, my... my face is swollen!" The servant girl supported herself with one hand on the ground and slowly sat on the ground. Even though only half of her face was exposed, she still looked at Doctor Qiu unkindly.

As a doctor, Doctor Qiu had a better temper than ordinary people. Seeing that the servant girl had had a bad fall, he squatted down, stretched out his hand to feel her pulse, and said, "Let me see if you have been hurt!"

Perhaps the servant girl was also shocked because of the bad fall. Seeing that he reached out to feel her pulse, she did not dare to say anything else. She stretched out her hand and allowed him to feel her pulse carefully.

"Miss, don't worry. It's not a big deal!" After a while, Doctor Qiu opened his eyes and said.

"How can it not be a big deal? My face is swollen!" The servant girl was so angry that she almost cried. She stared at Doctor Qiu and said.

Seeing her acting like this, Doctor Qiu also felt that he was in the wrong. After all, she was just a young girl, so he couldn't haggle over every ounce with her. He put down his medicine chest, opened it, took out a bottle of ointment, and handed it to the servant girl, "This can relieve the swelling. Your face will recover after you apply the ointment on it for three days."

The servant girl's pulse was normal just now and there was nothing wrong with it. Although she covered her face with her hand, there was no trace of blood on her face, so her skin should not have been broken. Her voice was also clear. Therefore, all these factors considered, her face was just swollen because of the fall. It was not a big deal.

"Can it really work?" The servant girl looked at Doctor Qiu in disbelief.

"Of course it can... you can apply it after you go back..." Doctor Qiu closed the lid of the medicine box, stood up, and said.

"If it doesn't work, where can I find you?" The servant girl grabbed Doctor Qiu's robe with her hand as if she wouldn't let him go until he told her the truth.

Doctor Qiu had no choice but to say, "I'm in your mansion to treat Miss Wang. If there's anything wrong with you, you can come to me directly. I'll definitely cure your wound."

"Really?" The servant girl covered half of her face and raised her head to look at Doctor Qiu with a look of disbelief.

"Of course. How can I lie to you?" Doctor Qiu also had a temper, especially when someone suspected him. He reached out to pull his robe, but it was pulled so tightly that he couldn't pull it out.

"No, if you don't leave some evidence for me, it won't be clear at that time!" The servant girl held his robe tightly as if Doctor Qiu couldn't leave without giving her something as prove.

Doctor Qiu tried a few times, but he found that he really couldn't pull his robe out. This servant girl looked thin and small but had great strength.

"Okay, okay, let me see if I can leave you something as proof!" Doctor Qiu said helplessly.

It was really inappropriate for them to pull like this. Later, people might not blame the little servant girl for being ignorant. On the contrary, they would say that he was really impolite to argue with such a little servant girl since he was quite old.

He reached into his pocket in his arms but found nothing for a moment.

"I saw a beautiful medicine bottle in your medicine chest just now. Just give me that one!" The servant girl came up with an idea for him.

"Let me see which one it is!" Doctor Qiu reluctantly opened the medicine chest again. As expected, there was an empty bottle on the top floor. He took it out and handed it to the servant girl, "Okay, you can take this first. This bottle is mine. I just used it up and there is still a label on it. Now you can let me go!"

"All right!" The servant girl took over the medicine bottle. This time, she freely agreed and loosened her grip on his robe.

When Doctor Qiu saw that the girl had finally let go of her hand, he covered his medicine chest, carried it on his back, and turned to leave. He did not want to be entangled in a matter with such a little servant girl here.

It had been almost three years since he arrived at Duke Xing's Mansion. The rules in aristocratic families were very strict. Even if she was just a little servant girl, she might cause some trouble at that time.

After he succeeded, he could leave and never come to the capital city again!

Seeing that Doctor Qiu left quickly as if he tried to escape something, Yujie struggled to stand up with her hands on her waist. She touched her unscathed face and turned back to the Piaoyun Courtyard. She had deliberately come to bump into Doctor Qiu. When the medicine box was opened just now, she had seen clearly that there was a set of needles used for acupuncture inside, but this set seemed to be different from what she saw at Shao Wanru's place.

Every doctor's acupuncture needles were not necessarily the same. But even so, it could be seen that that was indeed a set of acupuncture needles.

Doctor Qiu was also skilled in the way of feeling the pulse just now, and he could also tell that she was fine. It could be seen that Doctor Qiu was a real doctor, not a fake one.

The ointment he gave was not bad. Yujie also knew some medical skills. In the past, as a medicine apprentice, she had often ground medicine for Mingqiu Nun. She was also proficient in medicine. As soon as she smelled it, she could tell what was in the ointment. Some good materials had been used in it.

If her face was really swollen from the fall, she could really recover after applying it for three days.

As for the empty medicine bottle that she had swindled from his medicine chest just now, Yujie put it by her nose and sniffed it. But this time, she could not tell what it was, which really surprised her. So she put it near her nose and sniffed it again.

But she still failed to tell.

Helplessly, she packed up the medicine bottle, picked up the fruit from the ground and put it on the plate, and then carried it back to the Piaoyun Courtyard.

In Piaoyun Courtyard, Qu Le was choosing clothes for Shao Wanru to enter the palace. The clothes couldn't be too gorgeous, because her current situation was not suitable. But if she wore too plain, it seemed to be disrespectful to Consort Shu.

In fact, Shao Wanru did not bring many clothes with her, not to mention in Duke Xing's Mansion. Rui'an Great Elder Princess would make a few suitable clothes for Shao Wanru, but Duke Xing's Mansion had never done this before. At this time, she only had a few extremely simple clothes and there was no suitable one to wear. Looking at the plain white clothes on the bed, Qu Le was very worried.

Miss had no suitable clothes to wear. What could she do?

"Miss, let me go to Great Elder Princess's Mansion. There are always some clothes in Great Elder Princess' Mansion that are prepared for you!" Qu Le suggested.

Even a clever housewife cannot cook a meal without rice. Old Madam only asked Miss to enter the imperial palace in such a hurry, but she didn't prepare clothes for Miss at all. She went too far!

This grandmother didn't take it seriously, and also had bad intentions. In the past, although Old Madam Qin was not the biological grandmother of Miss, she had also doted on Miss. This was the real grandmother of Miss, but she behaved like this. She not only took away the gift from Miss, which was awarded by Empress Dowager but also ignored everything about Miss.

She was even colder than strangers.

"Just that one!" Shao Wanru was very relaxed. Anyway, she had no idea about being close to this Old Madam. She tilted her head, pointed at a set of clothes, and said.

There was nothing special about this set of clothes, but fortunately, it was new. One could tell at first glance that it was made of good cloth.

"Miss, this one is really plain. It may not be a good choice!" Qu Le shook the clothes in her hands with a bitter face.

"Everyone knows that I'm in seclusion, but Consort Shu seemingly pretends not to know and insists on meeting me. Since she wants to see me, why should I stoop to compromise?" Shao Wanru said with an ambiguous look.

Whatever she wore, the one who hated her could always find fault with her. Since Consort Shu did not come with good intentions, she would not show kindness to her tomorrow. Then, Shao Wanru would be scolded for whatever she wore. So she might as well wear her own clothes. At least, she had justifiable reasons to do so. After all, it was not she who asked to meet Consort Shu.

"Miss, this... isn't a good idea..." Qu Le still didn't think it was appropriate. That was the imperial palace, not an ordinary mansion.

"So what? If you really think it's too plain, I can also wear that purple bamboo hairpin tomorrow. After all, it is a purple one, and this color can pop out!" Shao Wanru casually flipped through the medical book in her hand and lowered her head casually.

"This..." Qu Le stammered and did not know what to say.

Although the color could pop out a little, to be honest, this kind of hairpin was almost as common as bamboos on the side of the road. Was it really good?

This was even worse than silver hairpins!

“Yes, it is settled. You can choose a pair of pearl earrings but not too eye-catching. And find a sachet, light blue or light yellow. At least, I change the color in other places. It’s also a kind of respect for Consort Shu. Just use this set of clothes!” Shao Wanru made a decision.

“Yes, Miss!” Qu Le said helplessly with a sigh.

“Miss, please smell this medicine. Can you smell what kind of medicine it is? I can’t get it!” Yujie happened to come in at this time. After lifting the curtain and coming in, she handed the empty medicine bottle to Shao Wanru and reported, “Miss, this Doctor Qiu is definitely a real doctor. He seems to be very good at medicine. I don’t know if he knows that he is having guilty deeds.”

Wang Yishu had always been sick, so it must have something to do with this Doctor Qiu. As a doctor, how could he have such a vicious heart? Yujie was very angry. This was the most despised behavior for her, who was once the medicine apprentice of Mingqiu Nun.

A doctor didn’t save people but even dared to gang up with others to hurt people. It was unforgivable!

Shao Wanru put down the book, took the bottle, and sniffed it. For a moment, she did not smell anything, so she put it on her nose and sniffed it hard. She frowned slightly. She really couldn’t smell what it was, but somehow she felt it was familiar.

Familiar?

There was a trace of gloom in her watery eyes. She was really familiar with the smell. Had she smelled it when staying in Jiangzhou, or...

She sniffed it again and began to think about it carefully. When and where had she smelled this kind of medicine? In this life, she had smelled a lot of her commonly used medicine, but it was obviously not a commonly used medicine. So what was it?

Not commonly used one, so in her last life?

Something suddenly flashed through her mind like a flash of lightning. She was so shocked that her eyes widened and her hands trembled slightly. She seemed to think of something...

Chapter 655 I’ll Have to Trouble You with Something!

“Miss, Miss Qi has sent a letter to the First Young Master! This time, she did it in a much more obscure way than last time.” Qing’er came back a bit late.

“Don’t worry about her!” Shao Wanru blinked her eyes and came to a conclusion in her mind.

After being smashed by the people sent by Madam of Duke Xing this time, Qi Rongzhi would restrain herself a little. But she would not stop so easily, especially tomorrow was the day when no one was in the mansion.

All the Misses were going to enter the palace, and Madam of Duke Xing was busy preparing things for her eldest daughter to enter the palace. The guard in Qi Rongzhi's place was relatively simple. So if she got help, it would not be difficult for her to escape!

The news that the Misses would go to the palace tomorrow had been sent to Qi Rongzhi on purpose. Qi Rongzhi's letter had also indicated that she was going to take action.

"Prepare a carriage outside the back door. If Qi Rongzhi can escape, she will definitely go to the back door. She will go there when we enter the palace. At that time, everyone will be in a mess. The five Misses will enter the palace together. The servant girls and old maids will also be in a mess and they will all be in the front door!" Shao Wanru turned the handkerchief in her hand with a leisurely smile.

Qi Rongzhi had been able to endure until now. But perhaps she couldn't bear it any longer!

The marriage in the past made people feel that Madam of Duke Xing was kind and generous. And she even took up the daughter of a small aristocratic family. She was a loving elder. But what about now? A chill flashed in her eyes.

"Miss, when I came back just now, I saw the First Miss's servant girl Moyan going to the back door!" Qing'er suddenly said.

The two most capable principal maids by Shao Yanru's side were Shuqi and Moyan. But in the past, the one who followed Shao Yanru was Shuqi. Moyan was rarely seen. It was almost the same as when they were on the mountain. Since Moyan was rarely seen, Qing'er paid more attention to her when she saw Moyan sneaking to the back door alone.

Shao Wanru lowered her head, silently picked up the tea, and took a sip. "Let's wait and see what will happen tomorrow!"

It seemed that not only Consort Shu but also Shao Yanru would take action tomorrow...

"Your Highness, it's First Miss Shao's letter!" Xiao Qizi respectfully presented the letter in his hand. Chu Liuyue looked up at the letter in Xiao Qizi's hand and continued to finish the calligraphy. After he finished writing, he cleaned his hands, wiped the water stains on his hands carefully with a handkerchief, and then took the letter from Xiao Qizi's hand.

He pulled out the letter and looked at the contents on it. His expression turned cold.

It was very quiet in the study. Only Chu Liuyue frowned slightly. After reading it, he put the letter in his hand into the envelope and handed it to Xiao Qizi conveniently.

Xiao Qizi walked to the bottom of the first bookshelf on the left, took out a box, and put the letter into it. The thick stack was written by First Miss Shao to his master.

Sitting in front of the desk, Chu Liuyue picked up the teacup beside him and took a sip. There was no joy on his face.

Xiao Qizi didn't dare to talk. He just stood aside with his hands down and didn't dare to move.

After a long time, he heard Chu Liuyue say, "Does Prince Zhou still go to the palace to see the Empress at that time every day?"

"Yes, it's still the same time. He basically went to see the Empress at that time!" Xiao Qizi thought for a while and said with certainty.

"Go to the palace at that time tomorrow!" Chu Liuyue said.

"But Consort Shu asked you to go there early tomorrow." Xiao Qizi reminded him carefully.

"What's the difference if I go there earlier or later? The Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion is not the daughter of an ordinary family. If she becomes my concubine, Rui'an Great Elder Princess will not forgive me!"

Chu Liuyue raised the corner of his mouth and said lightly.

It was not that he didn't want the Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion to be his consort, but with her status, how could she really be his consort?

If he really had something with the two of them, Rui'an Great Elder Princess and the Empress Dowager would inevitably force him to marry her. Although Rui'an Great Elder Princess could say something in front of the Empress Dowager, it was not worthy compared with the real help of Duke Xing's Mansion.

Moreover, Shao Yanru liked him very much. She also looked beautiful and outstanding. The Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion could not compare with her!

He really didn't want to cooperate with Consort Shu's idea! But he couldn't refuse her directly! Consort Shu didn't have any children. She was close to his mother, so he could utilize her if he was close to her!

He could not refuse directly, but he could let Chu Liuzhou come to stir up trouble. At that time, he would be careful, and this matter would not be related to him. If Chu Liuzhou had something to do with the Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion, he would have nothing to do with how this matter was handled. He was very happy to see the Empress Dowager and the Empress fight.

"But in this way, Consort Shu will be unhappy!" Xiao Qizi knew that Chu Liuyue attached great importance to Consort Shu, so he said.

"After this matter is over, it will be the draft. I will naturally choose a girl from Consort Shu's family." Chu Liuyue leaned back, and he was not very worried about this.

Even if Chu Liuzhou really made some trouble with this Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion, it would be an accident. It had nothing to do with him. He had planned to choose a girl from Consort Shu's family.

"Prince, Lord Wen is here!" A young eunuch reported in a shrill voice.

"Come in please!" A kind smile appeared on Chu Liuyue's face. He had sent someone to invite Wen Xichi.

Xiao Qizi hurriedly went forward and picked up the curtain. Wen Xichi was dressed in a blue brocade robe and stood in the yard. He stepped inside until he saw the curtain was lifted.

After entering the room, he bowed to Chu Liuyue. Chu Liuyue turned out from the back of the desk with a smile and sat down at the reception on the right side of the study. He waved to Wen Xichi and said, "Yuanqing, come and sit here!"

"Prince, what can I do for you?" Wen Xichi turned around and sat down opposite him. He frowned slightly and asked calmly.

"It's not a big deal. I've troubled Yuanqing with the previous thing. Recently, I happened to get an ancient book. I want to invite Yuanqing to have a look and see if it's the authentic work!"

Xiao Qizi took out a book from the bookshelf on the side and handed it over gravely.

Wen Xichi took it and flipped through it. It was indeed an ancient book and was a little broken. It happened to be the handwriting of the scholar from the previous dynasty that he was looking for.

"I heard that Yuanqing is looking for his authentic work. If it is true, I will give it to you for appreciation!" Chu Liuyue smiled, picked up the teacup at hand, took a sip, and said slowly.

"Thank you, Prince!" Wen Xichi's eyes were calm. He casually flipped through the book in his hands and put it aside with little interest.

"Yuanqing, you don't like it?" Chu Liuyue glanced at the ancient book he found and asked in surprise. Of course, this ancient book was the real one. He thought of many ways to get it. Originally, he just wanted to give it to Wen Xichi, but he didn't expect that Wen Xichi didn't care about it at all.

"I like it. But I could not be so doted on by Prince!" Wen Xichi lowered his head slightly, and there was some alienation in his expression.

"Since you like it, you don't have to be so polite. There is no need to be so polite between you and me!" Chu Liuyue said with a smile. His face, which had always been cold and serious, became softer because of this smile.

Of course, he wanted to win Wen Xichi over. Compared with the other two sons of the prime minister, Wen Xichi was so worthy to be roped in!

"Thanks to your ideas, First Miss Shao got great help in the previous thing!" When it came to this matter, Chu Liuyue's eyes were filled with gratitude.

However, Wen Xichi was silent for a while. After a long time, he said, "It's not of great help. Prince, I don't deserve your appreciation!"

Although Chu Liuyue mentioned Shao Yanru, Wen Xichi knew that what he said was to let him know Shao Yanru's and his identity.

If he offended one of them, he would offend both of them. If he did one of them a favor, he would do both of them a favor.

Thinking of what he had found in Jingxin Monastery, a trace of sarcasm flashed in Wen Xichi's eyes. Shao Yanru was very scheming. He had already known it when he was young. He did not expect that she and Prince Yue had already had this kind of relationship. Prince Yue told him so clearly, it seemed that the position of Prince Yue's wife must belong to her.

His handsome eyebrows frowned tightly. He did not like the current situation.

“Do not say that you don’t deserve. No one expected this thing. I didn’t expect that it would make such a big deal, which made my father angry. Although this matter was handled later, this Fifth Miss Shao was not treated as a misfortune. At least it can reduce the influence of the matter of First Miss Shao. Speaking of this, it’s all up to Yuanqing. I’m here to serve tea as wine and thank you on behalf of her!”

Chu Liuyue picked up the teacup at his hand and said to Wen Xichi with a smile.

Wen Xichi’s eyes darkened for a moment. He didn’t like to mention this matter. In the past, he didn’t pay much attention to everything. Even though he didn’t care about this official position, it was this idea that he had come up with before that made him feel inexplicably uncomfortable.

He even felt very uncomfortable, as if he had done something against his will.

However, when he thought about it carefully, he found that it was nothing. Although Shao Wanru had been in touch with him and reminded him of some things, she obviously knew these things by accident. Or maybe Qin Huaiyong asked her to tell him because he wanted to let him be close to his family.

At that time, Qin Huaiyong also wanted to unite by marriage with his mansion. Thinking of this, some of the help from Shao Wanru was not so important to him.

He knew this was the truth, but he always remembered it in his heart. If his plan succeeded that time, Shao Wanru would end up with an extremely miserable life. Every time he thought of this, he would always dream at midnight, dreaming that Shao Wanru knelt in the mourning hall with a sad face and looked haggard, which made people feel sorry for her!

He knew that this dream was fake, but every time he woke up, he felt distressed. He covered his chest and sat on the bed for a long time without sleeping. He even wondered if he had forgotten something important. Did Shao Wanru really have something to do with him?

This feeling was so uncomfortable that he almost didn’t want to recall that he had helped Chu Liuyue to plot against Shao Wanru that day. Fortunately, this matter was later disturbed by someone, so that it was known by the emperor.

“Prince, let bygones be bygones. Let’s not talk about it!” Wen Xichi picked up the teacup beside him and drank it up. He hid the displeasure in his eyes, and then put down the teacup in his hand heavily.

“Yuanqing, in fact, I have something to trouble you this time!” Seeing Wen Xichi put down the teacup in his hand, Chu Liuyue smiled more and more friendly. He had always been cold, and such a smile could hardly be seen by others. If it was seen by others, the people would feel flattered.

Wen Xichi was shocked, but it was not because he was appreciated. There were silent waves in his eyes, but he didn’t show them on his face. He looked up and said, “Prince, please tell me!”

Chapter 656 Again, She Said She Just Heard of It!

Early the next morning, the entire Duke Xing’s Mansion cheered up. What a glory it was that all the five misses in the mansion could go to the Royal Palace together.

Even the third branch, who never got along with the second branch, got up early. Every servant was carefully styling up her miss.

Carriages had long been parked outside the mansion. Two spacious carriages had been prepared.

Shao Wanru came just in time. Shao Yanru and Shao Jie'er had arrived; Shao Yanru got into the front carriage and Shao Jie'er wanted to follow. However, an old maid stopped her and made her go to the carriage in the back. When Shao Wanru arrived, she was led to the front one.

Yujie helped her into the carriage. Shao Yanru was already sitting inside. She looked both graceful and fancy, her eight-piece silk skirt pretty and her face gorgeous. Nevertheless, when she saw that Shao Wanru was dressed almost in a single color, her eyes flashed with a trace of jealousy.

She thought herself the prettiest, able to tumble the world. During the last three years, all the people in the capital had been saying that she was the most beautiful lady, and she was really pleased with such an honor.

However, Shao Wanru, who was in front of her eyes, simply dressed herself in a plain dress and wore a few average and inexpensive accessories. Even like that, Shao Wanru didn't look less pretty than her. "Will she replace me as the prettiest lady in the capital!"

When she thought of what her mother had told her again and again before, she felt jealous.

She waved at Shao Wanru with a smile and said, "Fifth Sister, sit, please. When Third Sister and Fourth Sister get here, we'll set off." Though she felt like that inside, she didn't show it on her face.

Shao Wanru nodded and seated herself in the carriage; Yujie followed to hop into the carriage as well.

They didn't wait long before Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing walked out from their rooms. They got into the carriage in the back together. Since all five misses had arrived, the carriages slowly turned around to drive out of the mansion gate. They drove toward the main street. After another turn, it would be the widest main road in the capital. If they headed west along the road, they could finally reach the Royal Place gate.

Inside the carriage, Shuqi skillfully took out a tea set from a hidden drawer and poured a cup of tea for the two respectively. Then, she pushed the teacups to the front of the two misses with courtesy. "Miss, Fifth Miss, please have some tea!"

Because they needed to go to the palace, they all had a light breakfast. Though there were desserts on the tables, they had to refrain from enjoying them lest they stain their lips; they could only drink a little tea.

Shao Wanru didn't put any rouge on her lips, but they were always red even without it. Her lips were red, and the color was also different from that of average rouge; they looked more charming than rouge. With the charming red being the only bright color she wore from head to toe, they looked especially like surprising plum blossoms in the snow.

Her red lips were red, her skin was fair as snow, and her long eyelashes like butterfly wings were even a little curly; they were all manifesting Shao Wanru's outstanding beauty. She was both pure and a lure. How could Shao Yanru not envy her when she saw that?

Teeth gritted, she swallowed her envy. When she looked up again, she was all smiles. Her pretentious and graceful face looked as friendly as that of Madam of Duke Xing.

"Fifth Sister, have some. We might not be able to drink after we go in the palace!" Shao Yanru smiled and reached out to pick up the teacup in front of her. She slightly hid her face behind her long sleeve. She took a few sips and then put it down; she picked up her handkerchief to carefully press it to her lips, absorbing the water but retaining the color on her lips.

"Fifth Sister, go ahead!" After she put down her handkerchief, Shao Yanru pushed Shao Wanru's teacup a little closer to her and spoke with a smile.

She was gentle and kind of friendly but not too overbearing so people couldn't bear refusing her.

Shao Wanru picked up the teacup and was about to take a sip. However, she seemed to think of something because she put it down again. "Sister, is Grandmother not feeling well today? Why didn't she ask us to greet her in the morning?"

When she left the room in the morning, she wanted to greet Old Madam first, but someone from Old Madam's room came to tell her that she didn't have to.

Shao Yanru came up with something plausible. "Grandma is still healthy. Maybe she can't get up in the morning so that's why she did it."

The truth was Old Madam didn't see anyone else but her and also reminded her of something special like how to act in the carriage and the palace.

Old Madam was worried that other misses might disturb her teaching Shao Yanru, so she sent people to tell them not to come.

Shao Wanru fell silent, long eyelashes falling down, looking aggrieved. It seemed that she felt hurt and fell speechless because Old Madam didn't allow her to greet her in the morning.

"Fifth Sister, don't be sad. Grandma is old; she can't go through such formalities. It's normal that she doesn't receive anyone in the early morning. Come, drink the tea!"

Shao Wanru was silent for a few seconds and then picked up the teacup to bring it to her lips. However, she did not drink, looking lost in thought. Her delicate features were slightly twisted.

Shao Yanru asked, "Fifth Sister, is there something on your mind?"

"No!" Shao Wanru shook her head and swung her sleeve. Like Shao Yanru had, she also hid her face with her sleeve to take a few sips. Then she put down the sleeve and the teacup.

Seeing the teacup less full than before, Shao Yanru smiled more widely.

"Fifth Sister, you haven't stayed at the mansion, and I'm afraid you don't know much about the things at the palace. I want to tell you about Honored Consort Shu. In the palace, you have to be careful not to offend her."

"Please instruct me," Shao Wanru slowly said as she slightly leaned toward the carriage wall behind her, the handkerchief used to absorb water falling out of her sleeve.

Yujie deftly picked it up and wrapped it with her own handkerchief.

As if she were really a good sister, she said in detail and even told some speculation not allowed to be talked about out there. "Honored Consort Shu enjoys reverence in the palace, but she doesn't have any children. Actually, she had been pregnant and gave birth to a child, but something happened and the young prince died a few days after birth. It's said that his death affected many people in the palace. You can't bring up things about other princes lest you upset her."

...

Shao Wanru took another handkerchief that Yujie had changed for her and gently wiped her lips, a trace of coldness flashing across her eyes. "The tea was clearly spiked. If I were not good at medicine, I might probably fall into Shao Yanru's trap."

The medicine alone did not have a strong effect. When it was mixed with tea, it only gave a light flavor, like the bitterness of too many tea leaves, hard to notice. Today there were really too many tea leaves; her teacup contained many leaves. They were used to cover up the medicine's flavor.

She clenched her fists slowly in her sleeves, and when she released them, she was all smiles again.

In normal situations, the medicine wouldn't have an effect, but when it was added with alcohol, it would damage the mind. It would even make people feel drowsy and lose their sense of direction.

"It looks like someone will serve me alcohol in the palace today!"

She was listening carefully to Shao Yanru, and when Shao Yanru finished, she calmly said, "Thank you for your instructions, Big Sister." Then, she turned around to casually look out of the window, seemingly appreciating the view. She believed not all but only part of Shao Yanru's words.

According to Shao Yanru's personality, some of her words had to be true. Even if some of them were fake, she couldn't be blamed because the rumors were fake in the first place. After all, she only heard of them from some other people; everyone could have their own opinions on rumors.

"I can only blame myself if something goes wrong. I can't push the blame onto some else, can I?"

"If Honored Consort Shu really gets angry with me and makes things difficult for me, Shao Yanru won't be blamed. Isn't this the most elaborate scheme in the world?"

"In my last life, Shao Yanru made things difficult for me and punished me, but people thought I deserved it because they thought I was wrong in the first place; they thought she had to steel herself to punish me."

Looking outside the window for a while, Shao Wanru suddenly pointed somewhere and said, "Big Sister, what's that place?"

Shao Yanru couldn't see clearly from where she sat. Hearing that, she leaned over. "What place?"

Shuqi was worried that Shao Yanru might knock over the teacup at the edge of the table so she especially pulled the table a little further away from the two. The cups clinked and wobbled.

Yujie came to help her move the table a little further away. Though the carriage was driving steadily almost without any bumps, they were in a carriage so it was hard to move things around.

After the two servant girls moved the table together, they were also drawn to the building outside the window. It was a pagoda, standing tall outside. It was neither too far nor too near, but it was extremely eye-catching.

"It's a pagoda in the palace. I heard that it was built in the last dynasty. It's now basically empty, I think. I heard it's near the Cold Palace. I don't know where it is exactly either." Shao Yanru finally saw the thing that puzzled Shao Wanru and casually smiled while taunting Shao Wanru inside. "She doesn't even know this pagoda. She really knows nothing."

The pagoda was relatively famous in the palace. Many people could see it if they looked in the direction of the place. Almost everyone in the capital had heard that the pagoda had been empty for a long time.

"Shao Wanru has almost been in the capital for three years, and yet she doesn't even know such things. She's really away from the capital city's aristocratic family circle."

Shao Yanru hid her lips behind her handkerchief and smiled. "Fifth Sister, I also heard that the pagoda is haunted. I don't know if it's true or just a rumor from idle people in the palace."

Shao Wanru looked surprised and then hid the shock and fluster in her eyes. "Could somewhere in the palace be haunted too?"

"Why not? But I just heard of it from someone else. I don't know if it's true!" said Shao Yanru casually.

Chapter 657 Visited the Palace Together

Shao Wanru lowered her head without saying anything and clenched her fists tightly in her long sleeves!

It turned out that this was the Buddhist tower she saw in front of the palace gate. In her last life, she had climbed this tower, but on the sly when she had been in the palace. On it, she seemingly had seen someone!

The memory of her last life was vague here, and she couldn't remember anything else. She only remembered that this tower was very big when she had seen it at the foot of the tower. Therefore, when she saw this tower just now, she didn't recall the vague Buddhist tower in her memory.

She couldn't remember anything about the tower, as if it was at the edge of her memory, but she somehow felt that it was very important. She seemed to have forgotten something very important and couldn't remember it. She only vaguely felt that this tower was very important to her. If possible, she wanted to enter the tower to have a look.

"In my previous life, did I lose some of my memories here?" thought Shao Wanru.

She slowly relaxed one hand and stretched out from her long sleeve to press between her eyebrows. Many things seemed to have been uncovered in her memory. The incomplete memories in her previous life were always intermittent when being recalled in her mind, but she felt they were very important.

The smell of the medicine bottle that Yujie had picked up from Doctor Qiu reminded her of Wen Xichi. This matter had something to do with Wen Xichi. In her last life, she had smelled this unique one in Wen Xichi's medicine. But even now, she still didn't know what it was exactly.

In the last life, Wang Yishu had been fine, and this Doctor Qiu had not needed to be invited to Duke Xing's Mansion, but he had had something to do with the Deputy Prime Minister's Mansion. Had the medicine that Wen Xichi had used come from this Doctor Qiu? This Doctor Qiu was not from the capital city, and he was specially invited to treat Wang Yishu. So in the last life, had Wen's Mansion invited him to treat Wen Xichi?

There seemed to be a thin thread connecting the two, but she had no way to check it out.

"Fifth Sister, do you have a headache?" Seeing Shao Wanru reaching out to rub her forehead, Shao Yanru said with concern. She thought in her heart, "Could it be that the drug has taken effect? But according to grandma's words, the drug can't take effect so quickly."

"A little bit!" Shao Wanru nodded, leaned against the wall of the carriage, and closed her eyes.

Seeing her uncomfortable look, Shao Yanru acted like a considerate sister and stopped disturbing her. Of course, the stronger the effect of the medicine, the better. She hoped that Shao Wanru would make a bigger scandal at that time! She had indeed prepared for it. There was a trace of hatred in her eyes, and then she carefully hid it in her eyes.

She would not leave the ground for Shao Wanru's retreat!

The carriage stopped at the gate of the palace, and the five people got out of the carriage. After entering the palace gate, they found that five sedan chairs had been parked at that time, and got on the sedan chairs one after another.

The eunuch carried the soft sedan chairs and walked to Honored Consort Shu's palace.

The five of Shao's sisters got on the chairs in sequence. Shao Yanru sat in the first soft sedan chair, and Shao Wanru the last one.

After the sedan chairs stopped in front of Honored Consort Shu's palace, the five of them followed the palace maid to the Dan Palace. After waiting for a while, another two palace maids came out and led them upstairs.

Honored Consort Shu met them in the side palace hall. When she saw five beautiful girls coming in, she beamed with smiles and looked very happy.

The five of them went forward and saluted together, and then sat down separately on both sides. All of them bowed their heads respectfully except that Shao Yanru looked relaxed. She smiled and introduced her younger sisters to Honored Consort Shu. In the past, she had been to the palace to visit Honored Consort Shu, so no one could compare with her.

"Is this Fifth Miss Shao?" Honored Consort Shu asked in surprise when Shao Wanru was introduced and waved to Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru got up, walked slowly to Honored Consort Shu, and saluted her respectfully again.

Honored Consort Shu took Shao Wanru's hand and looked at her from head to toe. Then she said with amazement, "Girls from Duke Xing's Mansion are indeed beauties. I thought that First Miss Shao has already been the most beautiful woman. I didn't expect that Fifth Miss Shao is even more gorgeous. She is a beauty which overthrows states and cities!"

Shao Yanru's smile froze for a moment, and then she calmed down again with coldness in her eyes. She had always been conceited about her appearance and thought that she was indeed the best. Hearing Honored Consort Shu's words, she couldn't help but feel annoyed, and then there came a strong sense of jealousy and hatred.

"You flatter me, Honored Consort Shu. Big Sister is the most beautiful woman in the capital city!" Shao Wanru bowed her head with a slight blush as if she was really shy.

Her skin was originally white with a little pink. Wearing a plain snow-white dress, she was as ethereal as a fairy in a painting. Although her clothes were not gorgeous, they were as elegant as water, but one could also see the charm hidden in them at a closer look. It could be said that she was extremely beautiful and was too delicate to describe.

Three years ago, Shao Wanru had still been young. With her youth, she seemingly had not been as good-looking as Shao Yanru. But now, she was 14 years old. Her innocence had become pure, but she also became extremely charming instead of being ordinary delicate. Honored Consort Shu was a little hesitant at this time.

Such an outstanding appearance would often attract men's admiration. If Chu Liuyue really fell in love with Shao Wanru, it could not be a good thing for her!

"Both of you are beautiful. Girls from Duke Xing's Mansion are all beauties. Not only First Miss and Fifth Miss, but also Second Miss, Third Miss, and Fourth Miss are all beautiful. Old Madam is so lucky to have so many beautiful granddaughters!" Honored Consort Shu praised. Her words were not all lies.

Compared with Shao Yanru and Shao Wanru, Shao Jie'er, Shao Caihuan, and Shao Cailing were not that beautiful but had better look than the Misses of other families.

Shao Wanru returned to her seat and sat aside quietly, listening to Honored Consort Shu and Shao Yanru's conversation.

Honored Consort Shu asked about Old Madam's health most of the time, and she was also very concerned about her health. She also asked whether Old Madam liked the gift she had sent to Duke Xing's Mansion before.

Shao Jie'er and Shao Caihuan also said a few words from time to time. Shao Wanru sat on one side with hands on her knees and just listened quietly with a smile.

"By the way, you don't have to all sit here primly. It's ok to go out and have a look." After talking for a while, Honored Consort Shu seemed to notice the silence among the other people, so she said with a smile.

Shao Caihuan stood up and said respectfully to Honored Consort Shu, "Honored Consort Shu, I hurt my feet the day before yesterday. I want to stay here to accompany you!"

"Honored Consort Shu, I want to stay here with Third Sister!" Shao Cailing looked at her sister, bit her lips, and said softly.

"Honored Consort Shu, Fifth Sister and I want to go out for a walk. Can we?" Shao Jie'er stood up and said to Honored Consort Shu as if she was very close to Shao Wanru.

"Of course. I do not want to restrain you. All of you are as beautiful as flowers. It's really a loss for you to be detained here!" Honored Consort Shu said with a good temper. She waved her hand and a palace maid came over.

"Take the Second Miss and the Fifth Miss to the Imperial Garden. It is said that the newly opened plum blossoms there are quite good. You can enjoy them!" Honored Consort Shu said with a smile.

"Yes!" The palace maid answered and then turned to Shao Jie'er.

"Fifth Sister, let's go!" Shao Jie'er walked up to Shao Wanru and reached out to hold her hand. Shao Wanru stood up and shook her sleeves, and happened to avoid Shao Jie'er's hand.

After saluting Honored Consort Shu, she followed Shao Jie'er out.

She had never seen Shao Jie'er inviting her to enjoy the show with her in such an enthusiastic manner! Her schedule had already been decided before her turn to say something. Next, Shao Jie'er must have arranged some shows for her. In the palace, Shao Wanru would not be too careless, so she gave Yujie a wink and took her out.

Honored Consort Shu seemed to be very kind to her, so she would not fall out with her immediately. And Shao Wanru had not drunk the cup of tea that Shao Yanru had drugged. She just needed to be careful and it would be fine!

The palace maid took Shao Wanru and Shao Jie'er out all the way and turned several places along the way. Then the scenery in front of her gradually made Shao Wanru feel a little familiar. Looking back at the scene around her, she found that it was a place she had been familiar with in her last life. At that time, she felt more relaxed.

Two huge rockeries were set up at the intersection like a bridge, and the other side was set on the palace wall behind them, which looked well-proportioned. Especially a few plum blossoms that stuck out from the rockery added a unique elegance and a faint scent of plum blossoms to the scenery here.

"Misses, please come in. There are plum blossoms and pavilions. Although it is not as beautiful as a large garden of plum blossoms, being hidden in the pavilion makes it a unique scenery." After the palace maid introduced them, she first entered the road between the two rockeries, and then directly entered a yard.

The door plaque of the courtyard was on the rockery and connected to the rockery.

When entering it, she could see a corner of the raised cornice through the plum blossom tree from time to time, which created different strange scenery.

The golden glazed tiles outstood from the flowers, showing the extreme wealth and honor of the world.

The palace maid pointed to a pavilion on the right and said, "Misses, let's go to the nearby pavilion to have a seat. You can enjoy the flowers, drink tea, eat snacks, and chat. What do you think?"

"Okay, I'm really tired now after walking. The palace is really big!" Shao Jie'er nodded first to confirm the matter.

Shao Wanru smiled slightly but didn't answer.

The palace maid saw that the two of them were unanimous, so she led them to turn right. After a few walks, they saw a small attic appearing in front of them.

The palace maid took them to the second floor. It was a little lower than the common second floor, but it was also a little more spacious. The gauze on the balcony was dancing in the wind, and it surrounded a tea table with a few chairs. There were delicate snacks and candied fruit on the table, which must have been prepared long ago!

The palace maid pointed to several chairs and said politely, “Misses, please sit down and have a rest. If you want to go down for a walk later, please feel free. I have something to do now, so I’ll go back to the palace to serve Honored Consort Shu. When I finish my work later, I’ll come back and take you back. Is that okay?”

“Okay, you can go back first!” Shao Jie’er looked around and nodded.

“Yes, I’ll take my leave!” The palace maid smiled and bowed to the two of them again. Then, she turned around and walked downstairs slowly.

Chapter 658 Has Any Childhood Sweetheart Been Waiting for You?

“Fifth Sister, let’s sit down for a while!” Shao Jie’er sat down on a chair and said with a smile.

Shao Wanru looked at her calmly and nodded. However, she didn’t sit down but walked forward.

When she reached the outside of the balcony, she saw several strong branches of plum blossoms leaning in from the outside of the balcony. There were a few yellow plum blossoms scattered on the branches. They were plain and light, which was very pleasant.

There was a clear pool of water outside the balcony. Standing in the corner of the balcony, one could appreciate the plum blossoms and the lake water, which was more uplifting.

There was a winding waterside pavilion in the lake. The plum trees made people feel more and more calm and peaceful. Even though it was winter and it was not suitable to enjoy the scenery at the waterside pavilion, the waterside pavilion was a natural piece of scenery. Although there was no mountain, there was a sense of harmony between the lake and the mountain.

“It’s so beautiful there. Fifth Sister, should we go and appreciate it?” Shao Jie’er appeared beside her at some point. She reached out and pointed at the curved waterside pavilion below.

Shao Wanru looked in the direction she was pointing. The place she was pointing at was close to the side of the lake, and it was also close to their place. There were a few red plum blossoms on the shore, which were bright. Coupled with the blue flowing water in front of her, the scenery made people feel gorgeous inexplicably.

It was the blooming season. The red plum blossoms were like fire, and the branches were shooting up into the sky.

“Okay!” Shao Wanru nodded, raising up her watery eyes, and walked slowly.

Shao Jie’er was slightly stunned. She didn’t expect that Shao Wanru would agree so quickly. She looked at Shao Wanru in confusion. When she saw that her attention was focused on the waterside pavilion

below, she turned her eyes and smiled happily. She reached out to try to hold Shao Wanru's hand intimately, only to see that Shao Wanru turned around and avoided her hand coincidentally.

"Is Second Sister 17 years old now?" Shao Wanru asked casually as she walked out.

Shao Jie'er felt suffocated when she heard that, feeling extremely uncomfortable. Her age had become the biggest taboo in her mind. The so-called "old lady" had now become her identity. In the past, she was so mean to the Misses who had not been married at the age of 16 or 17 in other mansions. Now, she treated this matter as her own taboo.

As soon as she thought of this, she would grit her teeth with hatred.

If Shao Yanru's marriage couldn't be settled, Madam of Duke Xing had reason not to find a husband for her as Shao Yanru's younger sister. So this matter was delayed until this time.

The smile on her face disappeared. She looked at Shao Wanru coldly and stopped walking. "Fifth Sister, I'm not 17 yet!"

"Oh, it turns out that Second Sister is not yet 17 years old. I thought..." Shao Wanru smiled and said.

"What did you think?" Shao Jie'er moved her feet and said with an unfriendly expression.

"I thought Second Sister was already 17 years old. I don't know much about the customs of the capital. But in Jiangzhou, girls of your age should have been married early. I think Second Aunt dotes on you and Big Sister. So she wants to keep you in the boudoir longer." Shao Wanru seemed not to sense Shao Jie'er's anger and still spoke with a smile.

Shao Jie'er's face was about to explode with anger. She grasped the handkerchief in her hand with a spasm and glared at Shao Wanru with hatred. Her words almost came out from her teeth. "Fifth Sister, you did it on purpose, didn't you?"

"What did I do on purpose?" Shao Wanru looked back and turned her eyes to Shao Jie'er, as if she didn't understand why she suddenly got angry.

Seeing her angry face, she gently pressed her lips with a handkerchief and said with a smile, "What's wrong with you, Second Sister? Do you think it's my fault? I'm the youngest one. Even if I cultivate in seclusion, I can't delay you. Besides, my mourning has nothing to do with you. Whether I'm engaged or not also has nothing to do with you!"

Shao Wanru's words were all about herself, but the meaning in her words made Shao Jie'er almost slap her.

She suppressed the anger in her heart and glared at Shao Wanru with her red eyes in extreme hatred. Of course, she knew why her marriage was delayed.

It was not Shao Wanru, who stood in front of her, but Shao Yanru. As long as Shao Yanru did not marry for a day, she could not get married before Shao Yanru. She thought that she had not married until now because of Shao Yanru. She had once cursed Shao Yanru in her heart, but Shao Yanru was the eldest legitimate daughter of Duke Xing's Mansion and the apple of Old Madam's and Madam's eye. She did not dare to do that.

Therefore, she could only fawn on Shao Yanru. She hoped that after Shao Yanru got married, she could get a good marriage from Madam and get married decently.

"Fifth Sister, what do you mean?" But at this time, Shao Wanru triggered her anger rudely.

"Second Sister, do you know why Big Sister does not get married? Which prince does our manor fancy? If Big Sister still wants to wait and continue to delay, what will you do? I'm only 14 years old now, so I'm not in a hurry. Besides, I have my grandmother to worry for me!"

Shao Wanru's smile became more and more clear and elegant as she stepped down the stairs.

Her voice was not high and even a little light. As she went downstairs, her voice became lower and lower. However, every word fell into Shao Jie'er's heart. As soon as they fell, they were rooted in Shao Jie'er's heart, which pained her. Her eyes were full of hatred and jealousy, almost overflowing out of her eyes.

So what if Shao Wanru was not favored? She had Rui'an Great Elder Princess behind her. She had heard in the mansion that Rui'an Great Elder Princess had the right to decide Shao Wanru's marriage. It was the result of Duke Xing's Mansion's recession. Therefore, even if she got engaged before many sisters, the mansion could not control or blame her.

From this respect, Shao Wanru was much better than her!

But why could Shao Wanru have this right? She was the elder sister. If her youngest sister married first, how could she, as the elder sister, bear it? She would definitely be laughed at more. She was a concubine's daughter originally, so she might not be able to marry someone.

"Big Sister is bound to get married this time!" she hurried to catch up with her and said coldly.

Shao Wanru stood downstairs under a yellow plum tree. She raised the corner of her mouth and looked at Shao Jie'er indifferently as if she were looking at a joke.

When Shao Jie'er came over, she said slowly, "Big Sister herself does not know whether she is going to marry Prince Yue or Prince Zhou. If there is no result between the two of them, how can the mansion marry our important Big Sister to any one of them? I heard that Big Sister had been raised in Grandmother's mansion for a period of time. She had been with Prince Yue and Prince Zhou since childhood. It doesn't matter if she needs to wait for a long time. Second Sister, do you have a childhood sweetheart who is waiting to marry you into the mansion?"

After Shao Wanru finished speaking, her watery eyes almost saw through Shao Jie'er. The plum blossom was imprinted in her eyes, so was Shao Jie'er. The plum blossom in her eyes didn't make Shao Jie'er feel beautiful. She only felt cold all over, and her anger almost disappeared in an instant.

Such straightforward words directly struck her heart!

Although the mansion did not say it clearly, Shao Jie'er had seen it every day and paid special attention to it. How could she not understand Madam's hesitation about Shao Yanru's marriage? She knew that Madam wanted to choose the more reliable one among the two princes. But at this moment, she could not figure out who was more reliable.

If she really could not figure it out, Shao Yanru would always stay single. Then she would be waiting for her year after year. With their childhood affection, coupled with Shao Yanru's talent, appearance, and the background of the whole Duke Xing's Mansion, it was not difficult for Shao Yanru to get married. But she was different.

She didn't have a powerful person to protect her.

It was most possible that among all the sisters, she would not be able to get married. The two sisters of the third branch were also the daughters of the principal wife. Their parents would naturally worry about them. What's more, they were younger than her. If Shao Yanru really waited the whole time, they could even imitate Shao Wanru and get married forcibly. Although Old Madam would be unhappy, she could not stop them. After all, Shao Wanru was a leading card.

But as for herself, who could decide for her!

"Second Sister, let's go. Let's go to admire the plum blossoms. The scenery of the waterside pavilion is good. If Big Sister could also come here to enjoy the scenery, it would be great. The two of us are not enough!" Shao Wanru turned her eyes and laughed. Suddenly, she was no longer aggressive.

Shao Jie'er clenched her fists tightly and then slowly put them down. "It's true that if Big Sister appreciates this with us, it will be better."

"Then why don't we invite Big Sister to come over? My third sister and fourth sister can accompany Honored Consort Shu!" Shao Wanru's eyes turned to the waterside pavilion. Originally, the waterside pavilion in winter was not very eye-catching, but because of the red plum blossoms on the shore, the whole waterside pavilion seemed to be alive.

The scenery was gorgeous and outstanding.

"It's indeed a good idea!" Shao Jie'er smiled with a trace of determination in her eyes. She really couldn't let Shao Yanru go on like this. If Shao Yanru didn't get engaged, Shao Jie'er herself would not get married. Anyway, she was in the palace now, and Madam couldn't find out about it. She just took advantage of the situation and could blame it on Shao Wanru after the accident.

Anyway, this was proposed by Shao Wanru.

She asked her servant girl to invite Shao Yanru to come over. Shao Jie'er and Shao Wanru walked to the waterside pavilion next to the plum blossom forest.

She stepped onto the pavilion and walked forward. Not far away, there was a small pavilion inside, which had been arranged. There was a veil outside the pavilion, and she could vaguely see the fruits and desserts on the stone table inside. It should be the place that Honored Consort Shu had arranged early for them to enjoy.

Shao Jie'er pointed at the pavilion with a smile and said, "Fifth Sister, let's go in and have a seat, what do you think?" She looked at this place and knew that it should be the right place.

"Okay!" Shao Wanru nodded and followed Shao Jie'er to step forward.

The two entered the pavilion and sat down. Yujie lifted the veil a little more and sat on the fence. She looked at the beautiful lake in front of her. There were a few plum blossoms in a high-necked beautiful

vase on the stone table. They were elegant, charming, and pleasant. It was indeed a good place to enjoy the scenery.

They could see the scenery more clearly than they did in the tall attic just now since they were closer to it.

As soon as they sat down, they saw a palace maid leading Shao Yanru slowly to this place on the shore outside the waterside pavilion. Shao Yanru, who was well-dressed, was very attractive, even though she was just a figure in the distance. The beautiful woman came gracefully, and no matter when she came, she was extremely pretty...

The two people in the pavilion were not the only people who saw her!

Chapter 659 Each with Her Own Plan, Who Would Get What She Wants?

"Second Sister, I'm going to take a walk on the shore, where the red plum blossoms are really beautiful and seem to be better than those in our mansion!" Shao Wanru stood up and said, "Big Sister is coming. Please wait for her here!"

"Aren't you going to wait for Big Sister here?" Shao Jie'er asked with an unkind look.

"I want to go to enjoy the view now! It's rare to have such a chance to enter the imperial palace!" Shao Wanru said with a smile and turned to walk out.

Shao Jie'er wanted to stop Shao Wanru. However, seeing that Shao Wanru left so decisively, she knew that she could not hold her back. If she were dealing with other sisters in the mansion, she could make them stay with the bonds of their sisterhood, but Shao Wanru in front of her was obviously not one of them.

She watched Shao Wanru leave, but she couldn't do so. When Shao Yanru came over, she had to explain what had happened just now because she had to find a good excuse for herself before carrying out her plan.

Thinking of this, she found Shao Wanru's departure acceptable!

She could take the opportunity to tell Shao Yanru that Shao Wanru had not drunk the wine so that she could shift all the blame onto Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru took another waterside gallery leading in another direction instead of the waterside gallery they took before so she wouldn't meet Shao Yanru on her way.

One of them was coming over, while the other was walking away.

When Shao Yanru saw Shao Wanru leave in the distance, she frowned tightly, because she didn't know whether Shao Wanru had drunk the wine they had prepared. She quickened her pace to go to ask Shao Jie'er how things were going.

The curved waterside gallery looked very close, but in fact, it was a little far away.

Two girls walked in the waterside gallery slowly and gracefully, and the wind lifted up the hem of their clothes and made them look like fairies falling into the mortal world.

However, the two of them were different.

Shao Yanru was dressed in a dark purple overall and a five-color palace dress with large patches of peonies at the edge of the dress, looking gorgeous and ravishing enough to stand out. Her delicate face was so attractive and fascinating! She did deserve to be known as the first beauty in the capital city!

However, Shao Yanru, who was dressed in gorgeous clothes, was thrown into the shade by the other slender figure in the waterside gallery.

Shao Wanru was dressed in a plain long dress, looking like a fairy from Ninth Heaven falling in the waterside gallery. The eight-panel long dress set off her slim figure. As she looked up, she revealed her features, which were too delicate to describe.

Even the extremely beautiful landscape could not compare with the ripples in her fluid eyes, as if the landscape in the entire waterside gallery was reflected in her eyes. As she fluttered her long eyelashes slightly, the entire water area was lit up.

Shao Wanru took another waterside gallery leading to the depths of the plum blossom forest at the end of the shore. Her snow-white clothes lit up the plum blossom forest, making it as beautiful as a dream and making her look like a fairy falling into the mortal world. In comparison, Shao Yanru, who was gorgeous, now looked less beautiful than before and was thrown into the shade and almost became the background behind her.

Chu Liuyue stood in an attic, looking at Shao Wanru's back. At the moment, he stopped tapping the folded fan against the center of his palm.

He involuntarily tracked her back with his eyes. When she disappeared at the end of the shore, he turned back and looked at the waterside gallery with some confusion, wondering if it was an illusion, because Shao Yanru was the only one walking in the waterside gallery.

"Brother, what are you looking at? Why are you so fascinated?" He heard Chu Liuzhou's lazy voice come from behind and felt a hand on his shoulder. Chu Liuzhou also came over and poked his head out to take a look.

Chu Liuzhou also saw Shao Yanru, who was in the waterside gallery. He smiled and said with deep eyes, "It turns out to be the First Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion. I was wondering what fascinated you so much!"

"Why is the First Miss Shao here?" Chu Liuyue gently tapped the fan against his palm and said very casually while looking at Shao Yanru.

"She must have been summoned by an imperial concubine in the imperial palace!" Chu Liuzhou said casually, then turned around and returned to the room to sit down.

"Wasn't she summoned by the Empress?" Chu Liuyue also smiled, then spoke and turned back. There were some fruits in the room, as well as a pot of wine instead of tea.

Chu Liuyue poured a cup for himself and another cup for Chu Liuzhou. After putting down the wine pot, he picked up the cup in front of him, took a sip, and then nodded and said, "It's really good and deserves the reputation as a tribute!"

Chu Liuzhou also picked up the cup in front of him. After taking a sip, he put it down with some disgust and said, "It's so light and sweet that it seems more like a drink for ladies. I don't think it tastes good."

"Don't say that. This is really a tribute sent from the south of the Yangtze River today. Father said it was excellent." Chu Liuyue couldn't help laughing, as he gently tapped the fan in his hand against the wine pot in front of him and said, "It's specially prepared for us because of our visit today. What do you think of it, Commandery Prince Qing?"

Chu Qing, Commandery Prince Qing, was also present. At this moment, he was sitting by the window with a cup of wine in his hand and also enjoying the scenery, happening to face Shao Yanru, who was coming over.

Hearing Chu Liuyue mention him, he hurriedly turned his head and said with a smile, "This wine is very good, although I think it a little too soft."

After speaking, he took another sip.

He was not invested with rank in order of age like Chu Liuyue and other princes, so he was different from Chu Liuchen. Since he could only be considered a nephew rather than a son of the current Emperor, he naturally enjoyed much worse treatment in all aspects.

Furthermore, he was in an awkward situation. Although he was a son of the late Emperor, he was not valued at all. Without the favor of the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, his good health meant nothing.

Everyone knew that he could only be an idle prince provided with a comfortable life for the Emperor's reputation, but he was the one coming to the imperial palace to pay his respects most often among several princes.

He, who went to pay his respects to the Empress and the Empress Dowager every time he entered the imperial palace, was very respectful and polite.

He happened to enter the imperial palace today, but it was an accident that he ran into Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou here. They usually would not invite him to join them, but this time, it was different. Chu Liuyue invited him to join them in enjoying the view with great enthusiasm.

Chu Liuzhou could say that the wine was not good, but he couldn't say that. He made his comment after putting himself in a very low position.

"Commandery Prince Qing, if you like it you should have a few more cups!" Chu Liuyue tapped his fan against the center of his palm several times and said with a faint smile, "Let's go down. It's said that there are pastries and drinks along the way!"

"Well, let's move!" Chu Liuzhou also stood up and said indifferently.

Chu Qing put down the wine cup in his hand, stood up as well, and looked out of the window casually. Shao Yanru had disappeared from his view and probably had gone to the pavilion for a rest.

Shao Yanru's stunning figure caught his eye just now. Although he had met Shao Yanru before, she didn't amaze him as much as this time.

Chu Qing thought it quite a pity that such a girl, with the background of Duke Xing's Mansion, could not marry him. No matter in terms of the background of Duke Xing's Mansion or her appearance, he was very willing to marry Shao Yanru. But such a girl would definitely not marry him, such an idle prince. He knew it clearly.

However, even so, he would not give up. As long as she did not get married, he still had a chance. If Shao Yanru was not selected in the consort selection this time, he could go to her mansion to propose marriage!

In fact, he could make the other girl his concubine, which could be considered fair treatment for her!

Although he was an idle prince, he would not necessarily have a chance in the future!

Moreover, he was at least a member of the royal family and a commandery prince. The children of other noble families could not compare with him.

Thinking of this, he thought he seemed to have a little chance. Of course, First Miss Shao was very unlikely to fail to be selected. Just now, Prince Yue, who stood by the window, should also be looking at First Miss Shao and looked as amazed as he was. Prince Yue would inevitably become his rival.

It would be great if he could prevent First Miss Shao from participating in the consort selection, and it would be even better if he could get engaged to her!

With this thought in his mind, he followed Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou forward.

After Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou left the attic, they somehow walked along the waterside gallery that Shao Yanru walked along before and also headed for the waterside pavilion.

Two of the three of them knew that Shao Yanru was in the waterside pavilion, but Chu Liuzhou didn't.

In the pavilion, Shao Yanru became sullen as soon as she heard that Shao Wanru had left without drinking the wine. She stood up and was about to look for Shao Wanru because she tricked Shao Wanru here today in order to make her drink the wine on the table.

Under the influence of the drug that Shao Wanru had taken before and the wine on the table, Shao Wanru would definitely feel dizzy, and then she could take the opportunity to push her into the water.

Her grandma and Honored Consort Shu meant to let Chu Liuyue save Shao Wanru so that Shao Wanru had to marry into Prince Yue's Mansion as a concubine. After all, Shao Wanru married into Prince Yue's Mansion in such a disgraceful situation, so Rui'an Great Elder Princess could not change anything no matter what she said.

However, Shao Yanru was displeased with that at the thought that if Rui'an Great Elder Princess really strongly opposed the decision of Duke Xing's Mansion and turned to the Empress Dowager and the Emperor to ask for an imperial edict, Shao Wanru might have a chance to become the legal wife. If Shao Wanru became Princess Yue, it would be not easy for her to marry Chu Liuyue.

Although others in Duke Xing's Mansion considered Chu Liuzhou and Chu Liuyue as both princes likely to inherit the throne, Shao Yanru thought that Chu Liuyue was more agreeable to her. After all, Chu Liuzhou seemed to be a little too careless and not good at saying sweet words.

Since childhood, she had corresponded with both of them in private to maintain their childhood friendship. However, compared with Chu Liuyue, Chu Liuzhou obviously sent her many fewer letters and said much fewer sweet words!

From this point of view, Shao Yanru really didn't like to see Shao Wanru have a relationship with Chu Liuyue. Therefore, she asked Chu Liuyue to bring Chu Liuzhou here with the excuse that she thought Chu Liuzhou a more suitable choice.

Of course, this was just an account given by her to Chu Liuyue. In fact, she would most like to see a guard save Shao Wanru! If she arranged a guard to save Shao Wanru, Shao Wanru would marry the guard after she was saved, which was a perfect plan. Of course, if Shao Wanru was not saved and died in the lake in winter, then she deserved it.

These wine and pastries were not prepared for them. If Shao Wanru got drunk and had an accident, no one else should be blamed for it...

Chapter 660 Her Falling into the Water was an Accident, So Was the One Saving Her

"Go and find her!" Shao Yanru said impatiently with a frown.

"Big Sister... I... but what if she doesn't come?" Shao Jie'er had always been timid and cautious in front of Shao Yanru.

"If she doesn't come, just think of a way to make her drink some wine. Try your best to make her drink as much wine as possible!" Shao Yanru reached out to pick up the pot in front, which seemed to contain tea but actually contained wine. She poured a cup of wine in front of her, brought it to Shao Jie'er, and said coldly, "The wine is not strong with a light taste. Letting her drink a few mouthfuls is enough!"

Shao Wanru had been drugged and only needed to drink the wine. Even a sip was enough to make Shao Wanru unconscious for a while.

After that, the thing would develop as she wished!

Even if Rui'an Great Elder Princess insisted that Shao Wanru should not marry a guard, Shao Wanru's reputation would be ruined and Shao Wanru would not be able to marry any prince in the future. She would not allow Shao Wanru to marry either Chu Liuyue or Chu Liuzhou, who were both likely to be her husband.

"But... but..." Shao Jie'er was still hesitating, but seeing Shao Yanru's hard look, she was so scared that she stood up in a hurry like a mouse in front of a cat.

She was very rude in front of Shao Wanru, but was extremely timid in front of Shao Yanru.

She had to get out of the pavilion. When she saw several princes coming from the opposite side, she stopped with her countenance changing slightly and decided to stay there. If she could marry into one of the princes' mansions, even if she could not be the legal wife, it was better than ending up alone. It was such a rare opportunity, so of course, she would stay.

Although she had seen them, there was still a distance between her and them.

After Shao Jie'er stood still, she bit her lip and turned back. She had to tell Shao Yanru about it. Otherwise, Shao Yanru and Madam of Duke Xing would not spare her when she went back.

"Big Sister, what... what's wrong with you?" Turning around and returning the pavilion, Shao Jie'er looked at Shao Yanru, who blushed, in astonishment, looked at the cup on the ground and asked.

She had just left for a while, but Shao Yanru had got drunk.

Shao Yanru came here in a hurry, led by the palace maid in Honored Consort Shu's palace. After bringing Shao Yanru here, the palace maid had already left.

There was no one else in the pavilion except for Shao Yanru!

Looking at Shao Yanru, who was leaning against the fence, narrowing her eyes, and seemed to have fallen asleep, Shao Jie'er recalled that Shao Wanru had said that if Shao Yanru could not get married, it would be difficult for her to get married. At the moment, a spell of wrath rose from her heart. She came over and carried Shao Yanru to the fence.

When she came here before, she had noticed the terrain. The light gauze in the pavilion flew in the wind, but it hid most of the pavilion. She didn't know if it was a coincidence that there was a small gap on the other side of the pavilion. It was not big, but it could allow a person to get through.

"Miss!" Shao Jie'er's maid said in a trembling voice with her face changing dramatically.

"Help me! Quick!" Shao Jie'er said with a pale face, looking flustered and cold.

Shao Wanru's words rang in her ears like a spell and made her forget her fear at the moment. She had such a good opportunity now. Either marrying Prince Yue or Prince Zhou could be considered a fair marriage for Shao Yanru. Moreover, Shao Yanru got herself drunk. Why did Shao Yanru get drunk in such a short time? Maybe it was because Shao Yanru had a poor capacity for drinking.

There might not be such a rare good opportunity in the future. Shao Jie'er felt her heart beat faster and her hands were sore, but she still dragged Shao Yanru to the gap.

Under her fierce eye, her maid hurried over to help. Although both of them were girls and in a panic, they managed to push Shao Yanru down.

"Big Sister... Big Sister... you..." After pushing Shao Yanru down, Shao Jie'er felt sore all over and fell by the fence. She reached out as if intending to grab Shao Yanru's clothes while shouting in panic.

She did grab Shao Yanru's clothes, but she pushed Shao Yanru out with great strength instead of pulling Shao Yanru.

Immersed in the cold lake water, Shao Yanru suddenly sobered up and immediately shouted in panic, "Help, help!"

Meanwhile, she pounded the surface of the lake hard.

Although she was proficient in lyre-playing, chess, calligraphy, and painting, she did not know how to swim. What was more, it was in the winter. As soon as she was immersed in the cold water, her clothes became heavy and dragged her down.

The maid behind Shao Jie'er also shouted desperately.

In fact, it happened in a short time. After Shao Jie'er came in and saw Shao Yanru got drunk, she made a decision and pushed Shao Yanru into the water decisively with her maid. Moreover, Shao Yanru struggled and shouted loudly for help. A group of guards passed by the shore nearby. Hearing the sound of someone falling into the water, several guards immediately jumped into the water.

At this moment, Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou had come near, looking at the scene in front of them with their faces changing dramatically.

Chu Liuyue didn't expect that Shao Yanru would fall into the water. Shouldn't it be the Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion? He had met Shao Wanru several times three years ago. However, even if his impression of Shao Wanru stayed three years ago and his memory had been blurred, he couldn't mistake Shao Wanru for someone else. The person in front of him was obviously Shao Yanru, not Shao Wanru.

Chu Liuzhou also froze for a while, because he didn't expect to see Shao Yanru suddenly fall into the water in front of him. He reached out to take off his cloak and wanted to jump into the lake. He was much stronger than Chu Liuyue. Although it was a little cold in winter, he had a good relationship with Shao Yanru anyway.

Chu Liuyue grabbed him. He didn't want to get into the water indeed, but he didn't want Chu Liuzhou to get into the water either. He said, "Second brother, let's go to the pavilion which is near her. Maybe we can pull her up directly!"

"Okay!" Chu Liuzhou looked around and found Chu Liuyue's words made sense, so he agreed and ran to the pavilion.

However, before they ran into the pavilion, Chu Qing jumped into the lake quickly and held Shao Yanru in his arms in front of them. They didn't know when he ran past them.

Although Shao Yanru was not heavy, her clothes in the lake were so heavy that Chu Qing could not come ashore at once. Two guards swam over from the other side and helped Chu Qing carry Shao Yanru to the pavilion. In the pavilion, Shao Jie'er had reached out in an attempt to hold Shao Yanru's hands and burst into tears in panic.

Chu Liuyue's face darkened and almost became livid because Chu Qing held Shao Yanru tightly in his arms in front of so many people. Although she was dressed in several layers of clothes in winter, Chu Qing did that in front of so many people, which had tarnished her reputation. If she married into Prince Yue's Mansion, she might not be able to become the legal wife.

Reputation was the most important thing for the royal family. Moreover, the one holding her was Chu Qing.

Chu Liuzhou also looked sullen, because he had also hoped to marry Shao Yanru and make her his princess long before and thought that they were in love with each other. However, Chu Qing held Shao Yanru so tightly in front of him. Not only Chu Liuyue, but also a group of guards were present.

After such an accident, his father would definitely get the news. He and Chu Liuyue got into the same trouble that they couldn't marry Shao Yanru in the future.

Neither his father nor his mother would agree to it!

Finally, they were pulled ashore. Shao Yanru kept shivering with cold and her face turned pale. Chu Liuzhou threw the cloak in his hand over with his face darkening. Shao Jie'er took it and hurriedly wrapped Shao Yanru up tightly with it. Chu Liuyue looked sullen and instructed the eunuchs to help Shao Jie'er and her maid carry Shao Yanru to the warm room on the shore.

If Shao Yanru didn't change her clothes after staying in the lake for a while in cold winter, she would probably get sick.

Chu Qing also climbed up from the lake and shook the water off with his face turning pale with cold. After saluting with joined hands to Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou, he also hurried to change his clothes.

It became strangely quiet in the pavilion. Both Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou looked sullen because neither of them had expected this.

Why did she suddenly fall into the lake?" After a long while, Chu Liuzhou said coldly and struck a pillar beside him. He wanted to marry Shao Yanru so that Duke Xing could support him. But now that his plan had been ruined, how could he not be angry?

"Let's go and find out what happened!" Chu Liuyue, who couldn't calm down either, said with his face darkening.

The two of them got out of the pavilion and headed for the nearby warm room.

When they entered the yard, they saw Shao Jie'er walking around in the yard with a flustered look. Seeing Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou come over, she hurried over, knelt down in front of them, and said sadly, "Please save me, Your Highness."

"What happened exactly?" Chu Liuzhou asked impatiently.

"I don't know... I was going to find my Fifth Sister, but when I left the pavilion, I saw you coming, so I turned back to tell my Big Sister about it. Unexpectedly, when I returned, I saw Big Sister fall into the lake. I couldn't pull her back even if I wanted to!" Shao Jie'er said with tears on her face.

It happened in front of them, so Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou could be considered witnesses. Nevertheless, Chu Liuyue knew something else, so he didn't think that Shao Yanru would be stupid enough to get into the trap she set for someone else. At this moment, when he heard Shao Jie'er mention Shao Wanru, a thought flashed across his mind.

Could it be Shao Wanru's counterattack?

"Where is the Fifth Miss of your mansion at the moment?" Chu Liuyue asked.

"I don't know... I saw my Fifth Sister leave. Later, my Big Sister came. At that time, my Fifth Sister had left... I didn't see my Big Sister drink, but... but later, I found an empty wine cup on the table..." Shao Jie'er was almost incoherent. It was obvious that she was too frightened to talk incoherently.

Shao Jie'er had intended to shift the blame onto Shao Wanru. However, Shao Wanru and Shao Yanru didn't meet in the waterside pavilion, which was easy to find out. So she didn't dare to use the excuse

she had prepared before. She grabbed her handkerchief tightly, scared and panicked. Although she gave an incoherent account on purpose, most of it was true.

Shao Yanru drank wine, but she didn't do it in front of her, and Shao Yanru's falling into the lake later had nothing to do with her. It happened in such a short time and she did that on the spur of the moment, so no one would expect that it had something to do with her.

"Here comes Honored Consort Shu!" Suddenly, the sharp voice of a eunuch came from outside the courtyard. On hearing it, Shao Jie'er, who was kneeling on the ground, trembled more terribly, curled up into a ball, and looked at the two young princes in front of her pleadingly. At this moment, Shao Jie'er was not only scared but also regretful.

Why did she do that on the spur of the moment?

Now that Honored Consort Shu was here, would Honored Consort Shu believe what she said?