

Medical Princess 741

Chapter 741 The Former Concubine Wang

Miss Wang, formerly known as Wang Yuxin, was the second daughter of the deputy director of the Ministry of Works. Shao Wanru didn't know her. When Shao Yanru talked to this young lady today, she had just taken a few glances at her. Shao Yanru happened to stand in front of Miss Wang Yuxin, so Shao Wanru didn't see what Miss Wang looked like. She had not expected this Miss Wang to be Wang Yuxin, but Shao Yanru had beaten around the bush when they talked and just mentioned her name in the end as if she had only thought of this Miss Wang that moment.

Shao Wanru couldn't accompany her to see Pushan Nun. She had no relationship with Pushan Nun in the first place and had a problem with Pushan Nun's two disciples. More importantly, with her bad relationship with Shao Yanru, she would never risk it to accompany her to meet Pushan Nun in such a place. In the imperial palace, a wrong word or a wrong action could lead to ruin. It would be impossible for any other girl who was at odds with her sister to agree to such a request. Shao Yanru's request was doomed to fail. As for the explanation later, it was a trivial matter. Compared with the previous things, Shao Wanru would agree to such a trivial matter.

It seemed that this was the key to Shao Yanru's conversation this time. Her last request that she said she almost forgot was her real purpose. Wang Yuxin—Miss Wang—Concubine Wang, was bad-tempered and jealous. She was indeed Shao Yanru's friend in her previous life, and the relationship between the two of them had always been very good. When Shao Yanru was Shao Zhaoyi, Concubine Wang had always been attached to her. She spoke ill of Shao Wanru to Shao Yanru and helped Shao Yanru torture her. Sometimes when Shao Yanru put on a dignified and gentle image, this Concubine Wang would be a vicious helper by her side.

But later, Concubine Wang died inexplicably as she jumped into a lake in the winter and drowned. At that time, Shao Wanru saw this scene with her own eyes, so she remembered it very clearly. The lake Concubine Wang jumped into was not far from Chuxiu Palace. Standing at the back window of the attic that Chu Liuchen had prepared for her, she could see it from a distance.

It was a coincidence that day. She happened to be standing at the back window when she saw Concubine Wang running over and then jumping directly into the water. In the winter, the water was cold, so the court maids and eunuchs who came after her didn't dare to jump into the water casually. Only a few loyal ones did so, and by the time the emperor got the news and came over, Concubine Wang had already been dead. Shao Wanru remembered that she was very happy when she saw that because she had been stabbed with a needle secretly by Concubine Wang the day before, and her wrist was so swollen that she couldn't even hold a paintbrush.

"Was there anything wrong with Miss Wang?" Yujie said anxiously, "If there was, why did you agree to see her? You should have just declined!"

"There's no need to decline. This time, I want to see what Miss Wang and Shao Yanru are up to!" Shao Wanru smiled in a low voice, and her eyes were cold and dark.

She was not the isolated and helpless painter she had been in her previous life, and the two of them had not become the concubines of the emperor. As far as status was concerned, her current status was

higher than that of this Miss Wang Yuxin, so she was not afraid to meet her again. When Miss Wang Yuxin came over, Shao Wanru was talking with Shao Caihuan in the latter's room. When she heard the knock on the door of Shao Yanru's room, Shao Caihuan sent the maid to go over and take a look, and the maid brought Wang Yuxin over.

Wang Yuxin wearing a goose-yellow palace dress was also very beautiful. She even looked very kind and sweet, and there was not a hint of her vicious and mean look as Shao Yanru's accomplice in the previous life.

"Nice to see you, Third Miss Shao, Fifth Miss Shao!" After bowing to the two sisters politely, she stood up with a smile and introduced herself.

"Miss Wang, please sit down!" Shao Caihuan was the host here, so she politely invited her to take a seat with a smile.

Shao Wanru smiled slightly and did not say anything. She just looked Miss Wang up and down, as if it were the first time she had seen her. It would not be until three years later when Wang Yuxin became an arrogant and powerful imperial concubine that they would meet again, according to what happened in her previous life. But Miss Wang wasn't arrogant at all right now.

The three girls talked and laughed very harmoniously, though it was mostly Wang Yuxin and Shao Caihuan talking. Shao Wanru was just smiling and looking at them from the side. She occasionally drank tea and responded to them.

"Fifth Miss Shao, are you willing to stay or leave?" Suddenly, Wang Yuxin turned the topic to Shao Wanru with a smile as she looked at her with a kind face.

"Well... it is not something we can decide!" Shao Wanru smiled slightly and said in a leisurely manner. She sat in a seat behind them and didn't seem to talk much. She would not have been noticed, but she was too beautiful not to be seen as a threat wherever she went.

As Wang Yuxin thought of what Shao Yanru had said to her before, her eyes twitched fiercely. Originally, Shao Yanru was the one who made her feel most threatened. Before entering the palace, she knew that Shao Yanru was hailed as the number one beauty. A girl with such a reputation was bound to be her strongest opponent. However, she saw not only Shao Yanru, but also the even prettier Shao Wanru.

Compared to Shao Yanru, who looked gentle and generous, Shao Wanru in front of her was her ultimate opponent.

"I heard that you know Prince Yue." Wang Yuxin pretended not to care. Upon hearing the words, Shao Caihuan looked at Shao Wanru. She didn't know about it.

"Prince Yue?" Shao Wanru frowned and shook her head. "I only saw him from a distance."

"Have you only seen him once? I heard that His Royal Highness Prince Xin and Prince Yue met you together. His Royal Highness Prince Xin even went to Duke Xing's Mansion to see you," Wang Yuxin asked with a look of surprise.

Shao Caihuan looked at Shao Wanru with some suspicion. She seemed to have heard the people in the mansion mention it, but she didn't know if it was true or not. Now, she realized that it might be true.

Shao Wanru's face darkened, and her cold eyes fell on Wang Yuxin as she asked, "What do you mean, Miss Wang? Don't you know that the most forbidden thing in the palace is baseless rumors? If you want to know whether what I've said is true, then we'll go to see the empress now and ask her to invite Prince Xin and Prince Yue over to confront them in person. It's better than you having your suspicion in private, which will ruin my reputation!"

Shao Wanru stood up as she spoke as if she was about to confront them. Wang Yuxin was stunned for a moment before her face was flushed and her limbs trembled. She hadn't expected that a simple tentative remark would lead to such angry refutation from Shao Wanru. But if they took it up with the empress, she would look bad. She was now angry and vindictive and regretted having spoken so bluntly.

Shao Yanru had warned her repeatedly not to talk about this kind of thing. But she had found Shao Wanru sitting on the side and looking very kind, so she couldn't resist asking the stupid question.

"Fifth Miss, it's just some rumors I heard, and they can't be taken seriously. So why bother the empress with it?" Although Wang Yuxin was angry and vindictive, she had to apologize.

She got into a quarrel with others over some rumors when she first arrived in the palace, and if the empress found out about it, she would immediately be sent home. She was not young anymore, and she had remained unmarried until now for this draft, so she couldn't afford to go back.

"It would be the best that you think so. I don't mind it, but I'm afraid that His Royal Highness Prince Xin and Prince Yue will pursue the matter. Although it is Chuxiu Palace and it is more remote, it is still in the palace. If the two princes investigate it, I'm afraid you and even your father might be punished!" Shao Wanru said lightly.

She turned to Shao Caihuan and said, "Third Sister, I'm not feeling well. I've got to go. Goodbye, Third Sister!"

"Since you are not feeling well, go back!" Shao Caihuan nodded.

Seeing Shao Wanru leaving, Wang Yuxin was ashamed and annoyed. She almost tore the handkerchief in her hand. Unexpectedly, Shao Wanru, who looked like a pushover, was so difficult to deal with. She had been fooled by her and accidentally said what was on her mind just now.

"Third Miss, I've got to leave, too. I have been out for so long, so it's time to go back!" Wang Yuxin smiled dryly and stood up.

Shao Caihuan also stood up, saying, "Then I will see you to the door!"

"Third Miss, you're so kind. See you!" Wang Yuxin was really in a bad mood, so while tugging at her handkerchief, she refused.

She was too angry to deal with Shao Caihuan now. After saying this, she turned around and walked out without waiting for Shao Caihuan to say anything.

She went out of the room and saw Shao Wanru's back and glared bitterly at her before leaving angrily. She had come to see Shao Wanru because Shao Wanru's looks gave her a great sense of crisis. But now it seemed true that something was going on between Shao Wanru and Prince Yue, otherwise, she

wouldn't have dared to suggest asking the empress to invite Prince Yue over to confront her. Was she so sure that Prince Yue would back her up?

His Royal Highness Prince Yue and Shao Wanru had known each other long before, and Shao Wanru was likely to be chosen as the Princess this time, which made her angry. She had also known Prince Yue for a long time, and he was always quite fond of her. Besides, her father had also implied that she should wait for the beauty draft. But in her capacity, she was at most a side concubine, and she would not be reconciled that the Princess would be Shao Wanru.

She went out and turned in one direction, then went straight to the outside of the palace. At this time, Prince Yue might be there and it was the place he had hinted to her before entering the palace last time.

"Where is your incense, Miss?" The maid walking behind her reminded her.

After Wang Yuxin stood still, she took out a small piece of incense from her sleeve and tried to throw it away.

"Miss, don't throw it away now. If someone sees us, it will be bad!" The maid pointed at the gate of Chuxiu Palace where a maid was looking at them with surprise.

"Let's go. We'll talk later!" Wang Yuxin put the incense back in her sleeve and said coldly. She would have planned to put the incense in the incense burner in Shao Wanru's room, but she hadn't expected that Shao Wanru would be in Shao Caihuan's room instead of her own!

Chapter 742 Miss Wang Complained to Chu Liuyue

"Miss, where are we going now?"

"I'm going to see Prince Yue!" Wang Yuxin said irritably. She must interfere with Shao Wanru's plan. With that, she strode out to the outside. The maid at the palace gate saw her coming and hurriedly saluted her, but she was ruthlessly pushed away and staggered to the ground.

Wang Yuxin was in a bad mood, and she would not care about an insignificant palace maid. She walked out with her maid and didn't notice the palace maid who fell to the ground looking angrily at her back. Although Han Dan, an excellent palace maid lived at the bottom of the palace, always wanted to get out of here. Apart from her humble background, she didn't feel much inferior to the beauties here, especially this mean lady. Her father was a scholar for a lifetime and he couldn't even support himself and had struggled in poverty.

She was a scholar's daughter, and she was very beautiful. After her father died, she went into the palace. She had seen the glory of the royal family. Even if she was just an ordinary palace maid, she had infinite ideas. She wanted to find a good master. With her good looks and intelligence, she hoped to climb up the ladder if she had the opportunity. Now she had her eye on First Miss and Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion. She thought both girls were very promising.

The young lady who came out with a ferocious face just now was not as good as her, and she wondered why she had the nerve to lose her temper in the palace. Han Dan was very annoyed, but she couldn't do anything now. If there was only one choice, she would go directly to swear allegiance to and assist the lady wholeheartedly, but now there were two choices. She thought she'd better wait. After all, she had

heard that if a lady of one important aristocratic family got elected, the other ladies of the same family would lose. If she made the wrong choice, there would be no hope for her.

This First Miss and Fifth Miss were both from the same mansion. She was afraid that only one of them could stay, even if both were the best of all beauties. Of course, when the final candidate was not decided, she had to wait on both of them with all her heart. Thinking about this, Han Dan stood up. She patted the dust on her clothes, looked at Wang Yuxin's back, and cursed fiercely, "Damn you!"

Then she limped into the palace gate.

Wang Yuxin still didn't know that she was being cursed by a palace maid she couldn't care less about. Of course, she didn't know that this palace maid would be her opponent in the future. She was now full of anger towards Shao Wanru. She wanted to find Chu Liuyue and complained to him about it. After turning a few turns, she came to a pavilion and looked around. As expected, she saw two guards standing in front of the door. She was excited. It seemed that Prince Yue should be there. The reason why she knew this place was that Chu Liuyue had met her when he went to Chu Mansion before. He inadvertently mentioned this place and said that he would enjoy the scenery here when he was free. He had also told her that she could come to enjoy the scenery if she had nothing better to do after entering the palace. In case that she would not know the way, he had especially sketched the route from Chuxiu Palace to here.

She collected herself, stood still to adjust her hair, and asked her maid, "Is my hair messy?"

"It's not messy at all. You're beautiful as always!" The maid looked at her and praised.

These words pleased Wang Yuxin. She turned around and walked towards the pavilion. When the two guards saw her coming, they blocked her way with their hands, and asked coldly, "Who are you?"

"I am Director Wang's daughter, and I am drafting in the palace. I'd like to see His Royal Highness Prince Yue!" Wang Yuxin said softly.

Two guards glanced at her, and one guard said, "Wait a minute!" The guard turned around and walked inside, while the other still stopped in front of Wang Yuxin to prevent her from taking a step forward at will.

The guard who went in to report her arrival came back quickly, and soon he walked out, and respectfully bowed to Wang Yuxin. "Miss Wang, the prince invites you to come in!"

"Thank you!" Wang Yuxin said, feeling proud. As expected, His Royal Highness Prince Yue would be waiting for her here, which made her more confident. She had always felt that she was a promising candidate with good looks. But when she entered the palace, she discovered that there were too many beauties in the draft. Although she was excellent, she was not the most outstanding one. She was no match for the sisters of Duke Xing's Mansion. Miss Shao had told her that she had no intention of being selected. The girl to be selected from Duke Xing's Mansion should be Shao Wanru. Therefore, she had a very good attitude towards Shao Yanru. In a short while, the two of them had become intimate friends.

But what if she was not as good-looking as Shao Wanru? His Royal Highness Prince Yue liked her, not Shao Wanru. He had even been waiting for her here. It was such a kind of affection that Shao Wanru could never have. With the favor of His Royal Highness Prince Yue, she believed that Shao Wanru would

never enter Prince Yue's mansion. Chu Liuyue was standing with his hands behind his back at the window and looking at the lake outside. The window was facing the east, and the sun was shining upon it. It looked like he was plated with a gold halo, which made him look increasingly tall and handsome.

The layout of the house was very simple. There was only a desk and a few chairs. It was a casual office place and indeed a place where Chu Liuyue occasionally took a break from work. It was not his at first. Due to the draft, the empress had decided to give Prince Yue, Prince Zhou, and Prince Xin a pavilion near the Chuxiu Palace so that they could occasionally see these beauties. If the general condition permitted, the princes had a certain degree of freedom to choose their women. Of course, the Princess's position was designated. But if the prince liked it, he could choose one or two girls to enter his house.

Of course, the choice shouldn't conflict with the Princess's position.

Chu Liuchen had originally had his pavilion here, so the empress hadn't arranged it for him separately. Chu Liuyue thought it was very good. When Wang Yuxin came in and saw Chu Liuyue's tall figure, she immediately lowered her body shyly, and bowed sideways, "Your Royal Highness!"

"Miss Wang, please sit down!" Chu Liuyue turned around. Although the smile on his face was faint, she could see that it was much softer than his coldness and sternness in front of others in the past.

"Thank you, Your Highness!" Wang Yuxin walked over and sat down on a chair on one side with a blushing face and lowered head. She was kneading the handkerchief in her hand restlessly and agitatedly.

Prince Yue was waiting for her here, and he spoke very softly at her, which made her very excited.

"What's wrong, Miss Wang?" Chu Liuyue asked in a gentle voice as he walked to the main chair, lifted his robe and sat down.

"I..." Wang Yuxin couldn't say anything for a while. She just felt hot on her face. All the words she had prepared all disappeared when she saw Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue frowned secretly when he noticed Wang Yuxin's hesitation out of the corner of his eye. He had something to do in a while and didn't want to waste time on Wang Yuxin. He coughed immediately and introduced the topic. "Have you enjoyed your stay in the palace? If you have any problem, just tell me and I will do my best to solve it for you!"

This was ambiguous. Chu Liuyue had his eye on the strength of her father Director Wang. His rank was not very high, but the Wang family was aristocratic. Apart from him, there were many officials from the family. It seemed that Director's official rank was not high, which screened out the possibility of Wang Yuxin being selected as the Princess. With Wang Yuxin's background, she could become his side concubine or concubine, which was originally Chu Liuyue's plan.

"I've enjoyed it, but..." Wang Yuxin said softly.

"But what?" Chu Liuyue still asked in a soft voice. Although he was impatient, his face didn't show it, He was now much gentler than before.

Wang Yuxin only felt her heart beating faster, and something seemed about to jump out of her throat. She subconsciously squeezed the handkerchief in his hand, and said tenderly, "Most of the ladies are very kind and don't bully others. We're all very happy to live together!"

"Someone bullied you?" Chu Liuyue asked with a frown. He didn't want to deal with such trivial affairs among girls.

When Wang Yuxin was peeking at him, his expression gave her the illusion that Chu Liuyue was angry because of her being bullied, and she was overjoyed immediately.

"No... no one is bullying me!" She raised her hands and shook them to deny it, but the look in her eyes and the expression on her face suggested that she had been bullied and she didn't dare to speak.

"Tell me who is bullying you?" Chu Liuyue was not in the mood to deal with her and asked bluntly. If it was someone irrelevant, he wouldn't mind teaching her a lesson secretly.

"It's... It's Fifth Miss Shao!" Wang Yuxin wiped away the fake tears on the corners of her eyes aggrievedly with her handkerchief. "She is the granddaughter of Rui'an Great Elder Princess and the daughter of Duke Xing's Mansion. She..."

Fifth Miss Shao? Shao Wanru? Chu Liuyue suddenly thought of a slender and delicate figure. Now he frowned deeply with some inexplicable annoyance.

"Tell me what is going on? How did she bully you?"

Wang Yuxin had come to file a complaint. After seeing that she had already provoked Prince Yue's anger, she became even more aggrieved. Thinking of Shao Wanru's rebuke to her just now, she shed a few tears and her eyes became red. "Fifth Miss Shao scolded me in front of the ladies of their Duke Xing's Mansion because of her identity, saying that I... that I... would never get selected!" Wang Yuxin cried, "She said that even if I could be selected, in the end... she wouldn't make it easy for me..."

Of course, she was implying that if Chu Liuyue had to choose between Shao Wanru and her to enter the Prince Yue's Mansion. If Shao Wanru failed, she wouldn't go easy on her. If a woman with a vicious nature wanted to hurt a man's beloved woman, the man would certainly not allow her to have the opportunity to enter his mansion.

Chu Liuyue's gentleness gave Wang Yuxin an illusion that she was the woman Prince Yue loved most. At least she thought it was the case. She was quite sure about it. If she got selected, Shao Wanru would never be able to enter Prince Yue's Mansion...

Chapter 743 She Made a Protective Talisman Just in Case

"Why did she say that to you?" Chu Liuyue asked.

"I... I don't know, I... I was talking with the Shao sisters, and we were talking about you. I said that when I saw you, you were handsome, graceful, and very gentle. But others always said that you were indifferent... I actually didn't say anything else, but Fifth Miss Shao was furious, and repeatedly scolded me, saying that I shouldn't mention you!" Wang Yuxin seemed to be more aggrieved.

Of course, she was implying that Shao Wanru also wanted to marry into Prince Yue's Mansion, so she had shown great malice to Miss Wang because she presented herself as the future wife of Prince Yue.

Shao Wanru was still in the beauty draft now, and it was doubtful whether she would get selected or not. It was ridiculous for her to be so certain and pretentious. She even bullied the prince's beloved woman. No man could put up with her!

Although Wang Yuxin seemed aggrieved, she was secretly gloating.

Shao Wanru was indeed beautiful, so what? Miss Wang decided to speak ill of her to Prince Yue to make him hate her. Although he might see her outstanding looks later, so what? He would still feel disgusted. Chu Liuyue showed a surprised look. He picked up a cup of tea on the table with his slender fingers, took a sip, and lowered his eyes to cover the emotions.

Shao Wanru liked him and wanted to marry into the Prince Yue's Mansion? With Shao Wanru's identity, it was possible. But if she married into Prince Yue's Mansion, it would be impossible for Shao Yanru to marry him too. Then the support of Duke Xing's Mansion might be stolen by Chu Liuzhou. Of course, he did not want that to happen. Two sisters from the same mansion could not marry into the royal family at the same time. This rule was not absolutely carried out. However, it was certain that two sisters of the same family could not marry the same prince. Moreover, both of them were born to the duchess and had distinguished identities.

Comparing the two sisters, Chu Liuyue thought that Shao Yanru had a better chance of winning. But when he thought of Shao Wanru, he felt that he couldn't let her go since she liked him so much. He secretly thought that he should find a way to marry the two sisters, which would be the best.

The room became quiet. Wang Yuxin twisted her body uncomfortably. She had thought that once she finished speaking, Chu Liuyue would promise her that he would never allow Shao Wanru to marry into the Prince Yue's Mansion. But what did he mean now?

"Your Highness..." Wang Yuxin asked tentatively.

"I see. Why don't you go back first and pay more attention to Fifth Miss Shao's emotions in the future? If anything happens, report to me immediately. I will do what I can to help you!" Chu Liuyue raised his head and said in a gentle voice.

"Thank you, Your Highness!" Wang Yuxin stood up excitedly and bowed to Chu Liuyue. She was greatly relieved. It seemed to her that Chu Liuyue was just confessing his love to her. She got what she had wanted and knew that she should not stay here any longer.

Watching Wang Yuxin leave, Chu Liuyue frowned deeply and looked coldly at Wang Yuxin's back. When he saw Shao Wanru's figure in the palace that day, he felt more shocked than the time when he had seen Shao Yanru. If he knew that Shao Wanru would attract him so much, he should have done something when he was in Jiangzhou that day instead of waiting until now. Right now, he wouldn't let Shao Yanru go. Fortunately, Shao Wanru was still young, so she could go back and wait for a few more years. When the most important matter was settled, it would not be difficult for him to ask Shao Wanru to enter the palace. Even if there were rules, it wouldn't be difficult to break them at all once he was in power and ascended to the throne...

On her way back, when Wang Yuxin turned around and saw Chu Liuyue looking at her back "blankly" and reluctantly, her face instantly flushed with shyness, but she felt more pleased. She believed that Prince Yue liked her so much. Chu Liuyue was actually just in a daze. He hadn't expected that Wang

Yuxin could be so imaginative. He took a deep breath. This time he had to prevent Shao Wanru from being selected, especially selected by Chu Liuchen. He heard that the Imperial Grandmother seemed to have tried to paired her off with Chu Liuchen three years ago.

Chu Liuchen had been sick. As long as he was alive, he would be a sick prince that was not easy to deal with, and he must not take him lightly. He could start with Rui'an Great Elder Princess. As long as Rui'an Great Elder Princess understood that if Shao Wanru married Chu Liuchen, she would only end up being widowed, and he believed that the Elder Princess who had just found her granddaughter would not be happy about it. At that time, even the empress would have to take the Elder Princess's advice, and would not force her.

As for the Empress Dowager, Rui'an Great Elder Princess also had her way to persuade her. As for him, as long as he showed his strength a little bit, the Elder Princess would understand how to choose. He became immediately relaxed when he thought about it. This matter had always troubled him, but he had not expected that Wang Yuxin had accidentally untied the knot in his mind.

Wang Yuxin would be of some use at some point. It was also a good idea to keep her watching Shao Wanru in the palace. It was a serendipity...

"Miss, are we going to make a protective talisman?" Yujie looked at Shao Wanru in surprise and asked.

"Yes, we will make one by ourselves. The protective talisman always has to be hung around the neck. If Third Sister knows that I didn't wear the one she gave me, she will probably be unhappy!" Shao Wanru looked at the red pouch in her hand and spoke.

The fabric was just cut from a piece of clothing she had brought, and it was sewn into a small cloth bag, and two ropes were tied to the outside so that it looked very similar to the one that Shao Caihuan had given her before. The only difference was the exquisite pattern on it.

Shao Wanru closed the mouth of the pouch with a needle and thread, and then sealed it skillfully. Her needlework was not bad, because she had done needlework and embroidery when she was free in her last life. "Miss, there is no protective talisman in it!" Yujie's needlework was not as good as Shao Wanru's. She couldn't help much at this time, so she reminded her master.

Protective talisman got its name because the most important thing was the small paper talisman inside. It could be stored for a longer time after the pouch was sealed.

"We don't need to put it in. It's just for making fashion. If Third Sister asks about it, I can pull it open a little to show her!" Shao Wanru said while she continued to seal it.

"Miss, are you so sure that Third Miss will ask about this protective talisman?" Yujie asked in a puzzled way. Since the protective talisman had been given away, how could she ask about it again? When she was at Jingxin Monastery before, many people asked for the protective talisman. But she had never heard of anyone who would ask the receiver to show it to see if it was lost.

"She will ask about it, and ask me to show her!" Shao Wanru smiled slightly with a bit of laziness in her attitude. Then she turned to Yujie and blinked. "You said that you had drawn a protective talisman. Why don't you draw a symbol outside the pouch?"

The bags containing protective talismans were also different on the outside. Some were specially designed with markings. When Yujie was in Jingxin Monastery, she had painted for the Abbess of Jingxin Monastery, and could also draw one or two strokes according to a set pattern.

“Miss, the protective talisman is painted too delicately for me to draw it!” But Yujie felt that she couldn’t draw the former protective talisman, and shook her head. At that time, she just looked at it a few more times and marveled at its beauty.

“You can draw the middle ones first, and I will draw the lines on the sides!” Shao Wanru smiled. She had also looked at it a few more times. It was okay to draw a few rough lines to just present a similar shape, and it did not need to be exactly the same.

They worked together, and after a short while, one protective talisman was completed. Yujie looked at it near the rear window carefully and she was surprised.

“Miss, it looks similar, but it’s not the same. I don’t think the effect is great. If someone takes a closer look, she will find something wrong!” Yujie looked sideways again and felt that it didn’t look like that one very much.

“It’s good enough that it’s similar. If they will find something wrong when they look at it carefully, then I won’t allow them to look at it carefully!” Shao Wanru smiled meaningfully.

She only needed it to look similar and didn’t need it to look the same. If it was the same, it would be hard for her to explain it. It was just right now. As expected, things happened very quickly. On the day that Shao Wanru was going to have her portrait painted, Shao Yanru was also the No. 2, but the two were not assigned to the same painter. Since the time was the same, the two went out together. However, they ran into Wang Yuxin at the gate of the palace.

She seemed to have just returned from outside the palace. When she saw the Shao sisters, she walked over immediately. She first saluted Shao Yanru affectionately, “Miss Shao,” and then greeted Shao Wanru coldly, “Fifth Miss Shao”.

Shao Wanru was not surprised by Wang Yuxin’s behaviors. She raised her eyebrows and looked at her. She just stopped and didn’t move forward.

“Where did you go, Miss Wang?” Shao Yanru asked with a smile.

“I just came back from the outside!” Wang Yuxin took Shao Yanru’s hand and looked at Shao Wanru vigilantly. Seeing that she was standing still and not coming forward, she rolled her eyes at her and lowered her voice, “I got two!”

As she spoke, she took out something from her chest pocket, and quickly stuffed it into Shao Yanru’s hand. Then she looked at Shao Wanru again, and was satisfied when she saw that her attention seemed not focused on her.

“This is for you!” Wang Yuxin whispered.

“You got it at a high price. No. Thanks.” Shao Yanru refused in a low voice.

“Why don’t you accept it? It took me a lot of money and great effort. There are just two, one for you and one for me,” Wang Yuxin said. She forced Shao Yanru’s hands to clench the stuff firmly.

"But I..." Shao Yanru seemed hesitant.

"Miss Shao, we're good friends. Please take it!" Wang Yuxin smiled, and raised her eyebrows provocatively at Shao Wanru nearby. "I got you one because I like you a lot. As for someone else, even if she kneels down to beg me, I won't give it to her!"

She vaguely rolled her eyes at Shao Wanru, and then smiled and said goodbye to Shao Yanru.

Seeing her leave, Shao Yanru smiled and turned around to look at Shao Wanru, and said softly, "Fifth Sister, do you like it?" She stretched out her palm, and a delicate protective talisman was lying quietly on it.

Chapter 744 Her Test Failed!

"Fifth Sister, here you are!" Shao Yanru said softly, taking out another protective talisman from her neck, "I already have one!"

"I have one too. Thank you for your kindness!" Shao Wanru smiled gently.

"Where did you get it?" Shao Yanru asked in surprise.

"Third Sister gave it to me. I've always worn it!" Shao Wanru pulled a thread out of her neck. The protective talisman inside was not pulled out as Shao Yanru did. Only one end was exposed to show that what she said was true. Then she put the protective talisman back in place.

Although they were at the gate of the palace, they were near a corner inside. When Shao Yanru just took it out, she was quite vigilant, and Shao Wanru approached her to avoid being spotted by anyone else. Such behavior wasn't polite after all.

"Third Sister gave it to you? I heard that this protective talisman is very useful. It is different from those from the outside. I got one before and I thought I would get one for you." Shao Yanru also put her protective talisman back and explained it to Shao Wanru with a smile.

"Thank you, Eldest Sister!" Shao Wanru said softly, "I'll go over first. I heard that my painter is very impatient. If I am late, I am afraid I will be scolded!"

The beauties of the draft did not dare to offend the painter. It would be too bad if the painter presented them poorly in their portraits. Different painters would paint the same person differently. It was not that they were completely different, but just a few small changes could immediately make a good-looking person ordinary and an ordinary-looking person more vivid and beautiful.

Shao Wanru had worked as a painter in her last life, but she was very cautious and sincere in her paintings. Even if someone wanted to bribe her to paint her more beautifully, she did not dare to tamper with the painting. For this reason, several ladies of the rich and powerful said that she was just a useless loser who deserved to be kicked out.

"Fifth Sister..." Shao Yanru wanted to talk to Shao Wanru more to find out if the protective talisman Shao Wanru was wearing around her neck was the one given by Shao Caihuan.

But Shao Wanru turned and left after speaking. She couldn't stop her even if she tried to. Even if she could stop her, it would arouse Shao Wanru's suspicion. She watched Shao Wanru's back with a gloomy

look. She would do it, but she would not do it herself. Nothing could go wrong in the draft. She would never do it herself. Since there were helpers around, why did she have to take the risk of being discovered and deal with Shao Wanru by herself?

Shao Wanru was not easy to deal with! Was the protective talisman on her real? After several encounters with Shao Wanru, Shao Yanru did not dare to underestimate Shao Wanru.

“Miss, why don’t we find another chance to check it?” Shuqi saw that she was silent and knew what she meant, so she thought about it and suggested.

“No, she will have some doubts about it!” Shao Yanru shook her hand and walked out slowly. Shao Wanru had always been vigilant and had been targeted several times. If she repeatedly asked about her protective talisman, it might be counterproductive.

She thought she’d better not ask about it right now.

She put the protective talisman in her hand into her sleeve. This protective talisman was good, but the two for Shao Caihuan were tampered with. With Buddha incense as its cover, Shao Wanru couldn’t find anything wrong with it, even if she knew some medicinal techniques. This medicine was not native to the Central Plains, so Shao Wanru was certainly too young to suspect anything.

“Then what if the Fifth Miss is not wearing the one the Third Miss had given her?” Shuqi was also very worried. Like Shao Yanru, she always felt that Shao Wanru would find out the secret.

Shao Yanru squinted her eyes and felt that what she had seen just now should be it. Although Shao Wanru only took out one corner of it, the fine lines on it should be Pushan Nun’s newly designed lines, which were true.

She was greatly relieved at the thought of it.

“Just take it as true for now. Ask Wang Yuxin to come over tonight!” Shao Yanru said. She believed that it was mostly true, and she could do nothing more about it now.

“Yes, I know!” Shuqi nodded. The incense had been delivered to Miss Wang, and she was waiting for Miss Wang to use it. Whether it was successful or not, this matter wasn’t related to her master. Even if they wanted to check it, they couldn’t go back to her.

They talked and left.

A palace maid who had been sweeping at the palace gate raised her head and looked at the direction where the Shao sisters went out and the direction where Wang Yuxin had just left. Then she bowed her head and swept the floor. If one looked at her carefully, they would find that she was not sweeping the floor as meticulously as before, and she was now simply sweeping forward. This direction forward was also very similar to the direction that Wang Yuxin had left just now... Shao Wanru’s painter was also a female painter. She was an elderly female painter of the age of 40 or 50. When she saw Shao Wanru, she looked amazed. After looking Shao Wanru up and down a few times, she immediately showed appreciation with a big smile on her face.

She looked at the list in front of her and said, “Are you Fifth Miss Shao of Duke Xing’s Mansion?”

"I am!" Shao Wanru smiled. She liked the female painter in front of her. Although she was not her in the last life. After a lifetime, she remembered her previous self when she saw the female painter.

"Fifth Miss Shao, you're really beautiful. I thought it was Miss Shao who was extremely beautiful, but it turns out that Fifth Miss Shao is. I am very glad to meet you!" The female painter said with a smile in a very good mood.

As a painter, the idea of pursuing beauty was stronger than that of ordinary people. Another female painter was painting the Young Lady of Duke Xing's Mansion Miss Shao, who was said to be the first beauty. She had been envious of her colleague. She had seen Miss Shao from a distance before, and she was indeed charming. Therefore, another female painter had proudly come to show it off to her for a few days, and she was quite depressed. Who didn't want to paint a beautiful woman, let alone the first beautiful woman?

But seeing Shao Wanru right now, the female painter felt no regret anymore, and then it would be the turn of her colleague to envy her. Thinking of this, the smile on the female painter's face brightened. In a very good mood, she asked Shao Wanru to sit down at an angle and started to paint her.

Shao Wanru was sitting calmly and gracefully. She held a picture album casually, which was what she requested. If she sat motionlessly, she was afraid that she would fall asleep. The sunlight coming in from outside the window made her feel lazy and drowsy.

She had been a painter herself. Of course, she knew that when it came to portraits for the beauties, she didn't have to sit down seriously. She could choose the right angle, hold something in her hand, and the picture album of the female painter seemed great right now.

When she opened the picture album, the first picture attracted Shao Wanru's attention. Originally, she just looked at it casually to kill time, and didn't intend to see anything interesting, but the picture right now made her heart tremble. It was Chu Liuchen's paintings. This album did not belong to the female painter, but Chu Liuchen?

Before she could take a closer look, she turned back page after page, and saw Chu Liuchen's seal "Lay Buddhist at Weiyu Pavilion" as expected. She couldn't help but feel a throb in her heart. She blinked her watery eyes, and her long eyelashes flickered to conceal the shyness in her eyes. Had it always been him for two lives?

In what way had he defended her in the previous life? In this life, he appeared in her life again. She somehow felt slightly sour and soft.

After she was born again, she had always been sensible, and even hard-hearted. But now when she thought of him, she felt like she was losing control. He had entered her heart. The things of the previous life were just a start to open her mind. If she hadn't found that he was the person who had taught her painting and guarded her in the palace in the previous life, she might not have dared to take a good look at herself.

She didn't regret it!

That sick man, would he have all the power in the future, would he be cold and bloodthirsty, he treated her differently after all! It was only a pity that she didn't have any memory of him in the previous life. As

if a part of her memory which was centered on him had been dug out and therefore made her some other memories unstable, and even some were missing.

Why was this happening?

Her fingers ran across the picture album in front of her, tossing and resting on a plum blossom he painted, but her thoughts had already drifted beyond the clouds. Could it be that something had happened in the previous life, and it led to the loss of all her memories of Chu Liuchen?

All the memories about him were blurred, and she was inexplicably reborn again! She had never heard of rebirth before, but she was born again. If she hadn't experienced it personally, she would never have believed its existence.

"Fifth Miss, raise your head slightly." There came the painter's voice, and Shao Wanru reacted after a while and raised her head.

"Well, that's great. It's already very good and beautiful!" The female painter exclaimed.

She felt that the Fifth Miss Shao in front of her was a unique beauty. She was extremely beautiful in every way, like a beautiful picture scroll that was very pleasing to the eye. This lady was here to participate in the beauty draft. If she failed, the female painter believed that all the other beauties would certainly fail this year.

Shao Wanru continued to meditate. She always felt that there was a key here, a key that had a direct connection with her and Chu Liuchen, but she couldn't put her finger on it now...

"Fifth Miss, that's all for today. You can go back and rest!" The female painter put down the pen in her hand, looked at what she had drawn, and nodded with satisfaction.

Although she had only drawn an outline of her, one could see a beautiful girl leaning on a wicker chair at a large window, tilting her head slightly to look at a picture album, which looked quiet and charming!

It was quiet behind her. The female painter turned her head and found that Shao Wanru had closed her eyes and fell asleep there. She chuckled but didn't wake her up. She quietly packed her stuff, walked out of the studio, and said to Yujie who was guarding outside, "Your lady is asleep. Go and wake her up later!"

Chapter 745 Each One Had a Different Idea

It was late when Shao Wanru came back. She walked over Shao Caihuan's room and heard the sound of laughing inside. After entering her room to freshen up, soon she heard Shao Caihuan's maid invite her to go over. Shao Wanru took Yujie to Shao Caihuan's room. When she entered the house, she found that there were five people inside.

Shao Caihuan and Shao Yanru were both here. There were also Wang Yuxin and the other two young ladies who she had seen these days. They were also the beauties who had entered the court draft. Incense was burning in the air, which was the plum scent that Shao Caihuan always liked to use.

The treatment for beauties was pretty good. There was incense in the palace, and they could choose the incense they liked. This was what Shao Caihuan liked most.

"Fifth Sister, come here." Shao Caihuan intimately introduced Shao Wanru to the two young ladies, "This is my Fifth Sister."

She smiled at Shao Wanru again, "This is Miss Di and Miss Yu. This is Miss Wang you've met!"

"Nice to see you, Miss Di, Miss Yu, Miss Wang!" Shao Wanru came over to salute them generously and then sat down on one side. The smell of incense in the air was very strong, and she was the latest visitor, so she happened to be seated nearest the incense.

Shao Wanru raised her eyes and looked at the incense on the counter beside her. The incense burner was the same as hers, with a touch of royal luxury in its exquisiteness. Curling fragrance slowly rose from the spout in the burner top.

"Third Sister, what kind of incense do you use today? It's so fragrant," Shao Wanru asked. She stood up, as if she was going to lift the lid of the incense burner.

"Fifth Sister, it's just the plum leaf incense that Third Sister likes. If you like it, I will give some to you next time. I just don't know when you started to like this kind of smell. In the past, you were not very interested in such things, were you?" Shao Wanru smiled softly.

Hearing what she said, Shao Caihuan also laughed and stretched out her hand to pull her, "Sit down, what's wrong with you today? Suddenly you cared so much about my incense. You have never asked such questions before."

Shao Wanru sat down and didn't force it. She just smiled and looked at the incense burner and said, "It's never been so strong in the past. Haven't you smelled it?"

The young ladies looked at each other and shook their heads.

"No!"

"This is the same as usual. Why do you say it is strong this time?"

"Plum incense is the lightest and most pleasant of all incense. How could it smell so strong? Is your nose working not well?" Wang Yuxin curled her lips mockingly, but she was secretly wary. She hadn't expected that Shao Wanru had such a keen sense of smell, and she could tell that it smelt a lot stronger.

"Maybe you ladies have been in the room for a while, so you didn't realize it. If you came in like me just now, you would smell something different. This scent is really strange!" Shao Wanru frowned and looked quite strange.

Hearing what she said, Miss Yu stood up and said, "I will try!"

She turned around and walked out the door. After standing outside the door for a while, she frowned when she came in again, "This smells really... something's not right, and it smells really strong!"

"Really! I'll go out and try!" The other lady also stood up with a smile and walked out the door.

"Is it so amazing?" This time, even Shao Caihuan was interested!

She went out too.

Wang Yuxin's face turned pale, and her fingers trembled slightly. Shao Yanru looked calm. She smiled and looked at them enter and exit the door without saying anything. She looked like a steady Young Lady who was much more dignified and decent than the ones who went out. Seeing Shao Yanru's expression, the two young ladies were too embarrassed to get up again after they sat down, or discuss the things just now.

They were ladies from the aristocratic family, and they entered the beauty draft. How could they be so easily swayed? Maybe the fragrance in this room was not so strong, and it was the same as always. It was just that they had come in and out of the room, which had caused them to smell differently. It was all about psychology, and it was no big deal. Besides, the incense that was freshly lit was different from the one that had been lit for a while.

"It was freshly lit, so it was a little light when I came in. Now it's been lit for quite a while, so it is naturally a lot stronger!" Miss Yu said first. She was the first one to go out. When she saw Shao Yanru's calmness, she was deeply ashamed of her poor manners, so she hurried to remedy it.

Now that she said so, other people agreed that it was nothing, even if the smell was too strong, Shao Wanru came late, and the smell had naturally become much stronger when she came in.

Shao Wanru ignored them. She just frowned, and closed her eyes slightly. She looked uncomfortable, but was trying to fight it.

"What's wrong, Fifth Sister?" Shao Caihuan finally noticed Shao Wanru's anomaly and asked.

"Are you not feeling well, Fifth Sister?" Shao Yanru asked with concern.

"I... I'm not feeling well!" Shao Wanru frowned deeply, holding the handkerchief in her hand firmly, and the force was so strong that the veins on her hand were obvious.

"What's wrong?" Shao Yanru hurriedly asked as she stood up and walked to Shao Wanru.

"I don't know..." Shao Wanru's delicate face looked terrible, and it was slightly pale.

"Shall we send for an imperial physician?" Shao Yanru asked nervously, looking a little flustered. Although she was asking Shao Wanru, she was looking at Shao Caihuan.

Shao Caihuan hesitated. It was in the palace and they were in the draft, and it was so late now. If they really took it to the nanny in-charge and then sent for the imperial physician, it would make things worse.

If something happened to Shao Wanru, all of them at present would be implicated.

"Well... let's wait. Maybe it's nothing..." Shao Caihuan hesitated. It was her room. If something went wrong, she would be the one with the greatest responsibility.

She even blamed Wang Yuxin for it. If it weren't for Wang Yuxin's visit, other people would not have come with her, and Shao Wanru would not have had an accident here.

"But she looks... looks very bad!" Miss Yu was not brave. Watching Shao Wanru holding her chest uncomfortably, she said anxiously, "Or... or go to the nanny in-charge and ask her to send for an imperial physician?"

"No, if the nanny comes, she will scold us, and if things get bigger, they may even drive all of us out of the palace!" Wang Yuxin shook her head repeatedly and stopped her.

The young ladies who had stayed in the draft were all likely to be selected. Even though Shao Caihuan had no idea at first, after she stayed, she had felt that it was not completely impossible for her. At this time, if something happened and she was sent out of the palace, her hope would be ruined. More importantly, people would laugh at her and look down on her in the future.

Even if she couldn't marry those princes, she couldn't ruin her reputation. Shao Caihuan was not young anymore and if she did not get selected this time, she must get married immediately. Nothing could go wrong at this time.

"Let's take Fifth Sister to go back to rest first, and there should be nothing wrong. What do you think, Eldest Sister?" Even though Shao Caihuan thought so, she would not take it all on her. At this time, she'd better leave it to Shao Yanru.

"Well..." Shao Yanru hesitated, looking frightened and uncertain.

"Take Fifth Miss back to rest first, and then if there is something wrong, it will not be too late to send for the imperial physician. If there is nothing wrong, it would be best!" Miss Di also said.

"Okay, let's do it!" Shao Caihuan, the owner of the house, made the final decision and turned to Shao Wanru, "Fifth Sister, could we take you to rest first?"

Shao Wanru's eyes were clear and cold. If something went wrong, there would be too much difference between sending for the imperial physician earlier and sending for the imperial physician later. All the people at present were smart, but none of them seemed to have understood it. Some were pretending to be ignorant, while others were selfish and just wanted to get away with it. Shao Caihuan had used to look like a generous and peaceful girl. She hadn't expected her to be so selfish.

She was delusional! She had thought that Shao Caihuan could see it. They had just kept her after the first round for the sake of Duke Xing's Mansion. Unexpectedly, it had given her more delusions and new expectations. She wanted to check out whether she had given her a protective talisman because of Shao Yanru's calculations or that she knew something and still chose to play along with someone else's scheme! She sneered quietly and then raised her head weakly. "Thanks, Third Sister!"

"You're welcome. We're sisters!" Shao Caihuan came to help her to her feet.

"Third Miss, allow me!" Yujie stepped forward, helped Shao Wanru to get up, and walked out the door. The young ladies walked her to the door worriedly.

"Eldest Sister, Third Sister, don't worry. I'm fine. I just feel uncomfortable all over, as if there is something. I felt better when I went out!" Shao Wanru softly said to Shao Yanru and Shao Caihuan who looked concerned and anxious behind her.

"Fifth Sister, if there is something wrong in a while, you must come and tell me, even if it is late, I will ask the nanny in-charge to send for an imperial physician!" Shao Yanru said with a serious face.

"Yes, Fifth Sister, you go to rest now." Shao Caihuan nodded again and repeatedly told Yujie to pay attention to Shao Wanru's body. If there was something wrong, she should report it immediately.

The words of the two sisters expressed their great care. No matter what they thought, the other three ladies also showed great concern at this time.

Yujie helped Shao Wanru into her room, and the ladies returned to Shao Caihuan's room.

No one was in the mood to chat now. Looking at the sky outside, Wang Yuxin, Miss Di, and Miss Yu got up to say goodbye.

"Third Miss!" Before they left, Yujie came in and saluted Shao Caihuan.

"Why don't you go to wait on your lady?" Shao Caihuan frowned and said unhappily.

"She told me to come and have a look. She thought the smell of the incense in your room was very strange!" Yujie said.

Chapter 746 Drag Everyone into the Mire

"Hey, watch your mouth! How dare you say the incense of Third Miss smells weird? Do you mean there is something wrong with the incense bestowed by the palace?" Wang Yuxin scolded, scowling at her.

"Your lady is not feeling well at this time, so she must be confused. You go back to her!" Shao Yanru's face became unhappy. Although her voice was still mild, everyone could hear the impatience in her tone clearly.

"Miss Wang, my lady just said there might be something wrong with the incense. Why are you so nervous? Even if it were true, it would have nothing to do with you. Miss Wang, you're acting as if you were covering up something!" Yujie said, ignoring Wang Yuxin's intimidation in her words.

After finishing speaking, she turned around and walked to the desk where the censer was placed.

Shao Yanru felt anxious and hurriedly stepped forward to stop her, but Yujie dodged her swiftly.

Yujie walked to the desk and opened the lid of the incense burner. After looking inside, she said in surprise, "Third Miss, you are using two incense sheets. No wonder the smell is so strong. It might be the intense fragrance that made Fifth Miss uncomfortable. The incense Fifth Miss uses is always light!"

Yujie put down the lid and pointed to the incense burner.

Wang Yuxin's fingers trembled, her face full of panic.

"Two incense sheets?" Shao Caihuan looked at her servant girl.

The servant girl waved her hands in fright, "Miss, I didn't use two incense sheets. I used only one as usual."

The amount of incense allocated was not much. Because the ladies were basically out in the daytime, the incense was often burned at night. And its smell was fresh and natural. Many ladies burned it before they went to bed at night, including Shao Caihuan.

"Why are there two incense sheets in it?" Shao Caihuan also walked over and took a look into the incense burner. There were indeed two inside. It was clear that the two incense sheets did not align, and the one on the top was crooked, not placed properly.

The other people also stepped forward, and after a glance, they all looked at Shao Caihuan's servant girl suspiciously.

Only the servant girl had touched this incense burner.

"Miss, it was not me! Please believe me..." The servant girl was so frightened that she knelt with a dull thud, waving her hands. Adding one more incense sheet was originally nothing serious, but if Fifth Miss felt uncomfortable because of it, it would become a big deal.

"If it was not you, who else could it be? You're the only one who has touched the incense. Are you intending to harm Fifth Miss?" Yujie snapped. After speaking, she looked at Shao Caihuan. The suspicion in her eyes made Shao Caihuan's heartbeat accelerate fiercely.

If her maid had really done this, Shao Caihuan could hardly absolve herself from the blame. She should have let Shao Wanru check it before she had left. At least this would allay part of her suspicion.

"Tell Me! What did you do?" Shao Caihuan asked, but her gaze swept across Shao Yanru when she banged heavily on the table. She was suspecting Shao Yanru.

If there must be one person here who wanted to harm Shao Wanru, it would be nobody but Shao Yanru.

"Miss, I didn't... I really didn't do anything..." The servant girl was panicked again, bursting into tears.

"Explain it clearly! Otherwise, I'm sure you can't get out of the palace alive. If you had committed a crime in the palace, no one would be able to save you!" Shao Caihuan said with a gloomy face. She was really angry, and she realized that she might have fallen into a trap.

If Shao Wanru got sick because of her incense, then she must be held accountable for it.

"I... I didn't... I remember clearly that I've only put one incense sheet into the burner. I really do!" The maid burst into tears. She did remember it clearly. There were only a few incense sheets in total, and they had been brought here a while before. She had never used two at a time. But it was she that had burned the incense, and no one else had touched the burner!

Thinking of this, the maid suddenly remembered something. She wiped the tears away from her face, pointed at a maid hidden behind Wang Yuxin, and exclaimed excitedly, "Miss, Miss Wang's maid has also touched the incense burner!"

"When?" Shao Caihuan turned her head abruptly, looking at Wang Yuxin with cold eyes. Her heartbeat suddenly accelerated, and she felt a little uncomfortable in her neck that she had turned.

"When Miss Wang came in, I went to make tea for her. And when I came back, I saw Miss Wang's maid standing next to the incense burner with the lid of the burner in her hand. Miss Wang hadn't sat down, so she happened to have blocked your sight!" The maid angrily pointed at the maid hiding behind Wang Yuxin.

Originally, she had still wondered why Miss Wang had kept standing for so long after coming in. When she had seen her maid lift the lid of the incense burner, she had felt that both Miss Wang and her maid were impolite.

Now she suddenly realized that Miss Wang had played a dirty trick and wanted to make her the scapegoat.

"Miss Wang's maid has touched the incense burner?" Shao Caihuan said with a gloomy face. She must find out the truth. If Shao Wanru was harmed seriously by the incense, Shao Caihuan couldn't get away with it unless she was able to clear her name.

"I... I don't know this. It's impossible!" Suppressing her hatred, Wang Yuxin forced herself to say, "Maybe your maid made a mistake, and she is trying to shirk her responsibility!"

"Miss Wang, if something really happened to Shao Wanru, you can't get away with it. You had a dispute with her in my place that day, and finally, you two parted with anger. This time, are you trying to seek revenge on her by some mean method?" Shao Caihuan was not stupid. It could even be said that she had always been smart.

The second branch of Duke Xing's Mansion had always been aggressive, but they might not be as smart as the third branch. The third branch had managed to live well under the suppression of Madam of Duke Xing, so they must not be stupid. They had been hiding their wits, but now Shao Caihuan could not continue pretending to be a fool anymore.

She looked at the incense burner on the desk, took a deep breath, glanced over everyone present, and said, "It's not just Miss Wang's business. Big Sister, Miss Di, Miss Yu and I, none of us can get away with this. Don't you know what kind of person Rui'an Great Elder Princess is? If Fifth Sister is harmed by the incense, I don't know what Rui'an Great Elder Princess will do. But I'm afraid we will all get into serious trouble!"

Shao Caihuan dragged everyone into the mire at once.

Everyone would get in trouble. Not only none of them would be selected, but also they might lose their lives.

"It...it has nothing to do with us... Besides, even she is the Great Elder Princess, she must bring out the facts and reasons if she wants to punish us!" Miss Yu said in a panic, and she was the first to show timidity.

"Fifth Miss is the only granddaughter of the Great Elder Princess. If she wants to avenge Fifth Miss, she could scratch your faces or stab you. As long as you don't die, the Empress Dowager wouldn't blame her!"

Yujie sneered, helping Shao Caihuan increase the threat she had posed on them.

As Fifth Miss had expected, if Third Miss was forced to the corner, she would definitely drag everyone into the mire. Unless she found out the truth, no one would be able to leave!

The ladies present didn't believe the Great Elder Princess would kill them, but even if she disfigured or hurt them, she wouldn't be punished. The Great Elder Princess only needed to say that she was so angry that she accidentally injured them to exonerate herself.

It was inconvenient for others to enter the palace, but Rui'an Great Elder Princess could come and go at her free will.

As long as Shao Wanru had an accident, Rui'an Great Elder Princess would definitely come over. It was said that Rui'an Great Elder Princess loved her granddaughter very much and that she was extremely domineering and unkind.

Even Shao Yanru's face turned pale now. She felt bad and murmured to herself that she shouldn't have come today.

She knew that this matter had nothing to do with her and that it was impossible to find fault with her no matter how they investigated it. She was merely a looker-on today. Unexpectedly, though she had seen the fun, she had got herself entangled in the trouble.

Of course, she was not satisfied with the result.

Shao Yanru had always been careful. How could she allow others to get the goods on herself?

"Third Sister, this matter really has nothing to do with us. Since it is related to Miss Wang's maid, let's send this maid to the Nanny in charge. It is best if Fifth Sister is fine. If not, we will let the Nanny in charge interrogate this maid. All of us can attend as witnesses!"

Shao Yanru stood up and spoke with a straight face.

Yujie could see clearly that First Miss had stayed quiet for self-protection before. But now, she could not sit still anymore, so she stepped forward and spoke. Sure enough, First Miss's words were "fair" as Fifth Miss had expected!

"Yes, that's it."

"This maid really looks suspicious. she has a very guilty look on her face. Miss Wang, you might have been deceived!"

"Where did this maid come from?" The others kept nodding, and their eyes were focused on the maid behind Wang Yuxin. The maid was trembling, looking at Wang Yuxin pleadingly.

Being watched at by so many people, Wang Yuxin was panicked, but she tried to look calm, saying, "What are you doing? Miss Fifth might be right now. Why do you panic? I brought this servant girl here from my home. She has always been very loyal. She couldn't have done such a thing!"

Although she had spoken up for the maid, she still felt afraid in her heart. But she believed that it was not a big deal and that Rui'an Great Elder Princess would not kill her for this kind of thing. So, she got a little more relieved soon.

She just wanted Shao Wanru's skin to blister. There were so many good medicines in the palace, and Shao Wanru would not have a scar left after using them. Wang Yuxin couldn't understand why they were making such a fuss!

"Miss Wang, are you admitting that your maid didn't deceive you?" Yujie said aggressively.

This was not what she was supposed to say as a maid. Maids shouldn't interrupt when the ladies were talking. But now she was the representative of the victim, and she was not respectful to Miss Wang, so she blurted it out in the heat of the moment.

Wang Yuxin wanted to scold Yujie, but Shao Wanru not present. Looking at the other people present, she knew that they would not help her, because everyone wanted to shirk the responsibility. She was so angry but could only stomp her feet and say annoyedly, "Nonsense! Hurry back and take care of your young lady! Since you still have time to make trouble here, your lady should be fine!"

"Miss Wang, you better pray that my lady is okay!" Yujie said coldly, turning her head to Shao Caihuan. "Third Miss, the incense burner is yours, and the incense inside should also be yours. Please keep the incense in the censer well as evidence. When the time comes, if you can't show your proof, I'm afraid others will frame you up!"

Chapter 747 Many Disgusting Blisters On the Face

Yujie finished speaking, turned, and walked out.

Shao Caihuan immediately understood her implication and winked at her maid. The maid got up and walked quickly to the incense burner, lifted the lid, and extinguished the incense inside.

Shao Yanru's face was very sullen. She looked at Shao Caihuan calmly, and then at Wang Yuxin, having a sense of foreboding.

"Third Miss Shao, what do you mean by doing this? Are you suspecting me? How can you believe the words of a maid?" Although Wang Yuxin was flustered, she didn't dare to show it. Her face was full of anger, and she spoke loudly, trying to maintain her aggressive vibe and hiding her panic.

"Miss Wang, whether you did this or not, the incense in this censer must be well kept. If anyone takes advantage of Fifth Sister's matter to harm Duke Xing's Mansion, we will definitely make that person repay!" Shao Yanru stood up, and her face was slightly cold.

She regarded Shao Wanru's matter as Duke Xing's Mansion's matter, and it showed that the three sisters of Duke Xing's Mansion were in the same boat.

Wang Yuxin was angry and panicked. But she could not think of any words to refute, so she tossed her sleeves and said, "Okay...if Fifth Miss Shao turns out to be all right, you guys will know how ridiculous you are!"

Shao Wanru had left early, so her skin might not blister at all. There was nothing for her to be afraid of.

Besides, even if she had some blisters, it would not be a big deal. She could say Shan Wanru might have eaten some wrong food, and the food might trigger off allergic reactions.

Thinking about it in this way, Wang Yuxin felt less scared, turned around, and strode away. She was not afraid of such a small matter.

After Wang Yuxin left, the other ladies also went back.

Yujie didn't go back to report to Shao Wanru until she saw all these young ladies leaving.

Shao Wanru had taken off her outer skirt and loosed her hair. She leaned on the bed with a thick cushion against her back, looking extremely relaxed.

“Miss, they are all gone!” Yujie reported. “Miss Wang went back alone angrily. First Miss left at the latest. When she walked to the door with Third Miss, she comforted Third Miss that everything would be fine and asked her not to worry. She also said that if you were harmed by the incense, she would definitely stand by Third Miss and you and would ask Miss Wang to give Duke Xing’s Mansion an explanation!”

Shao Yanru wanted to use Duke Xing’s Mansion to suppress Wang’s Mansion and tie the interests of the three sisters together. In this way, no matter what happened to Shao Wanru, no one would suspect Shao Yanru. She was really good at calculation!

The corners of Shao Wanru’s lips twitched slightly, and there was a bit of ridicule on her delicate face. Shao Yanru was always pretending to be innocent and making it look like it was someone else that had done the bad things, not her. In this way, she would never be suspected!

But she couldn’t avoid her shoes from getting wet if she always walked along the rivers.

“Wait and see, there should be a big show tomorrow!” Shao Wanru smiled slightly. “What did the palace maid say?”

Of course, Shao Wanru was all right, but Shao Caihuan might not be so lucky. Even if the incense had been noticed early, there would inevitably be some damage.

“That palace maid said she was unwilling to testify, but she doesn’t want the reward from you. She wants to follow you in the future,” Yujie said.

This palace maid was the one who had reported to Shao Wanru earlier that Wang Yuxin might harm her. She had heard the conversation between Wang Yuxin and her maid, so she had come to remind Shao Wanru to be careful.

In Shao Wanru’s previous life, this palace maid had followed Shao Yanru.

Shao Wanru had ordered Yujie to ask the palace maid a few more questions in private, and Yujie had tried both tough and soft tactics to persuade her into testifying against Wang Yuxin at an appropriate time.

The palace maid wanted to curry favor with Shao Wanru but didn’t want to stick her neck out, who was very similar to Shao Yanru. No wonder Shao Yanru had drawn this palace maid to her side when she had entered the palace in the previous life and treated her as one of the most entrusted subordinates.

“What did you say to her?” Shao Wanru asked.

“I just said what you asked me to say. She swayed when I told her that you might recruit her,” Yujie said contemptuously. At first glance, she knew the palace maid wanted to attach herself to a powerful lady and thought Fifth Miss could stay in the palace. However, how could Shao Wanru stay here?

“I think she just wants to play up to a powerful lady. She chose you because she thinks you would stay in the palace,” Yujie said angrily.

Because of the rush, she hadn’t had time to report the palace maid’s matter. Now, she felt more and more annoyed when thinking about it. The Emperor was so old, so Shao Wanru would definitely not marry him.

“So, she was willing to testify?” This was as expected, so Shao Wanru said with a faint smile in her eyes.

“As you taught me, I coupled threats with promises, and she finally agreed!” Yujie said proudly. Fifth Miss had never seen the palace maid before, but she knew her very well. Her words had straight hit the palace maid’s pain points.

The palace maid had been hesitating but finally agreed.

Fifth Miss was really amazing! Even she had never seen the palace maid, she could also predict her thoughts.

“Go to sleep first, and we’ll talk about it tomorrow!” Shao Wanru said. She then slid down and lay under the blanket, slowly closing her eyes.

It was winter. Even if Shao Caihuan extinguished the fragrant incense, the smell was still lingering. There was no ventilation to dissipate the smell in the room, so the whole room was filled with this smell...

When Shao Caihuan got up the next morning, she felt a dull headache. At first, she thought it was because she hadn’t slept well last night. Even though the extra sheet of incense had transferred the suspicion to Miss Wang, Shao Caihuan still could not rest assured for Shao Wanru’s matter. She had tossed and turned till late last night, thinking about it.

When the maid heard the sound from the bed, she lifted the gauze tent immediately. When she saw Shao Caihuan’s face, she took a step back in shock. The basin in her hand fell to the ground, making a crisp “bang” sound.

“Mi...Miss...” The maid looked at Shao Caihuan tremblingly, her face pale.

“What’s wrong?” Shao Caihuan frowned, completely wakened up. She felt not only a dull headache but also uncomfortable in her face as if something were sticking on it.

When she raised her hand, intending to touch her forehead, she suddenly saw two small red blisters on her hand, and she also exclaimed in surprise.

Then she thought of something and screamed. “Hurry...Go get the mirror for me.”

The maid backed away in panic, almost tripped over the basin on the floor, and turned back to grab the mirror.

When Shao Caihuan took the mirror and looked into it, she saw her face full of blisters in different sizes and was scared to scream.

Shao Wanru and Shao Yanru had already got up. When they heard the scream of Shao Caihuan and then the sound of something being smashed on the ground, both of them hurried in.

“Third Sister, what happened...” Shao Yanru walked faster. When she came in and saw Shao Caihuan, she couldn’t finish her words because of the shock, and then she subconsciously looked behind. Behind her was Shao Wanru. Her face was still fair, beautiful, and charming, without the slightest blemish.

She had got up early today because she had originally speculated that something would happen to Shao Wanru and it would cause a stir. She hadn't expected it was not Shao Wanru but Shao Caihuan that had been harmed. Judging from Shao Caihuan's face, it was very serious.

"Big Sister, what's wrong with Third Sister?" Shao Wanru walked behind Shao Yanru. Seeing Shao Yanru stop in front, she asked politely.

"Fifth...Fifth Sister, are you okay?" Shao Yanru couldn't help asking.

Shao Wanru, who should have had the blisters, was OK, but Shao Caihuan was harmed. Even Shao Yanru was panicked on the spot.

"Big Sister, should not you pay all your attention to Third Sister now? Third Sister is the one who is suffering. Why do you care about my situation?" Shao Wanru looked at Shao Yanru calmly.

At this moment, Shao Caihuan was obviously in a bad condition, but Shao Yanru asked Shao Wanru's situation first while Shao Wanru seemed to be all right. It seemed somewhat fishy.

"Big Sister...Fifth Sister is the one who should have the blisters rather than me, right?" Shao Caihuan had a quick mind. She raised her eyes to look at Shao Yanru, and her eyes were fierce and resentful.

Shao Yanru's action was really too suspicious. Thinking of Shao Yanru's methods in the mansion, Shao Caihuan immediately believed that it was related to her.

"Third Sister, Fifth Sister was uncomfortable when she left yesterday. I originally planned to go see her today. I didn't expect that she is all right but you got ill. Shuqi, go and invite the Nanny in charge to come over!" Shao Yanru explained hurriedly, stepping forward a few steps on the water on the ground.

Shuqi ran out as she ordered.

Shao Wanru followed Shao Yanru in. When she saw the bulging red blisters on Shao Caihuan's face, her eyes became cold. If she hadn't prepared in advance, it would have been her who had the trouble now. The air she breathed in was cold, but there was a fierce flame burning in her body.

These people had done everything they could to destroy her. If she hadn't come back late yesterday, Wang Yuxin would have gone to Shao Wanru's room to talk about the old days, and the smell of the incense would have stayed in her own room for a long time. If the smell of medicine in the protective talisman had been mixed with it, Shao Wanru must have been in trouble now!

"Third Sister, I can see blisters on your face. What about your body?" Shao Wanru reminded her.

Shao Caihuan stretched out her hand to pull down the collar, immediately found that there were also blisters on her neck, and started crying in panic.

"Third Sister, don't worry. The Nanny in charge is coming soon. We will invite an imperial physician to see you. Everything will be fine. What did you eat yesterday? Maybe you're allergic to the food?"

Shao Yanru expressed her concern.

"I didn't eat anything wrong... What I ate yesterday was the same as what you ate... how could it be... how could it be like this!" Shao Caihuan cried.

"Then, where did you go yesterday? I know a person allergic to powdered medicine, and some people are allergic to other things. Do you also have any allergies?" Shao Yanru thought for a while and then softly soothed Shao Caihuan. "Third Sister, calm down. The imperial physician will tell us about it after he sees you. Don't worry!"

"Big Sister, what should I do... What if I can't recover!" Shao Caihuan choked with sobs. She took Shao Yanru's hand, eagerly trying to find support from her.

"Don't be afraid. You will be fine. Everything will be fine!" Shao Yanru's voice was soft. She sat on the edge of the bed, allowing Shao Caihuan to hug her, and she also put her hands around Shao Caihuan's shoulders.

Shao Wanru's gaze fell on the two sisters who were hugging each other tightly. Her eyes darkened a little, and a faint smile appeared on her face. Shao Yanru's scheme was elaborate, but she had still made a mistake...

Chapter 748 Is She Allergic or Victimized?

The imperial physician came quickly. When the Nanny in charge came, she brought an imperial physician along. Many beauties were living in Chuxiu Palace, and accidents were prone to accidents in places with many people. In the past, something had always happened when beauties moved in.

The Imperial Institute of Medicine had specially assigned an imperial physician to this palace.

The Nanny in charge heard the news and immediately knew something was wrong, and immediately brought the imperial physician over. It was the lady of Duke Xing's Mansion who had an accident. So the Nanny in charge was very flustered.

The ones who couldn't afford to have an accident were the ladies of Duke Xing's Mansion.

When she walked in and saw Shao Yanru and Shao Wanru standing by, she was secretly relieved. Fortunately, these two were fine; otherwise, she would certainly be punished, because she had been told to take good care of the two girls. After examining Shao Caihuan, the imperial physician frowned.

"Imperial physician, will...will I be all right?" Shao Caihuan looked at the imperial physician nervously for fear that he would say something bad.

"Well..." The imperial physician looked at the surroundings. "It seems to be an allergy, but if the allergen is not found... I'm afraid it won't get better for a while!"

Any kind of allergy was caused by something. It was difficult to prescribe the right medicine when he didn't know what had caused it. This was where the imperial physician found it difficult. Up to now, he had not found any allergens.

This house was very common. How could a beauty who had only lived here for a few days become allergic? The imperial physician's gaze swept over several people present again, and he felt that it was more of a man-made disaster. He certainly didn't dare to say it without evidence now, because the most feared thing in the palace was groundless accusations.

In addition to the lady lying on the bed whose looks were beyond recognition, there were also two young ladies. Seeing the faces of these two, the imperial physician was amazed.

He had seen various beautiful women in the palace, but he had never seen anyone as smart and outstanding as the two young ladies in front of him. Even if someone wanted to hurt the beauties, they should have chosen these two. The one on the bed was not as beautiful as either of them. Could it be that they had hurt the wrong person?

"Imperial physician, what should we do now?" the Nanny in charge frowned, looked at Shao Caihuan's face, and carefully stepped back. "Isn't this...contagious?"

When the Nanny in charge said so, everyone backed away and looked at Shao Caihuan in panic. Even the maid who had been standing next to Shao Caihuan stepped back nervously. No one wanted to catch this seemingly unknown disease. Shao Wanru's gaze fell on Shao Yanru. Everyone else was stepping back while she was still standing by the bed with a look of concern.

"Imperial physician...is it...contagious?" Shao Caihuan asked in a trembling voice with tears in her eyes. She who should have been charming looked disgusting instead of pitiful at this time.

"You'd better go back home and take some medicine to recuperate slowly. As for the situation in the future, it depends on how well you'll recover." The imperial physician shook his head and said, "Was there any such situation before? Have you ever been allergic?"

"No, never!" Not only would she be sent back home, but the future situation was still unknown. Shao Caihuan couldn't hold back her tears and said as she cried.

"Third Sister, did you eat or use anything different than others? If you didn't, then think about other aspects. If there is something wrong, you can tell the imperial physician. He probably knows how to solve the problem." Shao Wanru reminded her.

"Third sister, you go back home first, and our father and grandmother will definitely help you recover. Don't worry!" Shao Yanru also comforted her with concern. Shao Caihuan had wanted to answer Shao Wanru's question. After listening to Shao Yanru's words, she immediately thought of her uncertain future and burst into tears. She was too distracted to think about Shao Wanru's words.

"Imperial physician, my third sister keeps crying, will it be bad for her face?" Shao Wanru suddenly turned to the imperial physician and asked.

"Naturally it is not good." The imperial physician nodded.

"Will it leave a scar on her face? She had been crying like this even before she takes any medicine!" Shao Wanru asked again.

Shao Caihuan on the bed stopped crying immediately and stared at the imperial physician nervously, but she did not dare to shed tears again.

"Naturally it's not good to her face. Third Miss, you should not cry!" said the imperial physician.

Hearing what he said, Shao Caihuan didn't dare to cry. She opened her eyes wide to stop her tears desperately.

"Third Sister, did you find anything unusual yesterday? We were new in the palace and didn't know anything. You might have accidentally bumped into something else and got allergic. Tell the imperial physician!" Shao Wanru urged again.

"Yes, Third Miss, why don't you tell me if there is anything abnormal?" Without Shao Caihuan's cry, the imperial physician heard Shan Wanru's words clearly and nodded again and again. He was also helpless now. He didn't know why she had suddenly developed an allergy. If it was an allergy, there must be an allergen. But the young lady had never had such a situation before.

It didn't seem to have happened naturally.

"I... I don't know..." Shao Caihuan couldn't think of anything at this time, and only felt confused.

"Imperial physician, since my sister doesn't know anything, you don't have to ask her anymore." Shao Yanru interrupted.

"Big Sister, Third Sister should think about if there was something wrong. If it is an allergy, she can't become allergic for no reason. I also felt uncomfortable when I came here yesterday, but then I was all right after I went back. So if we can find the allergen, Third Sister will definitely recover soon!" Shao Wanru said.

"Yes... yes, that extra incense sheet... Miss Wang's..." Before Shao Caihuan could react, her maid already exclaimed excitedly.

"What incense sheet?" the Nanny in charge asked urgently.

Being accidentally allergic was completely different from being framed.

"Yesterday, Miss Wang Yuxin came over, and her maid put a incense sheet in my incense burner. Fifth Sister stayed for a while and said that she felt not well, so she went back. When I found out later, I took it out!" Shao Caihuan also thought of this at this time and said in a hurry.

She had felt that something was going wrong last night, but it was about Shao Wanru, so she wasn't very worried. She hadn't expected it to happen to her today.

She eagerly stared at the imperial physician. The imperial physician pondered for a moment and asked, "Is the fragrant incense sheet still there?"

"Yes, go and get it!" Shao Caihuan hurriedly told her maid. After the maid brought the fragrant incense sheet over, the imperial physician took it and smelled it, and frowned deeply.

"Imperial physician, is there anything wrong?" Shao Caihuan said eagerly.

Shao Wanru squinted at Shao Yanru. Shao Yanru didn't look very good, but it was reasonable considering the current situation. Only Shao Wanru could see clearly that Shao Yanru had become more nervous now, and she sneered knowingly.

"Where did this fragrant incense sheet come from?" the Nanny in charge also noticed something wrong and asked.

"It belongs to Wang Yuxin, the daughter of the deputy director. She came over yesterday. Her maid secretly put this incense sheet in my incense burner. All the ladies present at the time can testify," Shao Caihuan said angrily, turning her head to look at Shao Yanru, "Big Sister, you were there and you saw it too, didn't you?"

Shao Wanru had already left at the time. Yujie was just a maid and her words could not prove anything. Among those who were present, only Shao Yanru could prove it.

Everyone turned their eyes to Shao Yanru, who lowered her head uncomfortably and looked a little at a loss.

“Miss Shao, please tell us what you saw!” the Nanny in charge asked with a darkened face.

“I... actually didn’t know it well. Third Sister’s maid said that she saw Miss Wang’s maid doing it!” Shao Yanru said in embarrassment. This was very subtle. She neither confirmed nor denied it.

“Big Sister, though Miss Wang did not admit that it was her maid who did it, didn’t all other ladies agree to testify?” Shao Wanru raised her eyes and asked. In this room, she was the only one who had been paying close attention to the subtle changes in Shao Yanru’s expression.

Yesterday’s incident had happened after she left, but Yujie saw it clearly and reported it to her as soon as they went back. It was not surprising that Shao Wanru said so now.

“Yes...Yes, Big Sister, those young ladies were there, and you all said that you were willing to testify,” Shao Caihuan heard her say this and said immediately. She was now holding Shao Yanru tightly like a drowning person holding onto the driftwood, as if only Shao Yanru could prove what she said.

Her question was very difficult to answer. Whether confirmation or denial, it was easy to offend others and implicate herself. Shao Yanru was absolutely unwilling to implicate herself, so she didn’t want to answer this question. But others in the house were looking at her now and she had to answer Shao Caihuan’s question.

“As for this matter, I think we should wait for the other two young ladies to come together to make it clear.” Shao Yanru thought for a while.

“Go and invite other ladies over!” The Nanny in charge thought that the words made sense. She nodded, turned around, and ordered a court maid that was standing behind her.

The imperial physician selected some common allergy medicines for Shao Caihuan and asked her to apply the ointment first. The Nanny in charge and the imperial physician walked to the outhouse, and Shao Yanru and Shao Wanru stayed.

“Yujie, ask the imperial physician if it is contagious.” Shao Wanru whispered.

Yujie nodded and went out. Shao Yanru, who was sitting on Shao Caihuan’s bed with the ointment, paused, but then looked at Shao Caihuan calmly and said, “Third Sister, lie down and close your eyes. Be careful, I’ll help you to apply it!”

Shao Caihuan also heard what Shao Wanru told Yujie, and glanced at Shao Wanru angrily. She closed her eyes and was very angry with Shao Wanru. As expected, she was not a sister who had grown up with her in the mansion. Shao Wanru didn’t have much sisterhood for her. She had just talked about it just now, and now she asked it again. Was she so afraid that she might infect her?

She was really unlikable! No wonder no one in the whole mansion liked her.

She wondered why she had an incident instead of Shao Wanru. Obviously...

"Miss, the imperial physician said it should just be an allergy and it's not contagious!" Yujie came back and whispered to Shao Wanru. The room was quiet and everyone heard it clearly.

Shao Caihuan opened her eyes again and glared at Shao Wanru. But the next moment, she turned around and glared at Shao Yanru...

Chapter 749 Who Is Behind the Scenes

"Fortunately, it is not contagious. When I saw your face just now, I really thought it was contagious. The Nanny in charge and the maids were scared back, and even the imperial physician was cautious, but Big Sister was holding you tightly. Now she is feeding you the decoction herself. She is so kind!" Shao Wanru smiled with a trace of fear.

She was the youngest of the sisters, and the look of fear on her face made her quite adorable. It was less bright but more childish than before as if she were really scared.

Shao Caihuan was first attracted by her looks, and then suddenly turned her head, looked at Shao Yanru furiously, gritted her teeth, and said bitterly, "Big Sister, why are you so kind to me now?!"

She had red blisters all over her body inexplicably, which was painful and itchy, and even she herself didn't know if it was contagious. The imperial physician was very careful before he diagnosed her. How could Shao Yanru be so kind to her so suddenly? It was strange that she wasn't intimidated by the fact that it might be contagious and had taken the initiative to take care of her.

Outsiders might think that Shao Yanru was such a dignified, decent and loving sister who would protect her sisters regardless of whether she would hurt herself or not.

Shao Caihuan was from Duke Xing's Mansion. The third branch had always been suppressed by the second branch. Among the sisters of Duke Xing's Mansion, Shao Yanru was the most aggressive one. No one dared to mess with her. They knew well that she was very cruel and hypocritical. She had two faces.

If it were really contagious, Shao Yanru would not have gotten near her at all, let alone crying with Shao Caihuan in her arms or even taking care of her personally — unless she knew that it wasn't contagious. But how could she have known it if she didn't participate in it?

It was normal for other people to avoid her. Only Shao Yanru was abnormal. She must be the one who had tried to hurt her. As for why she had done that, Shao Caihuan immediately thought of the reason—the domestic affairs of Duke Xing's Mansion were managed by her mother now.

She was so angry that her fingers trembled slightly. Excited, Shao Caihuan had forgotten her mother's instructions and slapped Shao Yanru hard in the face. The fact that she might be disfigured was more than she could mentally bear. Anyway, she finally vented her anger.

"Shao Yanru, you bitch, how...how dare you to hurt me? I'm going to ruin your face. I'll see how you could seduce men in the future."

Shao Yanru had been vacillating between Prince Yue and Prince Zhou. Shao Caihuan had learned it from her mother. The matter was related to which camp the entire Xinggong Mansion would belong to. The third branch had naturally participated in the discussion. In fact, it was not only Shao Yanru's personal

choice. But Shao Caihuan couldn't care less about it now. She raised her hand to grab Shao Yanru's bun and pulled her over.

Shao Yanru hadn't expected that Shao Caihuan would suddenly go crazy. She was caught off guard and her scalp hurt.

Shuqi hurried over to pull Shao Caihuan's hand, but Shao Caihuan believed that she had been targeted by Shao Yanru. So she refused to let go. She was desperately trying to stretch out her other hand to scratch Shao Yanru's face. However, her hand was held tightly by Shuqi, who was preventing her from touching Shao Yanru.

Shao Yanru took advantage of the opportunity when Shuqi was pulling Shao Caihuan, and slammed the back of Shao Caihuan's other hand severely. Shao Caihuan felt a sharp pain and her hand relaxed. Shao Yanru staggered off the edge of the bed and fell to the ground in embarrassment.

"What's the matter?" There was too loud a fight inside, so the Nanny in charge walked in. As soon as she walked in, she found Shao Caihuan struggling on the bed and trying to pounce on Shao Yanru. When she saw Shao Yanru's messy hair, the slap mark on her fair face, and her dirty clothes after she fell onto the ground covered with water, she was immediately furious.

"Nanny, she is the one who hurt me. Please do me justice!" Shao Caihuan calmed down a bit and cried loudly to the Nanny in charge.

She was staring at Shao Yanru angrily. If it weren't for Shuqi who had pulled her hard, she would have already pounced on Shao Yanru and scratched her face. It would be impossible for her to draft anymore now, so she wanted Shao Yanru to go down with her!

Shao Yanru had not expected such a change. She had wanted to dispel Shao Caihuan's suspicion, yet she failed and had been attacked by Shao Caihuan. However, it was not the right time to argue with Shao Caihuan now. She looked at Shao Caihuan with tears in her eyes, "Third Sister...what...what are you doing? Why are you behaving like this all of a sudden?... Is it impossible that you..."

Shao Yanru winced timidly when she said this. She was implying that Shao Caihuan couldn't stand such a heavy blow, and had gone mad all of a sudden. The Nanny in charge looked at Shao Yanru, and then at Shao Caihuan, who was madly about to jump at Shao Yanru. Now Shao Caihuan really looked like a mad woman. With her red blisters, she was too swollen to look beautiful anymore. It seemed that she had really gone crazy.

"Guards..." the Nanny in charge said coldly. She was trying to call someone to gag Shao Caihuan. A lady who could not be drafted and was not the daughter of the main branch of Duke Xing's Mansion was not important anymore. If Shao Caihuan behaved well, the Nanny in charge would ask the imperial physician to treat her before sending her out of the palace. If she really went crazy, she would just gag her and throw her out of the palace.

"Third Sister, if you continue to do this, Nanny would really think you are crazy, and there is no need to investigate the incident, and you will also be thrown out of the palace." Shao Wanru raised her eyes and looked calmly at Shao Caihuan.

When the two sisters were fighting, she didn't come forward. She had just watched them quietly, and a dark light flashed in her eyes. Shao Yanru must have known it, and even this probably was her plan, but was Shao Caihuan really so innocent?

She looked at the bed that was messy because of the fight, and a familiar object was revealed under the pillow. Although it was only a corner, Shao Wanru immediately recognized that it was a protective talisman.

A protective talisman should be always hung on the body, so how could it be only placed on the bed? But since it was placed on the bed, it meant that Shao Caihuan vaguely knew that she would be fine as long as she didn't wear it.

She had taken great pains and spent a lot of money to get the protective talisman. How could she just put it under the pillow? It was hard to believe what Shao Caihuan had said to her before.

The drug had been put into the two protective talismans together. For the sake of confidentiality, Shao Caihuan certainly didn't know it. Of course, her protective talisman was as poisonous as Shao Caihuan's.

Wang Yuxin must have come over for her, and then tried to take the opportunity to put the incense in her incense burner. She could have been the victim.

However, she hadn't come back then. Wang Yuxin should have gone to Shao Yanru's room. Shao Yanru was afraid of getting into trouble and asked her to go to Shao Caihuan's room. Then when Shao Wanru came back, Shao Yanru would invite her over and stay in Shao Caihuan's room. So Shao Yanru would never be blamed for this.

It could be judged that Wang Yuxin didn't know that the real planner was Shao Yanru, so when she couldn't enter her room, she had chosen to go to Shao Caihuan's room and put the incense sheet in it instead of insisting on putting it in her incense burner.

It was an intricate plan. Everyone knew something more or less, but none of them knew it comprehensively, so that it seemed that the whole thing had nothing to do with the final mastermind. Of course, if it were not for Shao Yanru's suspicious eagerness to show off her sisterhood with Shao Caihuan, it would not have been discovered by Shao Caihuan.

If it were in the past, even if Shao Caihuan found that Shao Yanru had tried to hurt her, she wouldn't have dared to do anything to Shao Yanru. But today Shao Caihuan was out of control, and any little suspicion would cause a big scene. Shao Wanru had been waiting for this opportunity.

Shao Wanru took a few steps forward, took Shao Caihuan's hand from Shuqi's hand, and warned her. "Third Sister, if you want to avenge yourself or ask for an explanation, you must calm down. We're in the palace, not Duke Xing's Mansion!"

Her eyes fell on Shao Caihuan's face icily, and when Shao Caihuan saw herself in those cold eyes, she couldn't help shivering and immediately became sober.

She looked at the stern face of the Nanny in charge, and then at Shao Yanru, who was slowly getting up with the help of Shuqi, and suddenly realized something.

She tried to collect herself, and said with tears in her eyes, "Nanny, I thought my...my Big Sister might have colluded with the person who harmed me, so I couldn't help it..."

With that, she burst into tears. She didn't yell crazily or rush over to hurt anyone. She was lowering her head, and though others couldn't see the red blisters on her face, they still felt very sorry for her.

Whether her face would recover or not, Shao Caihuan could no longer be drafted. Thinking of the beautiful face she had seen before, the Nanny in charge could only sigh helplessly. Third Miss Shao had been quite beautiful and had a chance to be selected, but it was impossible now!

"Whether it's related to your Big Sister or not will have to wait. You should apply the ointment first, and then get up and talk outside!" the Nanny in charge looked at her and said.

She turned and went out.

She was extremely rude, but Shao Caihuan was just a beauty who would never be selected, so the Nanny in charge really didn't need to care too much. Now she was just looking into it for the sake of Duke Xing's Mansion.

Seeing the Nanny in charge's contempt, Shao Caihuan was furious. She slapped on the edge of the bed fiercely, turned her gaze to Shao Yanru, who had just got up from the floor, and vented her anger on her. She gritted her teeth and said, "My good Big Sister, good for you. You're really playing hard to become a princess."

Shao Yanru had never been so aggrieved before, but she knew that there was no way to talk some sense into Shao Caihuan at this time. She glanced at Shao Wanru's face coldly, and after looking her up and down a few times, she suddenly felt that Shao Wanru's previous words were not accidental. "Did she know something? If so, I should be more careful!" she thought.

Shao Caihuan's reaction was so violent, and it was something she had not expected. She had to send a message...

Chapter 750 You'll All Be Kicked out the Palace!

She paid more attention to Shao Wanru than to Shao Caihuan, but Shao Wanru was lowering her head to apply ointment to Shao Caihuan. Her eyes were lowered, so she didn't seem to notice Shao Yanru looking at her.

"Third Sister, I'll go outside first. You can join me after you take care of it. We're sisters, I will not harm you. I will definitely help you find out who did it!" Shao Yanru said softly, as if she didn't mind Shao Caihuan's offense. "I will change my clothes and come over later!"

"Big Sister, let me go with you!" Shao Wanru put down ointment.

Shao Yanru's face darkened, and her eyes fell on Shao Wanru's face silently and sharply. Shao Wanru looked right into her eyes.

"Thank you, Fifth Sister. Third Sister needs to be taken care of, and you can stay here to take care of her!" After a long while, Shao Yanru put on a smile as soft as ever.

She had regained her composure at this time, and would never do anything inappropriate again!

"Big Sister, let Fifth Sister accompany you. I will be worried if you are going over by yourself. I was too angry and rude just now!" Shao Caihuan gritted her teeth and said coldly.

She had found something wrong, so she didn't want Shao Yanru to have time to do something unfavorable to her or destroy any evidence.

Shao Yanru looked at Shao Wanru, and then Shao Caihuan with a look of hatred. Knowing that she couldn't get away at this time, she frowned and said, "If this is the case, thank you, Fifth Sister!"

With that, she turned and walked out.

"Fifth Sister, you should follow along!" Shao Caihuan said.

Shao Wanru nodded, and followed Shao Yanru out of the inner room and went outside.

In the outer room, Miss Yu and Miss Di had already arrived. They stood tremblingly on the side, but Wang Yuxin had not arrived yet.

Shao Wanru calmly glanced at the faces of everyone in the house and followed Shao Yanru out. A palace maid was cleaning the venue not far from the porch.

Shao Wanru did not follow Shao Yanru into the room. She guarded the door, stood by the porch, and her eyes fell on the face of the palace maid who was cleaning the ground outside. The maid looked around, and when she found that no one was paying attention to her, she was about to turn back. But she suddenly met Shao Wanru's gaze, and couldn't help but quiver.

Shao Wanru walked over slowly, and the maid lowered her head as she was standing on the side of the road, not daring to move.

Although Shao Wanru seemed young, her aura made the palace maid too intimidated to move.

"I heard your name is Han Dan?" Shao Wanru's eyes fell on the palace maid.

"Yes... I am Han Dan!" Han Dan lowered her head respectfully.

Shao Wanru glanced at her silently. The feeling of being seen through made Han Dan nervous, and Shao Wanru stared at her intently for a long time. Before Han Dan could breathe a sigh of relief, Shao Wanru's words almost made her fall to the ground.

"If the grass on the wall of this palace sways with every wind, it will surely be uprooted in the end!" Shao Wanru said slowly as she turned around and walked back slowly.

Han Dan stood on the spot with cold hands and feet. She looked at Shao Wanru, who was going away, in horror, and her hand holding the broom was trembling slightly.

Before things became clear, she really wanted to please these two young ladies at the same time. Before these two young ladies stood out, this method was actually very good. Many people in the palace would do the same. They generally wouldn't expose their hole cards or go all-in on a beauty who hadn't done anything particular yet.

In fact, it was not just Shao Wanru and Shao Yanru. She had also chosen another young lady. Sending certain messages to these young ladies to maintain a good relationship with them was just the first step.

But Han Dan was intimidated now. Shao Wanru's maid had suppressed her before. Although she had promised to testify, she still hesitated.

Shao Wanru had read her mind, which made her fluster.

Shao Wanru returned to the porch and didn't glance at her again, but the maid still felt that her gaze seemed to be everywhere. She didn't dare to arouse her suspicion at this time, which would certainly offend her. At this time, she should go to the back of the house to see if there was any news from Shao Yanru, because when she was in the porch just now, she saw Shao Yanru's maid making a gesture to her.

However, Shao Wanru was standing in the porch, so the maid didn't dare to go to the back of the house or look at Shao Wanru. She began to sweep the ground with the broom.

Shao Wanru didn't wait at the door for very long before Shao Yanru changed clothes and came out again. Then, the two of them went to the middle room together. Soon after they entered the room, they heard hurried footsteps behind them. They turned around and saw that Wang Yuxin appeared at the door with an extremely grave expression on her face.

Wang Yuxin's gaze fell on Shao Wanru's undamaged face. Seeing that there was nothing unusual with her face, she sighed in secret. When the Nanny in charge sent someone to ask her to come over, she didn't make it very clear, so Wang Yuxin had thought something went wrong with Shao Wanru's face.

Now that there was nothing wrong with it, she felt relaxed. She took a few steps forward and saluted the Nanny in charge.

Seeing that everyone was there, the Nanny in charge cleared her throat, and her eyes fell sharply on Wang Yuxin. "Miss Wang, tell me why did you put incense in the incense burner yesterday?"

She came straight to the point. She had asked the other two young ladies, and known what had happened last night.

"Nanny, I didn't ask anyone to put the incense. I didn't know what the incense was about. It had nothing to do with me. It was just that Third Miss Shao insisted yesterday that it was me, but I knew nothing!" Wang Yuxin looked extremely innocent.

"Miss Wang, this is the palace. No one can do whatever he wants!" the Nanny in charge looked at Wang Yuxin and said coldly.

Wang Yuxin lowered her head nervously, clasped her hands, and felt a little flustered. She gritted her teeth and said, "Nanny, I know we're in the palace, and I dare not do anything wrong. Besides, Third Miss Shao and I have no grudge against each other. Why would I try to hurt her?"

Only the testimony of a maid of Shao Caihuan couldn't prove much. Even if the maid insisted it was her that did it, she might as well insist that the maid had said so to pass the buck.

After all, Shao Caihuan's maid was no superior to her maid.

The imperial physician was sitting next to the Nanny in charge. He stared at the half-burnt incense sheet and didn't pay attention to their conversation. The incense sheet somehow reminded him of something, but he couldn't recall it now, so he could only continue to think hard with a frown.

“Miss Wang, do you think that just a maid can’t prove anything?” Seeing that Wang Yuxin was so stubborn, the Nanny in charge banged heavily on the table. “If this is the case, then don’t blame me!”

With a wave of her hand, the maid behind Miss Di took a step forward and knelt in front of the Nanny in charge. “Nanny, I also saw Miss Wang’s maid doing it. I was standing beside Miss Wang. I couldn’t see it at first, but it just so happened that I saw the maid look up at the people around carefully. I was surprised, so I paid more attention to her and saw that she took out a small paper bag from her arms and put the things in the bag into the incense burner quickly!”

“Nonsense!” Wang Yuxin froze and glared at the maid.

The maid timidly ducked to the side and looked at her master, Miss Di.

“Miss Di, why didn’t your maid say it yesterday? Why now?” Shao Yanru raised her eyes and looked at Miss Di with doubt in her eyes.

The Nanny in charge also looked at her with doubt. “Miss Di, what is going on?” This was something she had just asked, but she hadn’t expected that someone would have asked it last night when this maid of Miss Di had said nothing.

“Last night...it was so chaotic. If my maid said anything...it would be adding fuel to the fire. Besides, there was nothing wrong with Fifth Miss Shao then!” Miss Di lowered her head and said.

Judging from Miss Di’s timidity, they immediately understood what was going on. Miss Di seemed to be someone who didn’t want to offend others. She did not say it last night for fear that she would offend Wang Yuxin. Besides, Shao Wanru just felt uncomfortable at that time and it was not a big deal. She would probably recover soon. Thus, Miss Di hadn’t wanted to offend other ladies who entered the palace with her.

“Nanny, could you tell from the words of two maids that it was my maid who did it? Please do me justice!” Wang Yuxin was still not convinced, and gave Miss Di a resentful stare. Then she turned to the Nanny in charge and shouted loudly.

Miss Yu, who was standing beside her, seemed to want to say something, but seeing Wang Yuxin’s fierce eyes, she didn’t dare to say anything. She just lowered her head and pinched the corner of her clothes. If possible, no one would want to make enemies.

“If it were not Miss Wang, it must be someone else. When I walked in, I smelled something strange, but all of you said it was okay. Now it is my Third Sister who had an incident, so the other ladies must have something to do with it. If it wasn’t Miss Wang, could it be Miss Di, Miss Yu, or my Big Sister?” Shao Wanru’s gaze calmly swept across the people present and analyzed.

Among the several ladies last night, Shao Caihuan and Shao Wanru were the least suspicious. It seemed possible to be one of the other ladies before the real culprit was found.

She had just been paying attention to the reaction of Miss Yu. If there was any other lady who could see what was going on that day, it must be her. She was sitting on the side of Wang Yuxin, and she looked like a meticulous girl. It was just that she was obviously trying to protect herself by playing it safe!

“If we couldn’t get to the bottom of it, you’ll all be kicked out the palace. The palace won’t allow such evil beauties to stay!” The Nanny in charge threatened with cold eyes knowingly.

If they didn’t explain it clearly, all of them would be sent home!

With that, the faces of Miss Di and Miss Yu turned pale, and they looked panicked, and even Shao Yanru looked terrible.

No one wanted to be expelled from the palace over such a thing at this time.

“Nanny...I...I also saw what Miss Wang’s maid did last night!” Miss Yu couldn’t hold on. She looked at the Nanny in charge in a panic.