

## **Medical Princess 771**

### **Chapter 771 She Didn't. I Did!**

"To see what?" Shao Wanru asked in surprise.

"Just go with me!" Chu Liuchen said. Putting one arm around Shao Wanru's shoulder, he led her into the inner room.

There was only a bed, a table, and a few chairs in the inner room.

The curtain of the back window was closed. When he got in, Chu Liuchen pulled the heavy curtain to one side. Then, Shao Wanru was stunned to see the scene on the opposite side. It so happened that the window faced the islet in the lake where the pavilion stood.

Earlier, she could not see the place clearly from outside because of the dense wood, but she could see it much more clearly here. On the balcony on the second floor, Shao Yanru and Chu Liuyue stood together. It seemed that they were talking about something. The other two ladies didn't go upstairs but were still downstairs. It was unknown whether they were embarrassed or had been stopped.

The two ladies with their two maids were walking casually below, but they seemed to look at the man and woman upstairs from time to time.

This house was built near the water, facing the sun in the south and leaning against the lakeside in the west. On the second floor in the west, there was an extended balcony, where Shao Yanru and Chu Liuyue were now standing.

This balcony extended deep over the lake. Standing here, one could probably have a panoramic view of the lake.

And there was a balustrade on the balcony.

The two seemed to be talking about something. Shao Yanru waved to the place below, and she seemed to say something to the two ladies down there. After a while of hesitation, they walked upstairs together.

Then the four of them talked together, looking harmonious.

"What is she going to do?" Shao Wanru asked in confusion. Shao Yanru didn't seem to be a person who was willing to share the man she liked with others. Especially in the current situation, her consort's title was still not clearly stated, so how could she want the two ladies to join in the contest and be her rivals?

At this moment, Shao Yanru was probably having a showdown with Chu Liuyue, asking him to marry her. Of course, it was unsuitable for her to say anything if an outsider was present.

Shao Wanru had guessed that the two must have built ties a long time earlier. Otherwise, Shao Yanru would not have planned to be a calm bystander and watch the fierce fight between Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou before making a move when one party won.

Earlier, when she found that the woman was panicky, she had deliberately made her even more panicky, forcing her to go to Consort of Virtue.

Today's occasion should be that Chu Liuyue said he wanted Shao Yanru to be his consort or persuaded her to be one. Shao Yanru might have been willing to agree earlier because she had thought that she was Chu Liuyue's beloved one and that no matter what position she was in, she would laugh in the end.

Now, the woman, who had been emotionally hurt by her and lost her confidence, was not sure of Chu Liuyue's attitude, so she would not agree to be a consort. Then they would have a conflict, but Chu Liuyue was not one who would be immersed in love.

In her previous life, the man and the woman had killed her with joint efforts. In this life, she wanted them to suspect each other.

But she couldn't see through the current situation. This was a little different from what she had imagined. She looked sideways at Chu Liuchen and saw that he was standing gently and elegantly next to her with his hands behind his back. When he sensed that she was looking at him, he turned his head and looked at her with a warm, beautiful smile.

Shao Wanru curled up her lips secretly. This person liked to hide his insidious, scheming nature beneath his harmless appearance. If this had nothing to do with him, he would not have spoken of watching the show.

When he saw that she was still staring at him, Chu Liuchen said with a smile, "Why do you keep looking at me? I know nothing either!"

Shao Wanru glared at him and turned her head to continue watching outside the window, but she did feel that something would happen. The person next to her pretended to be so innocent, and his skills were so great.

It would be strange if he was innocent!

Shao Wanru pursed her small, red lips and asked, "What do you know then, Prince?"

Seeing her unhappy, aggrieved expression, Chu Liuchen smiled even more gently, threw his arm around her thin waist, and pulled her to him. Feeling her small figure leaning against him, he grew increasingly happy. Rarely, he dropped his pretension.

"Chu Liuyue doesn't want to marry Shao Yanru, but Shao Yanru wants to marry him wholeheartedly!"

Shao Wanru's heart skipped a beat, her long eyelashes flickered a few times, and she smiled. This was what she had wanted to get with her previous action. She wanted them to have conflicts, and then they would not be able to continue to be allies.

"Shao Yanru will not agree to be a consort, so I must think of a way to let Chu Liuyue marry her!" Chu Liuchen continued.

Shao Wanru was struck by some thought. She glanced at the two people who were still talking happily on the balcony, but she suddenly felt that she had missed something. Then, she looked at the railings opposite and asked subconsciously, "The balustrade there is broken? Shao Yanru didn't know that Chu Liuyue would bring her here!"

No matter how capable she was, Shao Yanru could not predict that Chu Liuyue would suddenly have an idea and bring her here, nor could she loosen the railings.

"She didn't. I did!" Chu Liuchen smiled, and his expression became warmer and warmer.

"You... you didn't loosen the railings, did you?" Shao Wanru opened her mouth and suddenly turned her head to look at Chu Liuchen in shock as if she had been struck by lightning.

Naturally, this person could be Chu Liuchen. They had been slow on the way here, so it was very likely that he had loosened the balustrade before Chu Liuyue's men arrived.

"I hate seeing First Miss Shao being wronged most. Chu Liuyue promised to give her the Princess's position, so how could he go back on his word?" Chu Liuchen said. If she hadn't seen the man make the whole scheme, Shao Wanru would have thought that he was in love with Shao Yanru!

Moreover, at the very beginning, this man had painted Shao Yanru's portrait and asked her to give it to Chu Liuyue without hiding anything. At that time, Chu Liuyue's face had turned purple with rage.

Although three years had passed, Shao Wanru still remembered it clearly because it was related to Shao Yanru and Chu Liuyue.

"How did you... guess that Shao Yanru would use you to loosen the railings? Moreover, this courtyard is so big that they might not go to that place to talk!" Shao Wanru still felt that she could not figure out a few things, so she took a deep breath and spoke out all her puzzles.

"Who is the most cherished one in Duke Xing's Mansion?" Chu Liuchen asked as he looked sideways at Shao Wanru's fair, tender face. As his long eyelashes fell, his smile became softer and softer.

"Shao Yanru!" Shao Wanru replied.

Seeing that she was so sure, instead of asking a question or feeling hesitant, Chu Liuchen smiled. She deserved to be the one he liked.

Shao Wanru straightened out her thoughts and said, "My second uncle, Duke Xing, is not so enthusiastic about the title of nobility. At the very beginning, he wrote a memorial to the emperor to ask for the title of the heir of the duke for his son. It seems that he would like to make the biggest concession for his son's sake, but he was not so hesitant when my grandmother forced him to write a memorial to the emperor to ask for a title for Hao'er!"

She had even never said this to Rui'an Great Elder Princess. Although she thought this was possible, it was just her guess and could not be taken seriously. But she inexplicably said it to Chu Liuchen at this time.

"If his daughter becomes the Empress, the title can be easily taken back even if your younger brother gets it first. Even if it can't be taken back, your brother can be easily killed. Once she becomes the Empress, even if she doesn't do it herself, those who want to curry favor with her will do it. By then, your grandmother won't be able to protect your brother!" Chu Liuchen said with a smile.

Shao Wanru had a guess about it, but this was the first time someone had clearly analyzed it. She felt pain in her heart. Did her brother die like this in her previous life? She bit her small, red lips and felt some pain. In this life, she would not let them succeed again.

"She won't be the Empress, will she?" she blurted out. Although she had always behaved like a strong lady and had been consolidating every step she took for such a long time, at this moment, she thought

that she couldn't help telling the person beside her what she was uncertain about in her mind because she could rely on him.

She clasped her hands, and her eyes were filled with pain.

After all, she was just a helpless girl. It had been like this in her previous life, and the same thing happened in this life. She tried to act like a strong lady, but she was still a fragile girl. At this time, she inexplicably wanted to find a kind of conceptual support.

She shouldn't let the tragedy in her previous life happen again, right?

Her grandmother and brother would all be fine, right?

In her second life, all she wanted was to protect the people she cherished and push her enemies into the traps they had set themselves in her previous life.

It seemed that he had sensed Shao Wanru's uneasiness, Chu Liuchen put down his hand and held hers. Her hand was so cold that it even trembled a bit, while his hand was quite warm. He held her hand tightly in his and comforted her softly, "Don't worry. She won't be. She will never be!"

Feeling the warmth coming all the way up from her palm, Shao Wanru lowered her head and bit her lips with tears in her eyes. She told her that this person was Chu Liuchen, the one who had been helping her in her previous life. He wouldn't hurt her, but she felt like shedding tears.

Her nose was sore, and her heart seemed to have been severely torn by something. She felt the pain or sadness and the unique weakness of a woman.

Without any hesitation, she suddenly turned around and threw herself into Chu Liuchen's arms. Holding a corner of his robe tightly, she burst into tears and lowered her head, trying to hide her weakness and helplessness at this moment.

"What's wrong?" Chu Liuchen hurriedly hugged her and lowered his head to see her face.

"I'm fine. I just... I just remember something!" Shao Wanru shook her head hard, tried to hold back her tears, and even wore a faint smile. This life was different from her previous life. In this life, she would never take the path she had taken in her previous life, and all her effort would yield results.

"Are you really okay?" Chu Liuchen asked softly, worried.

"I'm okay. If anything happens to her, I will be fine!" Shao Wanru whispered. Thinking of Shao Yanru, she immediately stopped crying and had coldness in her eyes. The hatred between her and Shao Yanru meant that they would fight to the death. She would do it not only for herself but also for the relatives she cared about.

"Don't worry. I'll take care of everything!" Chu Liuchen patted Shao Wanru's back and said softly. He looked out the window, with hostility welling up in his eyes. "Shao Wanru is so scared, so I can't let Duke Xing's Mansion exist anymore..." he thought to himself.

**Chapter 772 Shao Yanru, Being Dragged Down, Is Innocent?**

Shao Yanru and Chu Liuyue stood very close to each other, and the loose balustrade was behind them. Shao Yanru rubbed her handkerchief hard to suppress her tension.

What Chu Liuyue had just said made her angry, resentful, and quite jealous. She wanted to marry Chu Liuyue wholeheartedly, but she didn't expect that the man only wanted to give her the consort's position. He said that she had a bad reputation because many people had seen her in her wet clothes and the Empress must have known it.

He didn't say that on that very day. What did he mean by saying that now?

The bait that she had put on that day did not make Chu Liuyue retreat. What he meant was that she could marry into Prince Yue's Mansion only as a consort to earn herself a bright future. It was fine for her to scheme like that, but he told her to do it that way, which obviously meant that he disliked her. How could a woman despised by her husband be the Princess, the final winner in the future?

Shao Yanru was unwilling to give up, but she could not offend Chu Liuyue. While they were talking, she put her hand on the balustrade and held it hard from under her sleeve from time to time to suppress her anger. She was afraid that she could not hold it and would explode.

She could not get angry. She could not allow it to happen. If she got angry, she could only get a result she didn't want in the end.

She wanted to be the Princess. She wanted to be the Princess of Prince Yue. Even if she was despised by Chu Liuyue, she must hold fast to the Princess's position. If she got this position and also had the support of Duke Xing's Mansion, Chu Liuyue would not repudiate her even if he did not love her in the future. Anyway, his disposition would not let him do that.

When she had a child in the future, the whole empire would be hers.

She had not cared about the consort's position in the past because she had thought that she was sure about Chu Liuyue's heart. But now she was clear that Chu Liuyue did not love her as he had previously. In this case, she must be the Princess.

At this time, she found that the balustrade was loose. She was overjoyed when she found it. While holding the balustrade, she slowly walked and checked which part was the loosest. Then she found it, and Chu Liuyue followed her and stood in front of it.

She said that she would marry into Prince Yue's Mansion and be a consort as she was told, and then they would plan their future wholeheartedly. This was a very good place for a conversation. It was surrounded by water on all sides. If someone came, they could see him clearly. And they were not afraid of being watched or eavesdropped on.

They began to talk a little privately. Chu Liuyue behaved like he was sincere, and Shao Yanru said that she was willing to compromise for his great cause. They showed that they would like to sacrifice for the same goal. Then the scene was harmonious.

When they finished the business, their estrangement seemed to have gone. Shao Yanru proposed to invite the two ladies down there upstairs. Moments earlier, the two ladies had wanted to go upstairs, but they had been stopped by Chu Liuyue's men.

Chu Liuyue had wanted to talk something private to Shao Yanru, so he couldn't let others ruin it. Now that the private affair was done with an agreement reached and they were in a good mood, he asked his men to invite the two ladies upstairs. With the two ladies being present, he and Shao Yanru being together would not arouse gossip.

When they heard that Chu Liuyue asked them to go upstairs, the two ladies blushed. But they were a little jealous when they saw Shao Yanru.

Prince Yue had talked with First Miss Shao for so long, and they seemed to be in a good mood. It was so annoying.

It was said that the First Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion was dignified and decent, but how could it possibly be true? Obviously, she and Prince Yue had unknown stories. As for these words, they didn't dare to say them out aloud. Now, what was most important was that they should talk to Prince Yue as much as possible and leave a good impression on him.

"Your Highness, the scenery here is so beautiful. I thought it was a ruined courtyard when I came in just now. If some flowers are planted here and bloom, flowers will flourish even before spring begins!" a lady said as she pointed to the lake and rockeries around. As she spoke, she moved closer to Chu Liuyue. It seemed that she was pointing to the lake outside, but in fact, she was approaching him quietly.

Shao Yanru smiled disdainfully. Ladies from aristocratic families only had such tricks. The most frequently used method was to throw themselves into the arms of men, but they forgot who this man before them was. Children of the royal family didn't lack women who wanted to throw themselves into their arms!

In order to avoid suspicion, she stepped back as if she wanted to stay away from Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue was very satisfied with her behavior, and he also took one step back as she did. Before the final result of the Consort Selection was announced, he was unwilling to have close physical contact with the other beauties so as not to let his father suspect.

He could make a scheme with Shao Yanru secretly, but he would not do it with others. Anyway, the other beauties' relationships with him were not comparable to his relationship with Shao Yanru. Besides, the act that Shao Yanru took a step back from him proved that she was much better than the two ladies approaching him. If it were not for her impure reputation, he would have been willing to make her his Princess.

He would stand here for a while before he left. He had told Shao Yanru everything. Slightly indifferent, he looked at that lady but did not answer.

Chu Liuyue remained silent, but Shao Yanru answered gently. She looked in the direction the lady pointed and whispered with a smile, "Beautiful indeed!"

Then she turned to Chu Liuyue and said, "What do you think, Your Highness?"

This was Shao Yanru's question, so Chu Liuyue would show her some respect. He nodded with a softened expression and said, "It's really good!"

Shao Yanru and Prince Yue stood so close to each other, and it was Prince Yue who had approached her. Seeing that, the two ladies looked at each other and became jealous, feeling that something seemed to be gnawing their hearts. They didn't think they were so much inferior to Shao Yanru, but why did Prince Yue avoid looking at them?

Another young lady turned her eyes and pointed in a direction, saying, "What's over there, Prince Yue? Why does it look so tall?"

Chu Liuyue looked in the direction and found that it was a tall tower of the palace. One could see such tall towers from many places in the palace, so he turned his head disapprovingly with no mind to care about it.

But something unexpected happened at this moment.

In order to show it to him more clearly, the young lady who was pointing at the tall tower walked toward them. But for some unknown reason—she seemed to have sprained her foot, so she ended up falling straight toward Chu Liuyue.

With his head still turned to the side, Chu Liuyue didn't notice it. When he realized that something was wrong, he hurriedly moved to Shao Yanru's side with strong disgust in his eyes. Truly, he had experienced the thing that a woman threw herself into his arms many times, and he had avoided every one of them. But what was behind him now was the balustrade, so he could only move to his side. Shao Yanru was on one side, and the lady who had spoken first was on the other side.

He thought that Shao Yanru could make him feel at ease.

Thinking like this, he moved to Shao Yanru's side, but he suddenly felt that his hand was hit hard by something. He fell back hard on the balustrade, and the balustrade got broken. Realizing that he would fall off the high balcony, he subconsciously wanted to hold something. At this moment, he only had time to hold a corner of Shao Yanru's clothes, and then Shao Yanru fell with him.

Dragged by Chu Liuyue, Shao Yanru fell with him and screamed, "Prince, save the Prince!"

Shao Wanru almost widened her watery eyes to watch the scene in shock. She saw that Chu Liuyue was knocked down and fell and that Shao Yanru was brought down by him.

"Why... why did they happen to go there?" Shao Wanru couldn't help asking.

"This is the only place in the garden suitable for enjoying the scenery and having a chat. Going to another place won't be like enjoying the scenery!" Chu Liuchen said with a smile and hid the coldness in his eyes. "As for Shao Yanru, if she found that the balustrade was loose, she would surely take advantage of it!"

Shao Wanru pursed her lips tightly and knew that he was telling the truth. Shao Yanru was that kind of person. She was so good at finding the most suitable breakthrough point for herself.

If something like that had not happened, she would set a trap for Chu Liuyue another time. But she would look innocent on the surface.

In her previous life, Shao Yanru and Chu Liuyue had colluded with each other. Although one was a palace concubine and the other was a Prince, they had plotted against her. This showed that they must have

had contacts in private. But they had had conflicts this time, so she wanted to see if they would still be so close.

“Will Prince Yue marry Shao Yanru?” Shao Wanru asked curiously while looking out the window.

Some guards came and jumped into the water to save Chu Liuyue. Sure enough, retainers would guard people with such status from a short distance, although they didn’t follow them at their heels.

Some guards went to save Shao Yanru, who was still holding Chu Liuyue’s hand tightly. Her face was as pale as snow, and her eyes were tightly shut. She tried her best to hold Chu Liuyue’s hand, looking fragile and helpless, but she was holding his hand firmly and would never let go.

Chu Liuyue’s heart softened. At this time, he had realized it. He waved at the guards beside him, and he partially held Shao Wanru and saved her. Actually, this spot was not far away from the bank. He swam a bit and reached the bank.

Shuqi had already run down. Seeing Chu Liuyue coming over with Shao Yanru in his arms, she hurriedly rushed over, hugged Shao Yanru, and wept. “Miss, Miss... don’t scare me. Nothing should happen to you!”

Shao Yanru fell straight over, and Chu Liuyue almost fell with her.

“Go and change your clothes first!” Chu Liuyue forcefully took Shao Yanru’s hand off his wrist and then looked up coldly. On the balcony, the two fallen ladies were shivering now.

How could they dare to knock Prince Yue off the balcony and make him fall into the water? They had never expected anything like this to happen.

When Chu Liuchen saw that Chu Liuyue entered that room with his guards, he turned his dark eyes and said with some interest, “I will go back first, but I will come to you in a while!”

“Go back first, Your Highness! I will deal with the rest!” Shao Wanru nodded and said. She knew what Chu Liuchen meant. Of course, she would deal with the rest. “If you have time, could you send a message to Prince Zhou for me?”

“Well, it happens that I’m going to see the Empress!”

### **Chapter 773 Consecutive Falls**

Shao Wanru was extremely calm when she was asked to go over. She followed a little eunuch to the island in the center of the lake.

Seen from a distance, the courtyard was small. But when she came near, she found that it was large, almost as large as the place where she had just stayed for a rest.

She was led to Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue had changed his clothes. Dressed in a simple brocade robe, he looked a little pale. A man would feel a little cold if he fell into the water in such a cold winter, let alone a woman like Shao Yanru.

Shao Yanru really risked her life! She had been injured, and her condition was probably even worse now.



"Fifth Miss, please take care of First Miss. I've sent for the imperial physician!" Chu Liuyue whispered slowly while looking at Shao Wanru. His voice was a little hoarse. Obviously, he was injured.

Shao Wanru tightened her sleeves, bowed respectfully, raised her beautiful face, and asked in surprise, "Anything happened to my sister?"

No doubt, this was what one who knew nothing about the incident should ask.

Chu Liuyue coughed in a low voice because he really felt an itch in his throat. Seeing the beautiful, dignified young lady, he frowned and said, "When I was knocked into the water, I dragged First Miss Shao and we fell into the water together. And she has not regained consciousness yet!"

Shao Yanru shouldn't have been involved in what had happened to him earlier. It was he who had dragged her down. Moreover, he and Shao Yanru had had a good talk and also reached an agreement. In this case, he certainly would defend Shao Yanru. What he said sounded that Shao Yanru had done nothing wrong.

Shao Wanru listened to Chu Liuyue very calmly. Only when he had finished did she raise her long eyelashes slightly and say, "Your Highness, I will take good care of my sister. Please leave!"

After that, she bowed deeply again and turned to walk toward the main room, where Shao Yanru was resting.

Seeing her businesslike manner without asking him any more questions, Chu Liuyue inexplicably felt a little uncomfortable and blurted out, "Wait a minute!"

Shao Wanru stopped, turned around, looked up at him, then lowered her head politely, and asked, "What else can I do for you, Your Highness?"

Chu Liuyue moved the hands that were behind his back. In fact, he didn't know why he had asked Shao Wanru to stop. Was it because of her indifferent attitude? Under such circumstances, she should have asked about his condition, shouldn't she? All ladies from aristocratic families would do this, wouldn't they?

"First Miss Shao's condition is not very good. Please take good care of her, Fifth Miss Shao. If anything happens to her, I will have to ask you for an explanation!"

Chu Liuyue spoke coldly.

Shao Wanru frowned, raised her watery eyes, and looked at Chu Liuyue.

The sons of the royal family were all good-looking, and Chu Liuyue was no exception. Although he looked a little embarrassed with not very dry hair, he still impressed her. He looked down at her with inexplicable coldness. In her previous life, he seemed to have looked at her like this while asking someone to cut her in two at the waist.

What great hatred toward her had driven him to cut her in two at the waist!

Instead of killing her neatly, he let her die in a painful struggle. In fact, the painful state that she felt she was already dead but still had consciousness was even worse than death.

She did not have any exchanges with Prince Yue, but why did he want to kill her like that? Only because of Shao Yanru? The bloody fact seemed to be in front of her eyes. She closed her eyes with great effort, afraid that Chu Liuyue would find the hatred in them!

“What do you mean by this, Your Highness? In such a winter, my sister fell from a high place into the water, but you will ask me for an explanation if anything happens to her. Do you think this is reasonable, Your Highness?”

Shao Wanru opened her eyes and spoke in a decent tone. Her delicate face had turned cold. She would go and take care of Shao Yanru. Probably, she was the most suitable person in the palace, but she would not bear any consequences.

Shao Yanru fell down herself. No matter what her scheme was, it had nothing to do with her. She remembered that Shao Yanru had fallen into the water before, so in total, she had fallen into the water twice in the winter. Besides, the woman took the poison that she had used to poison her. Thinking of all these things, Shao Wanru was sure that Shao Yanru had hurt her vitals.

Although she did not know the specifics, the thing that her vitals had been hurt was definitely not a trivial matter for Shao Yanru. In order to avoid unnecessary trouble from her, Shao Wanru thought that she should make it clear.

“My sister fell into the water twice, so her health will surely be damaged. Prince Yue, you won’t let me take responsibility, will you?” She was sure that if she didn’t add these words, Shao Yanru would work out ways to let her take the blame.

She raised her eyes and glanced at the window of the main room. As expected, she saw the curtains there moving slightly. Inexplicably, she felt that a pair of eyes that were as cold as a viper’s were staring at her from that place.

No doubt, Shao Yanru had woken up a long time earlier.

But she would not “wake up” smoothly. She would take the chance to make trouble. After all, she was best at acting according to circumstances.

Chu Liuyue touched his nose. Others did not know about the so-called two falls into the water, but he knew that Shao Yanru was clear about them. He frowned and thought that this was quite serious. Shao Yanru’s health would be damaged. He had heard that if a woman’s health was damaged, it would be hard for her to bear children in the future.

Being weak, she would not be the Princess.

“Fifth Miss, you just need to take good care of First Miss. As for other things, they naturally have nothing to do with you!” Chu Liuyue coughed in a low voice, which meant that this topic was over.

“It would be best if you could think it this way, Prince Yue!” Shao Wanru nodded, bowed sideways to Chu Liuyue, and then headed to the main room with Yujie.

She really didn’t want to talk to Chu Liuyue because she would remember her painful screams and the blood she had seen when she was still conscious in her previous life. Then, she left hurriedly.

Chu Liuyue's eyes fell on her slender figure. At this moment, he could not find any other reason to let her stay. The girl in front of him looked gentle with delicate and elegant eyes, and her smile was naturally charming. He pursed his lips and had an idea: he would make her fail the Consort Selection. After all, she was still young.

Three years. When she went to the palace to participate in the Consort Selection after three years, he would probably have gained the upper hand. He took a deep breath and relaxed the muscles around his lips.

"Guards, come and send the two ladies to the Chuxiu Palace and ask the nannies there to take them out of the palace. If such two people stay, the whole palace will be in chaos!" Chu Liuyue ordered coldly.

The two ladies from aristocratic families made him very unhappy. If he had known that the two women were so discontented with their lot, he would never have brought them over.

They were really stupid.

His voice was loud, and the two young ladies on the balcony were paralyzed on the balcony. Their faces were so pale that they might pass out the next moment.

At this time, they wished that they had fallen.

If they were driven out of the palace for such a reason, which aristocratic family would dare to take them as their sons' wives? They were doomed, and their whole lives were ruined.

"Your Highness, please forgive me. Just now... what happened just now had nothing to do with me!" The lady who had not bumped into Chu Liuyue suddenly cried loudly. She just realized that she had no connections with this. She was not the one who had knocked the Prince, but why did she have also to be punished?

"Your Highness, Your Highness... spare me..." The lady who had knocked Chu Liuyue could only say such words. With her eyes full of despair, she saw the two guards coming over to take her. Getting strength from nowhere, she suddenly pushed the guards away and jumped back, falling into the water while everyone was watching.

She had knocked the Prince into the water with such an indecent purpose. Even if she went back, her whole life was ruined, so it was better to jump into the lake. Maybe she could have a good reputation after she died.

Hearing someone fall into the water, Shao Wanru stopped in the cloister and watched the lady that had jumped into the water. Then a guard jumped after her and saved her. The other lady seemed to think that it was impossible to make everything clear in the current situation, so she jumped too.

And she was also saved.

In this situation, it was even harder for her to explain if she didn't jump. She had to jump for a glimmer of hope. No one could bear the crime of pushing the Prince into the water.

Shao Yanru seemed to be the most innocent one in the whole incident. It was Chu Liuyue who had dragged her down, so Chu Liuyue felt guilty toward her.

Chu Liuyue knitted his eyebrows and felt so angry. The two were daughters of important officials, so he could not let them die in front of him. Remembering that the two had tried to throw themselves into his arms, making him so embarrassed, he choked with anger.

He waved his hand, asking their servant girls to take them to rest in the wing rooms. Instantly, their servant girls cried one after another.

Hearing that, Chu Liuyue was terribly upset. No matter what, it was unable to cover it up. The situation was so terrible, so it was impossible to keep it a secret. He asked a little eunuch to report this to the Empress, saying that he would explain it to the Empress in person when the incident was basically settled.

Yujie pushed the door open and Shao Wanru walked in slowly. There was a stove in the room, so it was warm here.

"Fifth Miss!" Shuqi stood at the bedside, crying. When she saw Shao Wanru coming in, she hurriedly came over, bowed to her, and then cried with her handkerchief covering her face.

Shao Yanru was lying motionless on the bed with her hands clasped on her chest as if she had really fainted and could not regain consciousness.

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Yanru calmly and asked, "How's my sister?"

"Miss hasn't woken up yet... Fifth Miss, it is said that you have excellent medical skills. Could you take a look at my Miss? I'm afraid it will be too late when the imperial physician comes!"

Shuqi dropped to her knees and held Shao Wanru's skirt, begging.

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Yanru's pale face, silent. To treat Shao Yanru? She wouldn't get any benefits, and the woman would frame her in every way possible, so she wouldn't really do it.

"I'll feel her pulse!" Shao Wanru said slowly. She sat still next to the bed and said, "I've just learned medicine for a short time, and I won't treat people in normal times. If anything that I say is wrong, you can ask the imperial physician in a while. I'll tell Old Madam my diagnosis when I get back!"

After that, she signaled to Shuqi to take Shao Yanru's hand down.

#### **Chapter 774 Kind and Generous. She Is Acting?**

After hesitating for a moment, Shuqi subconsciously looked at Shao Yanru lying on the bed. Not sure about the medical skills of Fifth Miss, she became nervous. Fifth Miss wouldn't find that First Miss was actually awake, would she?

She knew that Fifth Miss knew medical skills because Nanny Yu had told her so. Nanny Yu thought that Fifth Miss's medical skills were excellent, but no one in the whole mansion took her words seriously. Even Old Madam, whom Fifth Miss had treated at that time, said that she was not good. Now, when she wanted her to feel the pulse, Shuqi felt uneasy.

Fifth Miss really had excellent medical skills?

Shao Yanru was motionless on the bed, looking like she had fainted, aware of nothing. Helpless, Shuqi could only take her hand down. Shao Wanru put her hand on her sister's pulse and began to treat her.

Shao Yanru's condition was bad indeed. The cold air that had been left in her from her first fall into the water had not been eliminated, but new cold air had entered her body. She was afraid that it would be hard for her sister to bear children.

It was because her sister had fallen into the water twice and taken the poison. In fact, the poison and the water-falling trap had been prepared for her. Shao Wanru tightly shut her eyes, but there was some hostility in them. She had a silent smile. Shao Yanru had racked her brains to make calculations, but she ended up being hurt by her own schemes. Actually, she reaped what she had sown.

This fall into the water had worsened her health condition.

Shao Wanru put down Shao Yanru's hand, flapped her eyelashes, and whispered slowly, "My sister has taken some strong medicine, right?"

Lying in bed, Shao Yanru was shocked. Doctor Qiu's medicine was indeed strong that it could not be taken at will. Although she took it, she had been worried.

She was so afraid that she would have the lingering effect of some disease if she was not careful. What she was most afraid of was that she would not have a son. But when she thought of Shao Wanru's cunningness, she couldn't help gritting her teeth. Shao Wanru must be talking nonsense. How much could she find? She was just scaring her.

"Fifth... Fifth Miss, strong medicine?" Not as calm as Shao Yanru, Shuqi was already in a panic now.

"The cold air from my sister's first fall into the water has not been eliminated. The best way is to recuperate bit by bit, dissipating the cold air in her. This is the safest way. But the medicine my sister takes now is strong. It has quickly dispersed the cold air, but it has not eliminated all of it. And she fell into the water again. I'm afraid..."

Shao Wanru shook her head, showing that she didn't want to say anything more.

"Fifth... Fifth Miss, what is it?" Shuqi asked in a trembling voice.

Lying in bed, Shao Yanru picked up her ears, ready to carefully listen to Shao Wanru's answer.

"I'm afraid that her conception will be affected. If unfortunate, she might never have children!" Shao Wanru concluded. Shao Yanru was so angry that she wanted to sit up and scratch Shao Wanru's face. This b\*tch dared to curse her. But she was also relieved. It seemed that this b\*tch's medical skills were really bad. She didn't even find that she had been poisoned before.

She took Doctor Qiu's medicine because she had taken the poison. It was not only because of the cold air from the fall into the water.

Shao Wanru's medical skills were bad, so she wouldn't believe anything she said. She was frightening her, so who would take her words seriously?

"The imperial physician is here!" Someone shouted outside. Shao Wanru hurriedly retreated to the place behind the bed. Shuqi put down the gauze bed curtain and then went to the door to welcome the imperial physician.

The imperial physician came in a hurry, sat in the chair next to the bed, and took Shao Yanru's pulse. A long time later, he finally put her hand down.

"How's our Miss, imperial physician?" Shuqi said as she wiped away her tears.

"The cold air in your Miss's body is quite strong. It seems that it still can't be eliminated after a long time of treatment, and she also fell into the water today. I'm afraid that this will affect her future conception, so she needs to take more care of her health!" the imperial physician thought for a while and answered seriously in the most moderate way. This was a standard answer indeed.

The one in bed was First Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion with a very good reputation. It was said that she was bound to be chosen in the Consort Selection, so the imperial physician dared not say too much about a few things. If he said that the lady would have difficulty in bearing children or she might not be able to keep her baby even if she got pregnant, he might offend her. In this case, he thought that it was better to say it prudently.

There might be a glimmer of hope for things in the future, although he didn't think it was possible for First Miss Shao to have children.

Hearing the imperial physician's words, Shuqi heaved a sigh of relief and thought that Shao Wanru had just exaggerated the seriousness of the condition. More importantly, her Miss was taking Doctor Qiu's medicine. Earlier, she had heard that her Miss got much better.

"Thank you very much, imperial physician. But why hasn't our Miss woken up yet?" Shuqi wiped her tears and asked anxiously. Shao Yanru was still lying motionless on the bed, without a trace of vitality.

"Well..." The imperial physician was confused. He thought that except for the cold air in her that would affect her future conception, she shouldn't have been unconscious like this. "Let's wait a little longer. Nothing serious will happen!"

"If anything serious happens, what will it be? Will our Miss remain unconscious and never wake up?" Shuqi burst into tears.

The sudden cry made Chu Liuyue, who was standing outside, knit his eyebrows even more tightly. With accidents happening one after another, he felt so upset. If he had known this, he would not have brought Shao Yanru here.

"There won't be anything serious. I'll give her a prescription first," the imperial physician said.

Flustered, Shuqi watched the imperial physician leave.

"I'm going to ask the imperial physician about my sister's real condition," Shao Wanru came out from behind the bed and said to Shuqi.

Shuqi nodded. She really didn't know what to do at this time. With Shao Wanru being her backbone, she was a little relieved.

Shao Wanru went out with Yujie. Seeing Chu Liuyue standing in the corridor, she bowed sideways and said, "Your Highness, where has the imperial physician gone to prepare the prescription?"

"He has gone to treat the other two, and then he will write their prescriptions together!" Chu Liuyue said. Although seeing the other two made him annoyed, he had to do something for them.

"Then I'll wait outside for the imperial physician to come out!" Shao Wanru nodded and said. Then she walked down the steps and stood in the yard, waiting.

Chu Liuyue had wanted to ask her about Shao Yanru's condition. But when he saw her walk out, he didn't think it was suitable to ask her to stay. After thinking for a while, he turned and entered the room. Anyway, Shao Yanru was dragged in by him, and she would be his consort, so he needed to go and see her specific condition.

Hearing the sound, Shuqi looked up and saw Chu Liuyue, so she hurried over to bow with red eyes. "Your Highness!"

Chu Liuyue walked to the bed, looked at the ashen Shao Yanru, and asked, "How's your Miss?"

"Our Miss hasn't woken up yet. The imperial physician said... he said that she might not be good, and we will see if she could wake up!" Shuqi sobbed.

Chu Liuyue felt a little fidgety and his face turned cold. "Shut up!"

Shocked, Shuqi instantly covered her mouth and stepped aside, for fear of disturbing Chu Liuyue with even a little noise.

Shao Yanru, who was lying on the bed, slowly opened her eyes at this time. She looked at the top of the tent in a daze as if she hadn't known where she was now.

"Miss..." Shuqi was so excited that she wanted to speak again, but she shivered and did not dare to rush over when she saw Chu Liuyue.

"Shuqi..." Shao Yanru said a little hoarsely with difficulty.

Seeing the extremely weak Shao Yanru on the bed, Chu Liuyue became gentle. He sat down in the chair next to the bed and held her hand to comfort her. "How do you feel? Do you feel anything uncomfortable?"

Shao Yanru's washed-out eyes glistened with a little surprise when she heard his voice. She turned over with difficulty to look at him and suddenly held his robe. Then her tears fell drop by drop. "Your Highness... I thought I wouldn't see you anymore!"

Seeing the fragile expression on her delicate face, even a man like Chu Liuyue had pity for her. Then he held her cold hand and said softly, "It's all right. Nothing bad will happen. It's all over now!"

"Your Highness... Your Highness..." Shao Yanru struggled to get up, threw herself into Chu Liuyue's arms by the bed, and burst into tears. She seemed so fragile that she would turn into pieces if someone touched her.

Such a beautiful woman could not let go of him. Even when she had just woken up, the first person she thought of was him. Thinking of this, Chu Liuyue couldn't help having a gentle smile, letting her rush into his arms. He patted her back and said, "Don't be afraid. It's all right. Everything is all right!"

Lying in Chu Liuyue's arms, Shao Yanru cried and asked, "Your Highness, how... how are the two of them?"

"What else should happen to them? Just send them out of the palace!" Chu Liuyue's face darkened. He really didn't want to mention the two ladies who had ruined his plan.

"But... but they are the daughters of important officials after all. Your highness, even if you don't want to show them respect, you have to show their fathers and brothers respect. You should spare them!" Shao Yanru trembled all over, but she was still trying to put in a good word for the two ladies.

Chu Liuyue looked down at her. Her hair was in a mess, making her look so pathetic. Even so, she was still pleading for other girls. Actually, he could make her his princess. At least, she could keep his backyard in peace.

The problem that he had been thinking about moments earlier didn't seem to be so annoying when he saw that Shao Yanru thought for his good wholeheartedly. When he fell into the water, he had clearly felt that he subconsciously grabbed Shao Yanru's sleeve but then she grabbed him tightly. Before they fell into the water, she had asked people to save him first, completely ignoring herself.

Shao Yanru truly thought for his good wholeheartedly in terms of this. Inexplicably, his heart softened. As for her first fall into the water, a few people knew it, but they wouldn't spread it, so that was over.

Moreover, with such proof in his hands, he believed that Duke Xing's Mansion wouldn't dare to disobey him. And it was acceptable to make Shao Yanru his princess!

When he saw that Shao Yanru considered things from his point of view with her heart and soul, the slight hesitation he had had moments earlier disappeared!

"Don't worry. I won't be dragged in." Chu Liuyue comforted her. Then he patted her back and held her in his arms, but only he knew that he was still thinking about how much he could force Shao Yanru and Duke Xing's Mansion to compromise with the mistake Shao Yanru had made earlier.

Thinking of this, he knew that a mistake could be used. "So be it!" he said to himself inwardly.

Chu Liuyue gently touched Shao Yanru's smooth face, looked down, and said, "Don't worry, I will marry you and make you my princess to give our love in former days a good result."

But the door was suddenly kicked open with a bang...

## **Chapter 775 Two Princes Fought for a Woman**

Shao Yanru had fallen into the lake and been rescued by Chu Liuyue!

This news shocked Chu Liuzhou so much that he had no mood to stay with the Empress any more. He made an excuse and asked a eunuch to help push his wheelchair away in a hurry. He did not notice that there was some meaning in Chu Liuchen's eyes when he turned around.



Doctor Qiu had good medical skills. After strong medicine had been applied, Chu Liuzhou could now simply walk as long as he didn't force his legs too hard. But for better rehabilitation, he usually sat in a wheelchair.

It was reported by a palace servant. He only said that the First Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion had fallen into the lake. As for the matter that she had fallen into the water with Chu Liuyue, it was answered in detail because of Chu Liuchen's casual questions.

He asked who had been there at that time, how she had fallen into the water, what her condition was now and so on.

Originally, Chu Liuzhou had not cared about this, but hearing the answers for Chu Liuchen's questions in a few words, he immediately flew into a rage. It was because Chu Liuyue wanted to rob Shao Yanru from him that he made such an accident. Otherwise, how could there be such a coincidence?

When going out, they had happened to meet each other and invited to visit around together. After arriving at the desolate garden, they had walked straight to the island in the middle of the lake. That place was very remote, but why had they been there? As for the matter later, it was more coincidental. The fence was broken, so Chu Liuyue had fallen down and also pulled Shao Yanru into the water.

Chu Liuzhou really didn't believe that this was not intentional.

He had chosen Duke Xing's Mansion, but Chu Liuyue was so shameless to rob it, so Chu Liuzhou could not swallow his anger. Especially when he saw Chu Liuchen's obtrusive smile, he felt like being pricked in his heart, because Chu Liuchen seemed to have known everything clearly.

Duke Xing's Mansion must stand on his side. It didn't matter even if Shao Yanru's reputation was ruined, but she could marry Prince Zhou's Mansion as a concubine.

Thinking of this, he hurried to the desolate garden.

When he entered the courtyard, a guard saw him coming over and hurriedly stepped back to salute him. After being looked at coldly by Chu Liuzhou, the guard did not dare to say a word and left.

Shao Wanru saw Chu Liuzhou coming from the corridor on the side. She slightly turned around and pretended not to see what was happening here. Yujie also lowered her head obediently like a timid servant girl.

Both of them turned their backs to the garden, so they pretended not to see Chu Liuzhou came over angrily.

There was also a little eunuch standing at the door of the main room. Chu Liuzhou immediately saw this and knew that Chu Liuyue must be inside. He gestured and the guard following him came forward to cover the mouth of the little eunuch who was about to speak and pulled him aside.

Chu Liuzhou took his wheelchair to the door.

The door was half closed. Hearing Shao Yanru's and Chu Liuyue's voices coming from inside, Chu Liuzhou almost exploded with anger.

He had always thought that Shao Yanru had a lot of affection for him, and Duke Xing's Mansion also followed him wholeheartedly. Unexpectedly, he heard a different voice. What did it mean by the relationship between them in the past? If Chu Liuyue and Shao Yanru had had a long relationship, then what about he?

Since his childhood, he had had a good relationship with Shao Yanru and had occasionally written letters to each other in private. Originally, they had just talked about the things among children, but this gradually became an affection. Chu Liuzhou had already decided to let Shao Yanru marry into Prince Zhou's Mansion.

In the beginning, when people in the palace were choosing a consort for him, he had been afraid that Shao Yanru would fail to be chosen because of living in the Yuhui Nunnery, so he had asked someone to tell Shao Yanru privately. However, Shao Yanru had said that she was afraid that she could not participate in the Beauty Contest and had been recuperating in the Yuhui Nunnery for her poor condition at that time. She had also explained that rumour had it that she was studying painting in calm. This was because that she was afraid that the Empress would not consider letting her become Princess Zhou for being in poor health.

At that time, Chu Liuzhou had also deliberately said that even if the Empress chose another girl for him, he could also let Shao Yanru become Princess Zhou in the future.

If what Chu Liuyue had said was true, then what he had done in the past was wrong and in vain. Although he cared about Duke Xing's Mansion most, it could not be said that he was completely heartless to Shao Yanru.

"Chu Liuyue and the b\*tch Shao Yanru plotted against me together?"

This idea suddenly came to his mind. He was so angry with a livid face that he could no longer listen any words. He asked the guard to kick open the door, then stood up and strode in.

In the room, Chu Liuyue was still holding Shao Yanru in his arms. They snuggled up to each other with great tenderness between them. Someone unexpectedly appeared. Before they could react, they saw Chu Liuzhou rushing in with a livid face, and the blue veins on his forehead stood out.

When Chu Liuzhou came in, he saw that the two of them were hugging each other. He picked up Chu Liuyue's collar and gave him a heavy punch.

Chu Liuyue was directly knocked out. He stood up, then staggered a few steps back and fell to the ground.

However, he had also practiced martial arts, so he reacted quite fast. The moment he fell to the ground, he supported himself with one hand and stood up after steadying himself. There was a fierce look in his eyes, "Second brother, what are you doing?"

"What am I doing? I also want to ask you two, what do you want to do?" Chu Liuzhou was so angry that he lost his mind. His eyes were full of blood, and he hit Chu Liuyue's face hard again. The eunuch who followed him saw that the things were getting worse and hurried to hold him, for fear that something bad would happen to him again.

Chu Liuyue suffered a loss for the first time because he had not noticed. But now, he naturally couldn't let Chu Liuzhou hit him again. He reached out to grab Chu Liuzhou's fist and shouted, "Second brother, are you crazy?"

"Yes, I'm crazy. How could you two plot against me in this way? Well, well, well, let's go to see Emperor Father now and ask how you, Prince Yue, treat your brother and plot to rob your brother's wife?" At this time, Chu Liuzhou seemed to say what came into his mind angrily and desperately tried to get out of Chu Liuyue's hands.

Seeing that he really couldn't struggle to get out, Chu Liuzhou was also angry. He reached out and hit Chu Liuyue's face with his other hand. He was really not afraid of blowing up this affair today.

"Second brother, what do you mean by my brother's wife? I don't know that you are going to marry First Miss Shao!" Chu Liuyue understood this quickly, and then grabbed Chu Liuzhou's hands desperately and shouted. He was also angry now. What happened today had nothing to do with Chu Liuzhou, but why did he come here and act like a crazy man?

Shao Yanru shivered and fell on the bed. She huddled up not because she felt cold but because she was afraid and her eyes were full of despair.

It was definitely not a good thing that the royal brothers argued for her.

Moreover, she had relationships with both of them in private. This matter was about to be exposed, but she could do nothing now.

"Shao Yanru and I are childhood sweethearts. We have been engaged in private for a long time. Why do you intervene in this? I have promised to leave the position of Princess Zhou for her early and she also has a crush on me! She always has affection for me every time we are together."

Chu Liuzhou gnashed his teeth and said something terrible.

Chu Liuyue and Shao Yanru dared to plot against him, so he would never save their faces.

"What? First Miss Shao and you, you two..." Chu Liuyue was really confused, and he looked up at Shao Yanru in shock. When he saw her pale face and desperate eyes, he suddenly understood.

Pushing Chu Liuzhou away, Chu Liuyue took a few steps forward to Shao Yanru and grabbed her collar. At this moment, he no longer cared about her identity as the daughter of an aristocratic family and picked her up like a dead dog, "Shao Yanru, how dare you date two men? You want to be my Consort Yue, and at the same time, you also want to be my second brother's Consort Zhou! You b\*tch!"

"You said that she was dating two men?" Seeing Chu Liuyue's ferocious face, Chu Liuzhou calmed down a little and snorted. "She has promised to enter my Prince Zhou's Mansion. Has she also promised Big brother to enter Prince Yue's Mansion?"

"Of course, she has agreed so early. This time, she participates in the Beauty Contest in order to enter my Prince Yue's Mansion!" Chu Liuyue squeezed words out of his teeth one by one. He glared at Shao Yanru with his fierce eyes, as if he wanted to cut her into pieces. He had always been good at scheming, and also felt that he was a good schemer.

But he didn't expect that he had been deceived by a woman for so many years.

A veteran hunter was hurt by his prey. How could he not be angry when he was so embarrassed in front of Chu Liuzhou? He reached out and slapped Shao Yanru in her face twice, and then kicked Shao Yanru so hard in her chest that she fainted and spat out a mouthful of blood.

"Miss, Miss!" Shuqi screamed and rushed to Shao Yanru, crying with fear.

Shao Yanru really fainted this time with her body tilted to the ground.

When Shao Wanru heard the sound of fighting in the main room, she turned around slightly without a move, but paid attention to the main room. If she went there now, she might also get hurt, because the two of them were furious now.

Shao Yanru dated two men from the royal family at the same time. How could the two princes, who had always thought highly of themselves, stand this?

This was the most shameful time, and whoever went to see them would suffer, so everyone was very clear about this. The guards brought by either of them did not go forward and just allowed them fight together in the room.

The imperial physician had already been alarmed. After coming outside to take a look, he went back obediently, pretending that he had not heard anything. He continued feeling the pulses of the two Misses who had fallen into the water in the wing room. He sighed in his heart, "Why am I so unlucky to take turns today? If I had known this, I would have asked for leave and wouldn't have come."

It was afraid that the two Princes would vent their anger on all the other people in the courtyard after their fight.

Another large group of people came to the entrance of the courtyard. This time, there were guards, palace maids, and eunuchs, but the one standing in the middle was Chu Liuchen, who looked gentle and calm.

After entering the door, he looked around and immediately saw Shao Wanru. He walked over slowly and steadily, as if he didn't hear the sound in the room.

"Fifth Miss Shao, do you know what happened?" Chu Liuchen came over and asked gently, raising his beautiful eyes. It seemed that he had just arrived here and wanted to know the situation first.

Shao Wanru bowed to him respectfully and shook her head in confusion, "Actually, I came here later. After I came, Prince Yue said that Big Sister has fainted and he asked me to take care of her. The imperial physician came to treat her first and then went to treat the other two Misses who also fell into the water. When I was waiting here for the imperial physician to give a prescription, Prince Zhou seemed to come, and he rushed into the main room where Prince Yue and Big Sister stayed! I turned my back to this side just now, so I didn't see it clearly. I just guess this because I saw there were more guards and eunuchs in the courtyard."

Shao Wanru said. She disassociated herself from this matter in a few words. Originally, she had known nothing about it, hadn't she?

"Second brother also went in?" Chu Liuchen was shocked. He turned around and strode to the main room. Although he walked in a hurry, he couldn't walk fast because he was in poor health!

## **Chapter 776 Self Saving, the Key Move of Shao Yanru!**

The main room was in a mess. When Shao Wanru followed Chu Liuchen into the room, the first thing she saw was a mess of tables and chairs.

Then she saw two people stopped by the guards.

Prince Yue, Chu Liuyue, was cold and dignified. He behaved properly in front of others, full of the dignity of the royal family's disciples.

Prince Zhou, Chu Liuzhou, was noble and brave. His identity as the legitimate son of the Empress made him more honorable in front of people.

But were the two people who were in a fight really them?

Not to mention the bruises on their faces, their clothes were in tatters. They rolled on the ground and panted heavily. They no longer looked as dignified as before.

Shao Yanru laid in the arms of Shuqi and did not move at all. She did not look like a daughter of an aristocratic family at all. Shuqi held the fainted Shao Yanru in her arms and did not dare to move, for fear of annoying the two masters. At that time, she would lose her life.

Even her Miss could not handle the current situation, not to mention a little servant girl like her.

"Big brother, second brother?" Chu Liuchen stepped in and looked at them, signaling the guards to let them go.

Seeing Chu Liuchen coming with his people, they couldn't fight no matter how impulsive they were.

Chu Liuyue stood up with the help of the half-crush chair and gritted his teeth hard. He didn't know if he had pulled something painful, so he couldn't help but sneer.

"If you want this woman, you don't have to frame me with her." After saying that, Chu Liuyue looked at Shao Yanru with disdain, straightened his crown, and was about to leave.

Chu Liuzhou was also lifted up by several people, and his eyes were cold. His feet happened to be around Shao Yanru's foot. So he kicked her feet away mercilessly. "I think it was you who framed me with her. My mansion can't afford such a person too!"

"Eldest brother, second brother, let's go. The uncle Emperor and the Empress are waiting for you!" Chu Liuchen looked at this and then looked at the other one. His face was gentle and indifferent, as if he hadn't seen the two people in a mess.

"Go!" Chu Liuyue said coldly. He waved his sleeves and walked out.

Chu Liuzhou was stunned for a moment and snorted coldly. He didn't even look at Shao Yanru, who almost fainted on the ground. He sat in the wheelchair and got someone to push him away.

"Fifth Miss, please come with me!" Chu Liuchen said to Shao Wanru with a smile.

It seemed that he was going to investigate the matter clearly. Shao Wanru nodded and said, "Your Highness, please go first. I will help my eldest sister to the bed."

"No, she will go with us!" Chu Liuchen glanced at Shao Yanru coldly and said, "Come on, help First Miss Shao into the soft sedan."

"Yes!" Someone answered quickly and went to prepare.

The other two Misses also woke up at this time. When they heard that something had happened and that the Emperor and the Empress were going to interrogate them in person, they were so scared that their faces turned pale. Looking at them, Chu Liuchen asked someone to prepare more sedans.

Shao Wanru got on the soft sedan with the other two Misses. The four sedans followed Chu Liuchen's sedan and went to the Phoenix Palace where the Empress lived.

When they arrived at the Phoenix Palace, Shao Wanru and the others waited outside, and Chu Liuchen went in to report on his work.

"Miss..." Yujie finally found an opportunity. Seeing that the guard carrying the sedan had left, she called her softly.

The curtain of the sedan was lifted slightly. Shao Wanru shook her head at Yujie. This was the Empress's Phoenix Palace. It seemed that no one was watching them, but in fact, someone was watching them.

Yujie understood and lowered her head, standing respectfully beside the soft sedan. She should just behave as a loyal servant girl.

Shao Wanru leaned in the soft sedan quietly with her watery eyes slightly closed. In the current situation, Shao Yanru was pushed to the forefront of the storm. Even if Shao Yanru didn't die, she had to suffer. Not only her, but also Duke Xing's Mansion behind her, couldn't get any benefits.

How would her second uncle, who seemed to be loyal but was actually shrewd, deal with this matter?

How would Shao Yanru save herself?

Shao Yanru was never a person who waited for death. Shao Wanru never believed that she would admit her crime so obediently.

The sedan stopped in front of the gate of Phoenix Palace.

When she heard the noise outside, someone must have been sent to reply. When the people of the Phoenix Palace sent someone over, Shao Wanru leaned against the sedan and quietly guessed Shao Yanru's next move. She must have woken up now. Just now, Chu Liuzhou's strong kick must have wakened her up immediately.

Shao Wanru had been paying attention to Shao Yanru, so she saw that Shao Yanru's eyelids were slightly lifted at that time, but she still leaned motionlessly, as if she had not woken up.

The kick was quite heavy. Chu Liuzhou had been trained, and he couldn't show mercy in such an angry situation.

If he kicked another Miss, she would definitely scream. Shao Yanru could really bear it.

Along the way, there was no sound in her sedan, as if she had fainted. But how could there be no movement at this moment? Shao Yanru must be trying to save herself at this time. How could she save herself in this situation?

If she didn't use a crucial move, she would definitely die.

What would Shao Yanru do? How would she act with her temperament?

Looking at the tall Palace through the window of the soft sedan, a eunuch came down in a hurry. He should come to call them in to inquire about it.

The eunuch came to the few soft sedans and said to them, "Please get out of the sedan, Miss. The Empress wants to see you!"

Several servant girls went to the front of the sedan curtain together, lifted the curtain, and wanted to help their Misses out.

"Ah, Miss!" Shuqi suddenly took a step back, sat on the ground, and screamed.

Shao Wanru had already come out. When she saw Shuqi, she frowned and walked to Shao Yanru's soft sedan with Yujie. It seemed that Shao Yanru had made a move. She didn't know what this move was! In this case, it was impossible for Shao Yanru to be merciful to herself. The two princes had lost face for her. If she wanted to live, she had to be more miserable.

As expected, Shao Yanru looked miserable. She was lying in a pool of blood with a hairpin in her chest, which she had worn before on her hair.

"Quickly, go and report it to the Empress!" Shao Wanru said to the eunuch who was also shocked. Her eyes fell on a handkerchief in front of her. There were blood words on the handkerchief. The words written with blood were written by Shao Yanru. Along the way, Shao Yanru broke her fingers and wrote these blood words.

She used the letter to show her determination to die for the crime of making the two princes embarrassed for her. Of course, the two princes would not want to bear the charge of having an affair with her. Such a crime could even make the emperor think that they had colluded with Duke Xing. It was not a matter of woman!

Shao Wanru smiled silently. This was a good plan. Shao Wanru also originally thought of this.

At present, Duke Xing's Mansion could not fall down. She was very happy to see Shao Yanru use this method to save herself. Shao Yanru's body had been hurt. Even if she could be saved this time, her body was basically destroyed. She would have to stay with the medicine pot for the rest of her life.

The Empress sent an imperial physician to carry Shao Yanru to the side hall for first aid and asked Shao Wanru and the other two Misses to enter the palace to see her.

The palace servants would naturally hand over Shao Yanru's blood letter.

After making bows and kowtows, Shao Wanru knelt in the hall and told her what she saw today. In fact, it had nothing to do with her.

When this thing happened, she was not there. She rested in the courtyard outside. After the accident, she was not found as soon as possible. When she accompanied Shao Yanru, the imperial physician was treating Shao Yanru. Then, in order to quickly find the imperial physician's prescription, she stayed outside the imperial physician's room.

Later, Prince Yue and Prince Zhou inexplicably fought in the room. But she did not know anything.

She didn't even know when Prince Zhou came. She only knew Prince Chen coming over and asking her. Then she followed Prince Chen to the main room. What she saw was what everyone saw.

The other two Misses' words were a little different. One said that they were standing on the top and talking. They didn't know why they suddenly fell down and why the fence would suddenly break.

It was an accident that Prince Yue and First Miss Shao fell down. They didn't know what happened later.

What Chu Liuyue said before was that the two Misses deliberately bumped into them. He accidentally pulled Shao Yanru's sleeves and pulled her down together.

The Empress did not comment on these different words. She turned to Shao Wanru with anger in her eyes and glared at Shao Wanru fiercely, which made Shao Wanru puzzled.

But she knew that she had been angered by the Empress. She lowered her head and was extremely respectful.

"Your Majesty, Duke Xing's Mansion is so ambitious that they dare to do such a thing!" The Empress said angrily to the Emperor who was sitting aside.

How could she not be angry? Her son had been beaten by Chu Liuyue and it was for Shao Yanru. Although she used to be satisfied with Shao Yanru, she was very angry at this time. So she didn't like the other people of Duke Xing's Mansion here.

The Emperor's eyes turned from his sons who had taken a shower to the women kneeling on the ground. His expression was not good. Although his sons had taken a shower and changed their clothes, the bruises on their faces could not be removed for a while. Thinking that he thought high of them, he could not vent his anger for a while.

He took a deep breath and focused on the blood handkerchief on the table in front of him.

"Tell me, what's wrong with you? Does it have anything to do with the First Miss Shao?" The Emperor asked coldly.

"Father, I have nothing to do with First Miss Shao. Even if something like this happened today, First Miss Shao was implicated by me, so I comforted First Miss Shao. I didn't expect Second Brother to hit me when he came in. He also said that I colluded with First Miss Shao. If it weren't for what happened today, I wouldn't be very familiar with First Miss Shao!"

Chu Liuyue looked at the Emperor seriously and replied with respect.

The charge that he had already colluded with Shao Yanru could not be afforded by him. It would only make the Empress unhappy and arouse the suspicion of his father.



"Prince Zhou, tell me, what's going on? Why did you hit your big brother? In your heart, how can a woman compare with your brother?" The Emperor's cold eyes fell on Chu Liuzhou.

Chu Liuzhou was about to die of anger at this time. Both of them pretended to be innocent. It was clear that he was the one who was wronged and the one who was plotted against.

He took a deep breath and suppressed the anger in his heart. He remembered what his mother asked the eunuch to tell him when he was changing clothes. He knew that he could not act on impulse at this time and he could not bear the blame.

"Father, I have my reasons for having done this!"

### **Chapter 777 A Misunderstanding Is Better Than Bad Intent**

"The reason? Tell me the reason. Why did you beat your brother like that?" The Emperor sneered when he got angry with his self-righteous look.

This was so shameful. His two Princes fought fiercely in front of the Chuxiu Palace. How could the civilians view the royal family? Once he thought of this, the Emperor felt that his heart hurt with anger.

"Father, my mother has picked First Miss Shao for me. In my heart, First Miss Shao is my future Princess. When I saw my eldest brother and her hugging each other, I was so angry that I beat my brother. Now I know I was wrong. I will apologize to my brother!"

Chu Liuzhou lowered his noble head and spoke to the Emperor. After that, he sincerely said to Chu Liuyue, "Brother, I was impulsive just now. If you're still angry, just beat me. This time I won't dodge, let alone fight against you!"

His sincere tone almost made others believe him.

With her head being lowered, Shao Wanru stared down at the blue bricks in front of her. Her long eyelashes covered all her emotions. If she had not known that Shao Yanru kept secret illicit love affairs with the two Princes, now she would have thought that this was just a misunderstanding.

A misunderstanding was better than the situation that everyone had bad intent.

This was expected. Although these people knew it well, they couldn't say that. After all, it was so shameful for the royal family to have such a scandal.

And it was not only Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou who would lose their faces. Both of them denied that they had an affair with Shao Yanru, but they could be understood.

"It was just a misunderstanding, and he asks me to beat him back." Chu Liuyue was so angry that his face was twisted. But in the end, he had to suppress his fury and calm down and said, "It was a misunderstanding, so it's good to have solved it. I also did the wrong thing to you, brother. When you attacked me just now, I couldn't help fighting back. I didn't make it clear."

In that situation, who could make anything clear since they had begun fighting?

Chu Liuzhou twitched his mouth in pain, but he still put a smile on his face and said, "Brother, it's all my fault. Just blame me!"

"I also did something wrong on this matter. I shouldn't have dragged First Miss Shao down!"

"No, it's my fault!"

"It's my fault!"

The two men had fought fiercely moments earlier, but they became close brothers now.

Seeing their hypocritical expressions, the Emperor went furious that the veins on his forehead stood out. He picked up the teacup at hand and threw it at his two sons. "Shut up!"

The great hall fell silent immediately. Even the Empress stole a glance at the Emperor uneasily. Now, even she did not know what the Emperor meant, so she had to behave with care.

This matter could be big or small. Up till now, she still had not spared time to talk to Chu Liuzhou. She had only had time to ask Chu Liuzhou not to reveal that he had had an affair with Shao Yanru for a long time. An affair of a child of the royal family could become a political affair. Although Chu Liuyue could also be dragged in, the Empress did not dare to take the risk.

Now the Emperor didn't seem to believe it, but he would at least not talk about what happened in the court because of this.

"Empress, the Consort Selection has not yet been practically done, so why should you decide who will be chosen? You've made your decision, haven't you? Then why should we select? Let what should be done be done!" the Emperor said coldly.

Hearing that, the Empress could not sit still anymore. She dropped to her knees and her eyes turned red. While wiping her tears with her handkerchief, she said, "Your Majesty, I didn't leak the information to our son, Zhou on purpose, but that he happened to come over and overheard it. I liked First Miss Shao, so I said that I wanted to make her Princess Zhou. But what I said was heard by Prince Zhou, and he was satisfied. I didn't expect... I didn't expect something like this to happen!"

"A misunderstanding again. All misunderstandings happened to you people, but I've never experienced any misunderstandings. Look at this..." The Emperor hit the table hard with his palm and said angrily, "A good lady from an aristocratic family will be killed by your misunderstandings that came one after another."

Even if the Emperor did not really believe it, he had to say that in public. A daughter of an important official came to the palace to attend the Consort Selection. Whether she was selected or not, she had almost lost her life. This was somewhat unreasonable. How would the officials think about it? Would they say that the two Princes forced the lady to death?

"Your Majesty, I was wrong. Please punish me!" the Empress said tearfully and aggrievedly. She had taken all the blame without mentioning anything about Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou.

The woman deserved to be an Empress. Shao Wanru moved her head slightly. Now, the serious trouble was basically gone, but Shao Yanru was in trouble. The fact that the court and the harem were separated was good for everyone. The Emperor planned to turn a blind eye.

"You deal with it then. Ask the one from Duke Xing's Mansion to go back. Things have come to this point, so she can't marry into the royal family anymore!" the Emperor stood up and said coldly. After

that, he turned and strode away with his men. The Emperor was deeply ashamed of this. It was a scandal for his two sons to have fought like that because of a woman.

"Yes, I see!" The Empress was very respectful. Holding the palace maid's hand, she stood up and heaved a secret sigh of relief. This was the best solution. Under such circumstances, it was not suitable for the lady to marry into Prince Yue's Mansion or Prince Zhou's Mansion.

Although she felt regretful that she could not pull Duke Xing's Mansion over to her side, at least, she did not let Duke Xing's Mansion stand in line with Chu Liuyue. In this respect, this was not a big loss.

Since the matter had been decided in essence, it would be much easier to deal with the following things. The incident had happened unexpectedly, and it was not Chu Liuyue who had saved the two ladies in the end. Naturally, he was not responsible for it. And the Empress would not let him take the two ladies into Prince Yue's Mansion as his concubines. Immediately, she ordered them to leave the palace and carefully learn women's precepts and other morals for women when they got home.

The two ladies had behaved improperly. Having knocked Prince Yue into the water was a fact anyway.

Shao Wanru calmly saw the two ladies fall to the ground, paralyzed. Under such circumstances, they were sent back, and the Empress also meant to let them learn women's precepts and other morals for women. In fact, she had cut off their path to the royal family.

In the future, they would have to marry some people in a faraway land or with low status.

On the surface, Shao Yanru looked much more miserable. She had been involved as an innocent person, and it was unknown whether she was alive or dead now. Before she committed suicide, she had left a blood letter to give an account of the matter. At this point, she had succeeded in saving herself.

Of course, Shao Yanru would be fine. The hairpin had not been deep in her skin.

Of course, this was just what was on the surface. In fact, Shao Yanru had obviously been hurt. She had been reduced to one who could not marry into any Prince's mansion from one who would be the Princess of a Prince. How could someone like her be willing to give up? Next, she would probably plot against the Emperor, right?

Shao Wanru didn't know what had happened to Shao Yanru in her previous life. Now she realized that it was probably the thing that her relationships with Chu Liuzhou and Chu Liuyue were found or somewhat exposed so that she couldn't marry into Prince Zhou's Mansion or Prince Yue's Mansion in the end.

"The handkerchief with blood characters?" she asked herself inwardly.

She did not know what was written on it, but it seemed that there should be other reasons. When the Emperor left, he took the handkerchief away. If it were just a handkerchief on which Shao Yanru had written her account of the matter, the Emperor would not have taken it away.

Shao Yanru had something that the Emperor was interested in!

This was the answer Shao Wanru had thought of when she saw the Emperor take the handkerchief away. Her eyes deepened inexplicably. "At this time, Shao Yanru can still make others think that her reputation is not stained, which means that she did not just write the account of the matter in her bloodletter!

“Neither Chu Liuyue nor Chu Liuzhou mentioned their illicit relationship with Shao Yanru, but does the Emperor know nothing about it? Does it mean that Shao Yanru was summoned to the palace and became the Emperor’s concubine because of this in my previous life?”

Suddenly, the Empress’s voice came from above. With the Emperor being absent, the Empress regained her normal dignity. She asked indifferently, “Fifth Miss Shao, just now the imperial physician came over and reported that First Miss Shao’s life was saved. Fifth Miss Shao, do you want her to recuperate in the palace or to be sent back to Duke Xing’s Mansion to recover?”

Shao Wanru frowned slightly. It was quite difficult to answer the Empress’s question. How could Shao Yanru stay in this situation? She must be sent out of the palace, but being sent out meant that she wouldn’t have the chance to attend the Consort Selection.

In fact, Shao Yanru’s chance had been gone when the Emperor mentioned her. The Empress said so just because she wanted Shao Wanru to take the blame for Shao Yanru’s failure in the selection as if it was Shao Wanru who didn’t want Shao Yanru to stay in the palace.

The Empress was so hostile toward Shao Wanru that she refused to let her off even at this time.

“I will do as I am told, Your Grace!” Shao Wanru replied softly.

“First Miss Shao was actually unlucky, and Zhou made a mistake. If she is sent out of the palace at this time, I’m afraid that some people will doubt her reputation. Besides, it’s not suitable for her to move now. I want you to take care of her for a few days, Fifth Miss Shao. When her wound is stable and the rumors are basically gone, I’ll send her out then. Is that okay?” the Empress said.

“She is not suppressing me?” Shao Wanru was surprised, but then with a little thought, she immediately knew why. Spreading the rumors of Shao Yanru was equivalent to spreading the rumors of Chu Liuzhou. Although she disliked Shao Yanru very much, the Empress had to put on the airs as the mistress of the imperial harem to show her concern at this time.

The two ladies had just been deported from the palace in that name. Indeed, Shao Yanru was not suitable to leave the palace after them at this time. She was so seriously wounded that it was not suitable for her to move. That was a good reason.

“You’re right, Your Grace!” Shao Wanru said.

“Then you’ll have to stay in my side hall for a few days, Fifth Miss Shao!” The Empress instructed. Seeing that Shao Wanru agreed obediently, she was basically satisfied and nodded secretly. Fifth Miss Shao seemed to be obedient and gentle. She was very different from what Old Madam of Duke Xing’s Mansion said.

Previously, Shao Yanru had been her option, so she had not intended to take Shao Wanru into account. But now it seemed that Shao Wanru had some merits. Looking at Shao Wanru’s beautiful face thoughtfully, she formed another plan in her head!

## **Chapter 778 The First Miss Shao Who Escaped Death**

Standing at the door of the great hall, Shao Wanru took a deep breath. When she was about to ask Yujie standing nearby to go with her, she was stopped by Chu Liuyue who had come out with her.

"Fifth Miss Shao, First Miss Shao's matter..." Chu Liuyue had calmed down at this time. If it weren't for the bruises on his face that made him look gloomy, she really couldn't see that the Prince, who had been dignified in former days, had just fought his brother.

"Prince Yue!" Shao Wanru stopped and said.

"Fifth Miss Shao, First Miss Shao has always been on good terms with me, but I didn't expect that she... failed to live up to my feelings. She and Chu Liuzhou..." Speaking of this, Chu Liuyue's face became gloomier and gloomier, and a chill glistened and disappeared in his eyes.

Shao Wanru lowered her head and listened silently. She didn't answer or interrupt. This was the three people's business, which had nothing to do with her, so she really didn't know why Chu Liuyue had asked her to stop.

"Duke Xing has always been gentle, but I don't know how he has a daughter like First Miss Shao!" Chu Liuyue said angrily.

Shao Wanru was still silent. No matter how her nominal second uncle was, it had nothing to do with her.

"His daughter is like this. I wonder what kind of person First Miss Shao's eldest brother is. Can he deserve the position of the heir of the duke?" Chu Liuyue snorted, sounding very annoyed.

Shao Wanru suddenly realized it. "This should be the point that Chu Liuyue is going to talk about." She tore her handkerchief, but she still remained silent, making herself a pillar that was listening.

"It seems that it's better for your younger brother to be the heir of the duke! If there's a chance, I'll go to my father and say it!" Chu Liuyue said.

His eyes fell on Shao Wanru. She had her head lowered, so he could only vaguely see that the dark hair on her white, tender forehead made her skin look as white as snow.

He inexplicably felt that he was not so angry about Shao Yanru's matter. At least, he didn't have to marry her and make himself suffer.

Shao Wanru frowned. It was not easy to give a proper reply. If she agreed, it seemed that she had made some kind of plot with Chu Liuyue. If she didn't agree, it seemed that she didn't treat the Prince with proper respect.

She bowed sideways to him and said softly, "Your Highness, this is a matter of the court. I don't dare to say anything about it boldly."

Her voice was light and soft with a little of the natural sweetness of a girl, but her action was somewhat estranged. After the salute, she still lowered her head slightly, looking so estranged as if this topic had not aroused her interest.

It was no small matter to compete for the title of the Heir of Duke Xing. Chu Liuyue did not believe that Shao Wanru would not be attracted. Duke Xing's first concubine obviously had bad intentions toward the duke's official wife, so how could she not care about it at all? In the end, if the current eldest son of Duke Xing became his heir, her younger brother would only be an ordinary son of an aristocratic family.

"Fifth Miss, you don't want the position of the heir of the duke?" Chu Liuyue slightly narrowed his eyes and asked. There was somewhat coercion in his expression. He didn't believe that she could not feel his goodwill through his words.

Shao Wanru smiled lightly. "Your Highness, you must be joking. The Emperor will decide it. How could I, a little girl living in the backyard, make the decision?"

She was simply talking nonsense. Would he really believe it? She even made such an excuse.

"Fifth Miss, who do you think will be the heir of the duke? I'm curious to know if you're on the side of the elder or your brother."

Shao Wanru didn't know what Prince Yue meant. Was it appropriate to stop her and say this to her? A shred of impatience flashed through her eyes, but there was a smile on her face, which was like a fully blooming flower with attractive light. "Your Highness, I am just an ordinary woman living in the backyard. I really can't answer your question."

Such an indifferent expression and these polite and respectful words let her decently avoid answering Chu Liuyue's question.

Chu Liuyue's face darkened, and the atmosphere immediately turned cold.

"What are you doing here, brother? Are you worried about First Miss Shao? If you are worried, you can go with me to take a look. First Miss Shao has suffered for no reason. You really should go and see her, brother!" A carefree, elegant voice came from behind the two of them.

Chu Liuchen came, and Shao Wanru was relieved. Immediately, the serious atmosphere at the scene was gone.

"You really have a good mood, brother. Even at this time, you still worry about First Miss Shao. In fact, you can go to our father and ask him to let you marry her. Anyway, I didn't see anything that I shouldn't have seen. First Miss Shao and you are really a perfect match!" Chu Liuzhou cut in sarcastically.

The two of them looked back and saw Chu Liuchen and Chu Liuzhou standing behind them.

There was a small smile on Chu Liuchen's handsome face, making him look gentle and elegant, but for some reason, it gave others an impression that he was annoyed. His eyes were slightly cold, and his smile was just ostensible.

Chu Liuzhou was smiling ironically, and his words were even more ironic.

Now when the Emperor and the Empress were not present, Chu Liuzhou became angry again. Earlier, he had wondered why Chu Liuyue stopped Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion. After hearing Chu Liuchen's words, he found that his brother was worried about Shao Yanru. Indeed, the man and the woman had a very close relationship.

When he remembered that he had thought Shao Yanru loved him devotedly, but it turned out that she had developed a secret relationship with Chu Liuyue, Chu Liuzhou felt irritated and really wanted to take the indecent man and woman out to the eye of the public.

“Liuzhou, Liuchen, there is indeed something I need to ask Fifth Miss Shao. Anyway, First Miss Shao got into trouble because she and I had an accident. I should ask about it and make it clear!” Chu Liuyue said calmly.

“Brother, if you are worried, go and see her. Why should you stop Fifth Miss Shao?” Chu Liuzhou, who really couldn’t stand Chu Liuyue’s gentlemanly look, said with a cold smile.

“Liuzhou, First Miss Shao really suffered for no reason in today’s incident!” Chu Liuyue said seriously. Defending Shao Yanru was defending himself!

“Of course, she suffered for no reason. Otherwise, I don’t know what kind of cuckold I would have been! Fortunately, it was found early, so I should extend my gratitude to you, brother!” Chu Liuzhou made a polite fist and palm salute insincerely.

Chu Liuyue turned ashen with anger, but he didn’t know how to defend himself. Chu Liuzhou didn’t say it clearly, but both of them knew it. This felt really terrible.

Seeing that they were accusing each other with sharp hints, Shao Wanru bowed sideways to them and said, “Your Highnesses, I’ll take my leave!”

At this time, Chu Liuyue no longer had the mood to care about Shao Wanru, so he waved her away.

Shao Wanru took a few steps back and turned to leave. A palace maid in front of her took her to the side hall where Shao Yanru was recuperating. That place was in the most remote part of the Phoenix Palace. They took several turns to get there. When they got inside, Shao Wanru saw Shuqi guarding the door.

Shuqi was overjoyed when she saw Shao Wanru coming over.

“Fifth Miss, you are finally back. Our Miss asks you to go over!” Shuqi ran over, bowed to Shao Wanru, and said.

“Your Miss has woken up?” Shao Wanru asked.

“Yes, she has. Fortunately, the imperial physician has excellent medical skills, and he could stop the bleeding. Otherwise, something bad would have happened to Miss. I came to the palace with her. If something really happens to her, I... I will lose my life!” Shuqi wiped the tears away from the corners of her eyes in fear.

She was really afraid. In the past, she had always thought that her Miss was God’s favored one. Something could happen to anyone but her Miss.

But now she finally realized that her Miss was nothing in front of the real nobles!

In fact, Shuqi’s faith had collapsed. She had never thought that her Miss, who was good at playing tricks, ended up like this. Moreover, she was even less likely to know how to explain this matter. Would Miss marry into Prince Yue’s Mansion or Prince Zhou’s Mansion?

She didn’t dare to expect too much now. She only hoped that her Miss could marry into a Prince’s mansion safely. It didn’t matter even if her status was a little lower when she got inside. In the end, her Miss could climb to the high status. She strongly believed that her Miss could do it. After all, her Miss was smarter and more resourceful than any other woman.

"Fifth Miss, what did the Empress say? What should our Miss do now? In the current situation, did the Empress say if our Miss will marry into Prince Yue's Mansion?"

Shuqi's questions came one after another. The mistress and her servant preferred to believe in Chu Liuyue than Prince Zhou.

"Let's go and see your Miss first!" Shao Wanru said indifferently. She went straight into the side hall and saw that Shao Yanru was half lying there with an ashen face. She seemed to have lost all her blood with her eyes barely closed. When she heard movements, she opened her eyes and bleated, "Wanru!"

"Do you feel better, sister?" Shao Wanru looked at her beautiful face and asked calmly.

"I... I'm fine, but I got you into trouble, Wanru!" Shao Yanru lowered her head sadly, looking guilty and grieved.

They were sisters from the same mansion. If one had a bad reputation, the women in the whole clan would be affected.

"How can you say that you got me into trouble, sister? You'll recuperate here for a few days, and then the Empress will ask people to send you out of the palace. It's not suitable to stay in the palace all the time!" Shao Wanru said calmly.

Shao Yanru's expression changed dramatically. She knew what Shao Wanru meant, and she stared at her and asked, "What else did the Empress say?"

"The Empress didn't say anything else. She asks you to go back when you have recovered! I'll stay here to take care of you these days!" Shao Wanru said.

"Prince Yue..." Shao Yanru wanted to say something, but she was interrupted by Shao Wanru rudely.

"Sister, if you want to know anything, send someone to ask about it directly. You don't have to ask me. As for the two Princes, I don't have the honor to get in touch with them now!"

After that, she sat down in the chair on the side.

Shao Yanru looked terrible on the bed. She looked at Shao Wanru a little angrily, but she then suppressed her anger and even showed some softness on her face before waving at Shuqi. Knowing what she meant, Shuqi came over and helped her up. Covering her chest with difficulty, she turned around and knelt on the bed toward Shao Wanru.

"Wanru, I know that I've done many things wrong to you in the past, but I am the daughter of the Shao Family after all. I am afraid that you've been implicated by today's incident, so I am here to apologize to you. I hope you don't blame me... I, I really don't know why this happened!"

Speaking of this, Shao Yanru breathed deeply and looked at Shao Wanru. She held it but then suddenly burst into tears...

## **Chapter 779 It's You, Not Us!**

It was very quiet in the hall with no one speaking, which made Shao Yanru's cry mournful, painful, and even a little desperate.



It was not just acting. What happened today was so sudden that Shao Yanru was caught off guard. She could hardly believe that her brilliant trick would suddenly turn into a mess.

She cried so hard that she couldn't control herself. Shuqi held her in her arms and cried silently. Shao Yanru was crying and peeping at Shao Wanru. She saw her looking down at a corner in front of her in silence, as if she was sad. Such a thing was a great disaster for the girls of the Shao Family.

If Shao Yanru seducing two princes was exposed, not only Duke Xing but also the women of the Shao Family would end up miserably.

Yujie stood behind Shao Wanru and didn't move at all.

"Fifth Sister, I'm sorry... I... I'm sorry for all the women in our family!" Shao Yanru sobbed.

Shao Wanru raised her head slowly and hid the coldness in her eyes. She didn't believe Shao Yanru's regret at all.

"What's the use of saying that now!" She sneered inwardly but slowly frowned.

"I... I know... but... but what should I do now... What... what should I do!" Shao Yanru cried.

"What are you trying to say, Big Sister?" Shao Wanru frowned with some displeasure.

"I... I'm just afraid that His Majesty will vent his anger on Father. What... what should I do? Father and Grandmother know nothing about it. If they are blamed, our whole mansion will suffer. I'm afraid that even the title of nobility will... be..." Shao Yanru cried again.

Shao Wanru looked at Shao Yanru coldly and then restrained the sarcasm inside her. Both Chu Liuyue and Shao Yanru thought that she valued the title of nobility. Great!

"His Majesty will take this title back?" She raised her head, and her brows furrowed.

"Maybe... maybe... I don't know... Fifth Sister, what should we do now? If the title is really taken back because of us, how... how are we going to face Grandmother and Father? Our ancestors exchanged it with military achievements... We will be the sinners of the Shao Family!"

Shao Yanru's eyes were full of tears. She looked at Shao Wanru sadly and uneasily.

Shao Wanru glanced at her with coldness in her eyes and said slowly, "Big Sister, it's you, not us!"

"I know, I know. My heart is so messy that I mistakenly got you involved. It is I who will become an eternal sinner of the Shao Family. What should I do now? If there is no other way, I am willing to die to atone for my crime as long as it does not implicate our family!" Shao Yanru said in a daze.

She gazed at Shao Wanru as if she was trying to get support from her.

When Shao Wanru looked at her pale face and thought of her act of seeking death, no matter how much hatred she had for her, it seemed that it would fade away.

Anyway, anyone would feel sorry for Shao Yanru at this moment. Considering what had happened to her, it was normal for her character to change greatly. In the face of life and death, the past grievances seemed not so important.

The coldness on Shao Wanru's face faded a little, and she said after a pause, "What do you think we should do, Big Sister?"

"Fifth Sister, tell me how Her Grace is going to deal with me and Duke Xing's Mansion first?" Shao Yanru asked with tears in her eyes. She couldn't believe what she had heard. Therefore, she asked again, trembling slightly. Shuqi hurriedly helped her lie down and carefully avoided the wound on her chest.

Shao Wanru blinked and said slowly, "She will keep you here for recuperation for a few days, and then send you out of the palace when you recover."

Shao Yanru's hands, which were holding the corners of the quilt, clenched tightly. "Will I be sent out of the palace? I don't want to. If that really happens, I won't have a chance," she thought.

"Then... then what did she say to Father?" Fearing that Shao Wanru would see her through, Shao Yanru hurriedly turned aside and pretended to wipe her tears.

"I don't know. His Majesty has left the Phoenix Palace. Her Grace will deal with your affair!" Shao Wanru seemed to be unhappy, but she still told the truth.

"Then... then why doesn't she send me out of the palace now? Shouldn't she send me out of the palace immediately after such a thing happened?" Shao Yanru looked blank and said in a choked voice. It seemed that she could not bear the blow.

But what she had asked was the key.

Shao Wanru sneered secretly. Shao Yanru indeed lived up to her reputation. After such a big event, not only did she not break down, but she quickly grasped the crucial point. With this, she wanted to change her unfavorable situation.

Her perfect performance just now was just to confuse Shao Wanru. If Shao Wanru had been less determined, she might have been deceived by her this time.

However, it just so happened that Shao Wanru wasn't trying to hide it. She wanted to see how Shao Yanru became a concubine of the Emperor this time.

"Her Grace means that if you are now sent out of the palace with the previous two ladies, others may mistake you for being as disreputable as them!" Shao Wanru answered calmly.

Shao Yanru suddenly raised her head and looked at Shao Wanru with tears in her eyes. The look on her face was complicated for she seemed to be crying, smiling, happy, and sad. Her lips trembled before she said, "Did Her Grace really say that?"

This meant that what had happened between her, Chu Liuyue, and Chu Liuzhou had been hidden.

Shao Wanru stood up and said, "That's what Her Grace said. Big Sister, you can recover here in peace!"

"Fifth Sister... could you please do me a favor?" Shao Yanru looked at Shao Wanru with wide eyes, which were filled with sadness and tears.

"What's the matter?" Shao Wanru asked calmly.

"Could you... could you help me tell Father and Grandmother that I'm safe? I... I'm afraid they're worried about me..." Tears rolled down Shao Yanru's face again. Teardrops falling from her fair and tender chin was a pitiful sight.

Shao Yanru was born to be pretty. Under this circumstance, she became all the more delicate and pitiful. She was not as dignified as before but was more delicate and weaker. Such a woman leaned against the head of the bed with tears all over her face. She cried silently, making anyone who saw her feel sorry for her. Even Yujie, who was standing behind Shao Wanru, couldn't help being softhearted.

She shifted her gaze from her Miss to Shao Yanru. She wanted to say something but stopped on second thought.

Shao Wanru refused Shao Yanru's request calmly. "Big Sister, we're both participants in the Consort Selection. It won't do us any good if any news leaks. If you want to send a message home, do it yourself. I don't know anyone well in this palace!"

"But... it's not convenient for me to do that right now!" Shao Yanru said sadly.

"Me neither!" Shao Wanru refused straightforwardly. She looked at Shao Yanru with a gloomy face and said, "Big Sister, I'm just here to take care of you, but I really don't dare to send any messages. If you insist, I will go to Her Grace and ask her to send someone to do it for you. Her Grace knows that Prince Zhou misunderstood you before, so she feels guilty about you. If you ask her for help, she'll surely agree!"

Shao Wanru was obviously lying through her teeth.

At this time, the Empress even wanted to eat Shao Yanru alive. If it weren't for Prince Zhou's sake, she wouldn't have asked him to stop pursuing this matter. Moreover, she concealed his previous secret dealings with Shao Yanru. Shao Yanru didn't dare to meet the Empress at this very moment.

"Big Sister, although Her Grace asked me to take care of you, I don't think it's convenient to live here. Otherwise, I have to set up a bed here. Do you think I should go back or live here?" Shao Wanru looked around and pointed to a place. "It's not bad to put another bed here!"

At the head of Shao Yanru's bed, there was an empty place. The other places were not big. This was a wing room in a side hall. To put it bluntly, it was just a slightly broader room that was divided into two compartments. There wasn't much room for a bed.

"Miss, isn't your bed too close to First Miss's?" Yujie came over and shook her head, feeling inappropriate.

It was almost beside Shao Yanru's bed.

"I have to take care of my Big Sister, so it doesn't matter if our beds are next to each other. If I live here during this period, I can take care of her all the time and try my best to help her recover!!" Shao Wanru said casually. She glanced at Shao Yanru with a pair of deep and serene eyes and suddenly smiled.

"Anyway, I can't walk around at will in the palace. I won't be bored by her side!"

She meant that she would follow Shao Yanru closely.

"Fifth Sister, I think you'd better go back to Chuxiu Palace to sleep. Please come over in the morning and go back at night. If we spend the night together, you won't feel comfortable, and it won't be convenient for me, either. I have never lived in the same room with anyone!" Shao Yanru said softly. She reached out to wipe her tears with difficulty. It seemed that she had pulled her wound, and her face turned pale with pain.

"I won't feel uncomfortable. The distance between the two places is too far, and it is too much trouble for me to walk so far every day!" Shao Wanru said unhappily.

"I don't think it's appropriate. Are you going to quit the Consort Selection if you live in the Phoenix Palace too? You're the only girl left in our mansion. How can you quit the Consort Selection? I have no hope. How can I ruin your opportunity?" Shao Yanru said with concern.

"It doesn't matter to me. I can't just leave you here by yourself. Her Grace asked me to take care of you here!" Shao Wanru said indifferently.

"Fifth Sister, you silly girl. My situation is already bad. If you quit the Consort Selection now, how will others think of Duke Xing's Mansion and the unmarried girls of our mansion?" Shao Yanru wiped her tears again with feigned firmness. She looked at Shao Wanru expectantly, with bitterness deep in her eyes.

It seemed that she was considering Shao Wanru's future wholeheartedly!

Of course, Shao Yanru was trying to get Shao Wanru to leave. Shao Wanru looked at Shao Yanru's face, and as expected, she saw the impatience hidden behind her bitterness.

Originally, she didn't want to stay here, so that she could dissociate herself from what would happen to Shao Yanru later.

"But Her Grace asked me..." Shao Wanru was swayed.

Seeing that Shao Wanru was swayed, Shao Yanru was overjoyed and said hurriedly, "Don't worry, I have an idea!" She couldn't let Shao Wanru stay and keep watch on her.

## **Chapter 780 Bribe the Eunuch with Evil Intentions**

The palace maid who was guarding the side hall was called over. Shao Yanru asked Shuqi to help her up. Because she had lost too much blood, her face was pale. "Did Her Grace order... my Fifth Sister to stay in the Phoenix Palace?"

The palace maid thought for a moment and said, "Her Grace didn't say it clearly!"

"My Fifth Sister... doesn't have to live here to look after me, does she?" Shao Yanru asked weakly.

"Well..." The palace maid did not dare to answer. She was just a humble palace maid and did not know what her master was thinking.

"Could you please go and get the person in charge of this side hall?" Shao Yanru opened her eyes slightly, seeming pretty weak. Shuqi asked her to lean against a thick and soft cushion and then sent a bulging pouch to the palace maid quick-wittedly.

“Okay, please wait for a moment, ladies. I’ll be back soon!” The palace maid smiled and nodded repeatedly. She took the pouch and stuffed it in her sleeve before turning to leave.

Shao Wanru looked at all this calmly. She didn’t intervene or say anything.

The person in charge was a eunuch. After coming in, he bowed to them with a smile. He knew that something had happened to the First Miss of Duke Xing’s Mansion, but neither the Empress nor the Emperor blamed her. They even showed care for her with unknown intentions.

“Sir, it’s not convenient for my Fifth Sister to live here. Besides, she’s still in the Consort Selection. I can’t ruin her future. Can she take care of me every day here and still live in the Chuxiu Palace?” Shao Yanru said softly and smiled before saying anything.

Though she was very ill, she managed to finish her words. She showed her concern for Shao Wanru, making her a likable girl.

The eunuch looked at Shao Wanru, who acted like it was none of her business, and then looked at Shao Yanru, who could barely speak. He felt a little sympathy for Shao Yanru. It was obvious that this Fifth Miss Shao did not care much about First Miss Shao. First Miss Shao, in such a sorry state, still had to take care of Fifth Miss Shao.

The eunuch felt a little pity for Shao Yanru. He had long heard that the First Miss of Duke Xing’s Mansion was dignified, decent, and generous. Today, he saw her and found that it was true.

“It’s okay for Fifth Miss Shao to live in the Chuxiu Palace, but she must come here every day. Otherwise, Her Grace will definitely blame her!” the eunuch said with a smile. He was talking to Shao Yanru, but he turned his face to Shao Wanru. It was obvious that he was warning Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru looked calmly at Shao Yanru, who used her to win over the eunuch in charge. Her long eyelashes fluttered twice, and she looked up, her watery eyes bright and charming.

“Big Sister, why don’t you think twice? In fact, I can live here.”

“Fifth Sister... no need. I have Shuqi by my side... I don’t need so many people...” Shao Yanru said softly, shaking her head with a pale face. Then she continued to say to the eunuch, “My Fifth Sister will come here every day. Don’t worry, sir. Please tell the guards at the gate of the palace to allow my sister to go in and out freely!”

“My pleasure!” The eunuch looked at Shao Wanru with dissatisfaction. As a younger sister, she was really carefree and aloof at a time like this. First Miss Shao was so pitiful and generous that she was so considerate to this hypocritical younger sister.

“Sorry to trouble you, sir!” Shao Yanru said with difficulty and closed her eyes feebly. Her previous action, though a little measured, had hurt herself badly. After saying these words, she was very tired and her face was pale.

Seeing her like this, the eunuch knew that she could not hold on any longer. He took his leave at once. When he reached the door, he could not help but shake his head. The Fifth Miss of Duke Xing’s Mansion was not a nice girl. She had no sisterly affection toward her sister at all. What was worse, she was dead

above the ears. She was so useless that she needed her sister to arrange everything for her at such a time. Her good looks were only a stepping stone to others.

"Sorry to trouble you, sir. Thank you very much!" Shuqi ran out and slipped him a note quietly.

The eunuch hid it in his sleeve, and the smile on his face grew sincere. Just now, he had seen the number clearly. The First Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion was really generous.

"Put your Miss's mind at ease. I'll make sure it's all arranged properly. However, your Fifth Miss..." The eunuch lowered his voice and continued, "Your Fifth Miss didn't consider for your Miss. Why should your Miss care about her?"

Just now, he saw Shuqi standing at Shao Yanru's bedside. She should be the personal servant girl of the First Miss lying in bed.

"My Miss has no other choice... Fifth Miss is the only hope of Duke Xing's Mansion. If... if there is a chance, please put in a good word for Fifth Miss!" Shuqi whispered to the eunuch after looking behind her uneasily.

So most of the money was sent for Fifth Miss Shao?

The eunuch's face darkened, and he became dissatisfied. Of course, he was dissatisfied because of Shao Wanru. After he entered the door just now, the Fifth Miss of Duke Xing's Mansion just stayed silent, as if all this had nothing to do with her and First Miss Shao would arrange everything for her.

Not only did she have no sisterly feelings for her eldest sister, but she despised him.

"It's better for your Fifth Miss to not be chosen. She has good looks, but this place... is not suitable for her. If she stays here, she may bring trouble to Duke Xing's Mansion!" The eunuch pointed at his head, indicating that there was something wrong with Shao Wanru's brain.

"No... How could it be? Fifth Miss is very smart!" Shuqi lowered her head uneasily and explained dryly. It deepened the eunuch's impression that Shao Wanru was not clever.

"Your Fifth Miss is not only slow-witted but also has no sisterly affection for your Miss. Look at her just now... Your Miss did everything entirely in her interests, but she didn't have any intention of taking care of her. If she takes care of your Miss all day long, something might happen to your Miss!"

The eunuch sneered. After that, he suddenly thought of something and asked, "Is your Fifth Miss willing to stay and take care of your Miss?"

His question was abrupt, but Shuqi was happy inwardly. She took Shao Yanru's hint; sending such a message to the eunuch in charge.

"Yes, Fifth Miss is nice. She kept asking to stay and take care of First Miss. She said that she must take good care of her before leaving. Maybe when you came, she was too shy to say anything. In fact, she was nice to First Miss just now," Shuqi explained.

It was just that she talked so fast that it felt like she was trying to cover it up.

"Thank you, sir. I'll go back to take care of First Miss!" Since the message had been sent, Shuqi immediately bowed to the eunuch and then hurried back.

Her Miss repeatedly hinted that she could not stay outside for too long, otherwise, Fifth Miss would be suspicious. She had wanted to send the eunuch a pouch in the room but was stopped by Shao Yanru with her eyes. After that, when the eunuch came out, Shao Yanru asked her to come out and slip a note to him.

The master and the servant girl had done this kind of thing many times in the past, and they cooperated very well.

Shuqi said those words because before Shao Wanru came over, Shao Yanru had asked Shuqi to make others think this way if there was a chance. Now the opportunity came.

Seeing Shuqi unable to explain clearly and eager to leave, the eunuch sneered. As expected, Fifth Miss Shao had bad intentions. Obviously, she had taken a fancy to Prince Zhou and wanted to achieve her purpose with her favorable position.

Under the guise of taking care of her sick sister, she could be up to something. In the past, there were ladies from aristocratic families who stayed in the palace with various reasons. Many pretended to be delicate and weak and threw themselves on Prince Zhou. They were all drooling over the position of Princess Zhou.

Sisterhood? The eunuch could tell at a glance that Fifth Miss Shao had a bad relationship with First Miss Shao. Their sisterhood was fake.

He found it necessary to remind the Nanny in charge of the Empress that this Fifth Miss Shao could not get close to Prince Zhou when he was free. She had good looks, but she was cold-hearted and useless. How could Prince Zhou have such a princess?

The eunuch was from the Phoenix Palace. Of course, he was on Prince Zhou's side. He smiled sarcastically at the door of the side hall and turned to leave. He had to warn not only the Nanny in charge but also those who had a good relationship with him. When Fifth Miss Shao came over, they had to keep an eye on her, lest something nasty would happen and make the Empress angry...

Shao Wanru looked at Shuqi with an extremely calm look. Her watery eyes fell on Shuqi's face, making the latter feel scared and guilty as if she had been seen through by her.

Yujie clenched her fists. Shuqi had been standing outside for so long when First Miss was so badly injured. Did it take her so long to give the eunuch a pouch? It was obvious that she had said something to the eunuch. First Miss was in such a bad condition, but she could not stop making trouble for them. She was really annoying.

"Fifth Sister, you can go back today. I'm going to sleep now... I'm running out of energy..." Hearing Shuqi's footsteps, Shao Yanru opened her eyes with difficulty. She really had no strength left.

"It's still early. Big Sister, you can sleep for a while. I'll go back later!" Shao Wanru said coldly.

"Okay!" Shao Yanru had already had a plan in her mind at this time. After all, she had lost too much blood, so she lay down powerlessly. Shuqi helped her lie down, tucked her in, and retreated to the side.

It was very quiet in the room, except for Shao Yanru's quiet breathing.

Shuqi moved her feet uneasily. She stood at the head of the bed and saw Shao Yanru's face. She could feel Fifth Miss's gaze behind her. She did not dare to move, as if she would be seen through by Fifth Miss. She was tense all over. Only when she stood at the bedside could she feel the support from her Miss.

Time ticked away little by little, and there was no sound behind her. She wanted to look back to see what Fifth Miss was doing, but she didn't dare to move. She was getting more and more flustered, and her drooping fingers couldn't help twitching.

"Shuqi!" Shao Wanru's cold voice came from behind her, sounding like a clap of thunder in her heart.