

My Crown 1191

Chapter 1191: You're Poisoned!

"The crown prince consort's cultivation is considered outstanding. I suspect that she possesses some special cultivation technique."

"Cultivation technique? Black-rank?"

"Black-rank?" Yi'an shook her head. "It definitely isn't a common black-rank cultivation technique. I suspect that she possesses a divine-rank or even a sacred-rank cultivation technique."

If not for a cultivation technique to supplement and complement her cultivation state, how could her cultivation advance so rapidly?

If she could dig out her secrets and make them her own...

Yi'an's gaze flickered as she walked back to her Anya Pavilion with Xu'er.

"The queen dowager also, she has not been thinking of you much recently, instead only yearning for her granddaughter-in-law. The day before yesterday, she even gifted that valuable interspatial ring to the crown prince consort." Xu'er pursed her lips and said, "It really was hard on Miss, personally attending to the queen dowager all these years. Yet in the end, you still could not hold a candle to the granddaughter-in-law whom she had only just met."

"Shut up." Yi'an glanced faintly at the gossipy Xu'er. "I have told you before that you shouldn't just speak your mind without a filter. Be careful that a loose tongue may cause a lot of trouble."

She still dared to speak so nonsensically in this palace that had so many eyes and ears? Yi'an glared at her before shaking her head.

Xu'er puffed out her cheeks before changing the topic, inquiring, "Commandery Princess, the Vassal King Consort of An'nan is hosting a flower-viewing gathering and has reportedly sent invites to all the noble ladies in the city. Are you planning to go?"

Yi'an was startled before nodding. "I naturally am going to go."

Suddenly, she halted and turned to Xu'er. "Is the crown prince consort going?"

—My Qiao's section break—

"Not going." Qiao Mu scratched the little fat squirrel's furry chin as she lay lazily against Mo Lian. "What would I go there for. I'm nearly busy to death myself, so how do I have the time to attend that whatever flower-viewing gathering."

Besides, everyone was well aware that the purpose of this kind of flower-viewing gathering was basically for madams to pick daughter-in-laws for their sons.

She was already an engaged woman, so why would she go?

There was completely no need!

The crown prince thus casually threw that invitation out the carriage window before holding his wife and saying with a smile, "Okay, not going."

"Qiaoqiao, if you're sleepy, you can nap for a bit."

Qiao Mu puffed out her small cheeks. "I just woke up."

"You've been cultivating both early and late recently, so it's truly been too hard on you." Mo Lian murmured into her ear, "Sleep for a bit more."

Speaking of this, Qiao Mu had nowhere to pour out her hot and bitter tears.

Thus, she laid back in Crown Prince Mo's embrace. Since the carriage was swaying anyways, she might as well catch some shut-eye. In the end, she really did close her eyes and fall asleep.

Mo Lian also helped her adjust to a more comfortable position on his knees.

He then turned to glare at that retreating little fat squirrel. "Don't be noisy."

"Chirp, chirp."

*Acting cute, my *ass!* The crown prince then ignored it after casting it a glance, focused on looking down to watch his Qiaoqiao instead.

Suddenly, Mo Lian's brows jerked, and he grabbed his left wrist with his right hand. Just as he was about to mobilize his medicinal power, however, a fair and tender small hand settled on his wrist to take his pulse.

The results immediately scared all of Qiao Mu's drowsiness away.

She promptly scrambled up. "You? Why didn't you say anything when you're poisoned?"

Mo Lian comforted in a low voice while hugging her small, soft body. "It's fine."

"What fine, this poison of yours is a neurotoxin. It's quite serious, yeah?" Qiao Mu glared at him.

Chapter 1192: You're Important

Qiao Mu was really about to die from anger. *Why didn't he say anything when such a big incident had occurred?*

When Qiao Mu scrutinized his handsome, innocent face at this moment, she couldn't resist pinching his face. "Why didn't you tell me?"

"This wasn't anything big..." However, when Crown Prince Mo noticed a certain person's enraged glare, his voice dwindled into an almost inaudible volume. "You've been too tired these few days. You should take a good nap."

He really was going to anger her to death!

Qiao Mu pounded his chest. "Is my nap important, or is your life important?"

Mo Lian had opened his mouth to speak, but he hastily changed the "you're important" that he was going to blurt out into "Both... both are important."

At his answer, Qiao Mu pounced over and chomped down on him. "You scoundrel."

"Yes, yes. I am a scoundrel." Mo Lian hastily hugged this little fellow and begged for mercy, "Qiaoqiao, don't be angry, okay. Your teeth will hurt from biting."

As he said this, he even earnestly went through the motion of lifting up her chin to check her teeth.

Qiao Mu gruffly swatted away his paw and turned her small head aside in a huff. "Ignoring you."

With a perfectly guileless look, Mo Lian turned her small head back. "No way, how can you ignore me? Qiaoqiao, Qiaoqiao. Don't be angry, it's not that I don't cherish my life, it's just that I know this poison cannot do anything to me for the time being. Have you forgotten that I myself am an apothecary? My medicinal power can neutralize some of the poisonous effects, but it just can't cure it completely."

Reaching out to hug him, Qiao Mu looked up at him unblinkingly. "How long have you been poisoned?"

"Not long after you left the Mo Kingdom capital, Ding Tingding suddenly sent me a message."

"Ding Tingding was the one who poisoned you?" Qiao Mu's small face sank as she secretly charged Ding Tingding with yet another account in her mind.

"It's him." Mo Lian explained with a nod, "Ding Tingding has remarkable strength, wielding a grade-eight wood spirit. The reason I got poisoned was because I fell prey to his plot, but similarly, he didn't get off easy either."

"You've been poisoned for a month?" Qiao Mu looked at him in shock.

"No, it hasn't been a month. At most half a month." Mo Lian gently rocked her small body in his arms. "I'm fine."

Yet Qiao Mu clobbered his head with her small fist. "Dummy!"

Mo Lian: ...

Afterwards, Qiao Mu grumpily took out an antidote solution from her inner world. "Drink this first. I'll make you an antidote pill tonight. I just don't know if I have all the necessary medicinal materials," she muttered to herself.

"Qiaoqiao, it's not urgent."

"What do you mean it's not urgent!" Qiao Mu glared at him unhappily. "I find it urgent."

"Okay, okay, okay." Mo Lian blinked his phoenix eyes and negotiated with a smile as he held Qiaoqiao. "Then don't work on the antidote pill until too late, okay? Look at you. When Mom sees that you have gotten so much skinnier this time, she will definitely resent me for not taking proper care of you even if she doesn't say it out loud."

"Bah." Qiao Mu cast him a grouchy glance. "You're just worried that Mom will blame you."

"Qiaoqiao..."

"Previously, when I wanted to cultivate every day, did you bother me every day?" After watching him drink the antidote solution, she took his pulse again before shooting him a glance.

"I didn't." Mo Lian quickly shook his head and deadpanned, "I never bothered you while you were cultivating. Otherwise, do you think you could have broken through to become a level-14 mystic cultivator so quickly?"

Chapter 1193: Snatching Business?

Ha ha, there had to be ghosts for me to believe you.

"This kind of neurotoxin that comes from devil grass will paralyze one's nerves in the short term before subsequently affecting the limbs and body. It will slowly turn a person into a handicapped paraplegic." Qiao Mu gnashed her teeth furiously. "This Ding Tingding really is evil."

Mo Lian smoothed her hair. "Unfortunately, he doesn't know that because I have Qiaoqiao, all poison is useless to me."

Yet Qiao Mu simply cast him a sidelong glance. "This is not the reason for holding back your body's situation from me."

"Yes, yes, yes. In the future, I will tell you immediately if something happens to me." Mo Lian smiled at her. "Actually, it doesn't matter if Qiaoqiao detoxifies my poison after you completely recover your mental energies in one or two days..."

However, when Mo Lian saw the little fellow's reproachful look, his voice unwittingly got softer, and he couldn't resist hugging her with a smile, relenting, "Okay, I admit my wrong. Quickly cure me okay, darling."

"Humph." Qiao Mu cast him a glance, not accepting his act of innocence.

This person simply didn't cherish his own body. So awfully upsetting!

"Qiaoqiao." Mo Lian turned her small body around and planted a kiss on her cheek. "Don't throw a tantrum with me, mhm?"

Suddenly, the deafening sound of gongs and drums came from the streets.

"Folks, today is the grand opening of our House of Treasures, and there will be a large-scale auction tonight. At that time, we request the pleasure of your company."

When Qiao Mu heard this, she pulled up the curtain and looked outside. "Could this whatever House of Treasures be meaning to snatch our Morning Sunlight Pavilion's business?"

Mo Lian couldn't help chuckling as he also joined her in peering outside.

Several burly men as well as several gorgeously-dressed women were standing at the head of the street, and they did attract a lot of attention with their gongs, drums, and shouts.

"Just the name of this shop shows no class." Qiao Mu pursed her lips and commented, "From what I see, there isn't anything special about this Pavilion of Treasures."

Mo Lian: ...

"Darling, it's called the House of Treasures."

Oh yeah! Qiao Mu retracted her small head and let down the curtain. “How about we go scout out the enemy’s situation tonight.”

“It doesn’t matter whether Morning Sunlight Pavilion’s business is good or bad,” Mo Lian replied with a chuckle.

In any case, its goal of gathering all the rarities under heaven was fake. Its most important task was to relay messages.

“Did you sell all my talismans from last time?”

“They had long gotten sold.”

“Then I’ll give you another batch this time.” Those primary-rank yellow and blue talismans and the like were not of much use to her anymore.

Right now, she mainly used talismans made from ebony, not to mention that they were basically all high-rank blue talismans.

Mid-rank talismans were not such a rarity to her anymore, so she might as well toss them in for the crown prince to sell.

In any case, they only served as scrap paper if she were to keep them.

“Right now, everyone knows that Morning Sunlight Pavilion auctions off talismans. How could other people snatch this exclusive business of ours.” Mo Lian smirked with a raise of his brow. “However, if you want to go have fun at that House of Treasures, I will accompany you.”

“Kay, ‘kay. Let’s go check it out tonight.” The little fellow was a bit curious.

“I wonder what kind of good stuff they are able to auction.”

As they spoke, the carriage had already turned into Minshun Boulevard and reached the doors of the Marquis of Jiayuan’s Estate.

The marquis’s estate had received notice early in the morning that Qiao Mu was going to return today, so its main doors were wide open to receive them.

At this time, the Qiao Zhongbang couple hastily came out from the main hall to welcome them upon being informed.

Chapter 1194: Missed the Appointment

“Mom.” Qiao Mu’s eyes automatically lit up when she saw her mother, quickly running up to hug her arms.

“You child!” Wei Ziqin poked her small head. “You’ve worried Mom to death. You’re always disappearing without notice. Do you know that Xiao Mo has been leading people all over to search for you, almost to the point of digging up the ground to find you.”

Qiao Mu nodded helplessly.

She was also quite exasperated!

If not for that disaster-courting curse putting her in that weird situation, she actually could have come home right when she got transferred out of the secret realm.

“Alright, alright, it’s good that you’ve returned. Come in before saying more.” Qiao Zhongbang quickly gestured for them to enter.

After the group relocated to the main hall, there were naturally servants to serve tea.

“Mom, is everything fine at home.”

“There is nothing for you to worry about at home.” Wei Ziqin grasped her daughter’s small hand with heartache filling her eyes. “Qiaoqiao, how come you got so skinny? Was this time’s practical training in the Mystic Beast Forest secret realm really tough?”

“It was okay. It wasn’t so tough.” Qiao Mu hugged her mother’s arm and consoled with a shake of her head, “Mom, don’t worry about me. I’m fine. Look, my cultivation state increased again. I just broke through to become a level-14 mystic cultivator.”

Qiao Zhongbang and Wei Ziqin goggled in shock as they looked their daughter up and down.

Wei Ziqin also gazed at her with a complicated gaze as she murmured, “This must be bloodline inheritance.”

“Mom, what are you mumbling?”

Hearing her voice, Wei Ziqin jolted in surprise before hastily covering up with a smile, “Nothing, nothing. Child, don’t go anywhere after coming back this time, ah? You have to properly prepare for your coming-of-age hairpin ceremony at home. Understand?”

Qiao Mu nodded her small head obediently.

In her past life, her mom had passed away early, and how would her stepmother take such pains for her? Hence, she did not have a coming-of-age hairpin ceremony.

She could only hide in a corner by herself and watch enviously as the main family prepared a grand hairpin ceremony for Qiao Ni.

At that time, she was like a rat that no one wanted, living in the filthy sewers without seeing the light of day.

Wei Ziqin smiled with closed lips. “That’s a good girl. Then move back home today. You can’t mess about again before your marriage.”

“Ah, I can’t!” Qiao Mu suddenly remembered something and exclaimed, “Mom, I have to go out on a trip again.”

Wei Ziqin patted her small hand mildly, sweeping her with a displeased look. “You child. You want to go out again after just returning home? You’re not allowed to go anywhere.”

“Mom, I had promised other people something. Previously, I had commissioned people to gather a large batch of primary-rank herbs, but later on... anyways, because of various reasons, I missed our appointed time. I must make a trip there. Mom, it’ll be quick. I’ll return in at most five days.”

“Five days??” Wei Ziqin glared at her. “Your hairpin ceremony is in a bit over a few weeks.”

“Four days! Just four days!” Qiao Mu stuck out four fingers and waved them in front of her mother. She then rocked her mother’s arm and wheedled, “Mom, I will definitely make it back in time. If you let your Xiao Mo accompany me there, you’ll be able to rest assured.”

Crown Prince Mo, who was in low spirits because his wife had to move back to live in the Qiao Estate, suddenly brightened when he heard this. He immediately took his wife’s side and persuaded with repeated nods, “Mom, don’t worry. With me accompanying Qiaoqiao, she definitely won’t go missing again this time.”

Wife, don't I treat you well! Mo Lian winked at Xiao Qiao.

Chapter 1195: The Bond Formed from Trials and Tribulations

Wei Ziqin rolled her eyes at the young couple before gruffly poking her daughter’s forehead. “You just know to make Xiao Mo your cover.”

“It’s fine, Mom. I just love being Qiaoqiao’s cover. She can make me cover for her for anything.”

Wei Ziqin looked speechlessly at her son-in-law. “Fine then, but remember to come back quickly. In four days at the latest, you must move back home!”

“I know.”

“Mom, Mom, so Sister has returned.” Qiao Lin and Qiao Sen ran into the anteroom one after the other, along with a teary-eyed little monk trailing after them.

When he caught sight of Qiao Mu, he immediately started bawling, “Benefactress, you abandoned me and ran off again.”

Before Qiao Mu could even chat with her siblings, she hastily left her seat and carried that snivelling little monk over. “Little monk, why do you monks like to cry all the time?”

“Monks are also people. When people are sad, they will shed tears.” The little monk sobbed and sniffled.

These words caused Qiao Zhongbang, who was sitting beside them, to twitch his mouth.

There were more and more oddballs in their home now. What to do?

“Little monk, you aren’t crying upon seeing my sister because you think we don’t treat you well, right?” Qiao Lin put her hands on her hips and rolled her eyes at him in a huff.

“You are all good, but still not as good as Benefactress, after all.” The little monk clarified honestly, “Benefactress and I have gone through trials and tribulations together from young. She keeps abandoning me to run off by herself, so is it not fine for me to cry when I see her?”

“You!” Qiao Lin glared at this garrulous little monk in both amusement and exasperation before remarking with a frown, “No wonder Sister wants to abandon you and run off. You are indeed a fussy little monk.”

“Alright, alright, don’t cry.” Qiao Mu grasped his sleeve as she helped him wipe his tears. “You aren’t a three-year-old child anymore, you’re already four, ah no, after the new year, you’ll be five. So you shouldn’t be bawling.”

Qiao Zhongbang: “...”

Meanwhile, Wei Ziqin couldn’t resist giggling out loud as she rubbed the little monk’s bald head lovingly. “Kongkong is missing Sister.”

“It’s fine. Wait until Sister comes back after taking care of matters. She will stay at home for more than a month.” Wei Ziqin questioned with a smile, “Kongkong, have you finished your recitation for the day.”

The little monk nodded. “It has been finished. This young monk has also finished tomorrow’s too. Benefactress, can you bring me along on your trip this time.”

“You can’t!” When Mo Lian heard that this kid wanted to come as a candle[1], he immediately objected.

“Benefactress.” Yet the little monk’s eyes were brimming with pitiable tears that threatened to spill.

“Hm, how about this. It isn’t possible to bring you on the trip, but tonight, Sister can bring you out for fun.” Qiao Mu patted the little monk’s head. “Sister will be back in four days this time, so it’ll be quick.”

“Sister, where are you going for fun.” When Qiao Lin and Qiao Sen heard this, they immediately got pumped up and huddled in front of Qiaoqiao to ask curiously.

“There is a newly-opened House of Treasures auction house that is holding an auction tonight. Mo Lian and I plan to go check it out. Do you guys want to go?”

Without exception, the three small heads bobbed up and down uniformly.

Mo Lian, however, couldn’t resist facepalming on the side. *Did she even need to ask? How could these three fellows reject when there was excitement to see.*

There was no need to ask about this kind of thing.

“You all can go out, but you have to be obedient and cannot make trouble for your sister,” Wei Ziqin exhorted them.

“Mom, we’re so well-behaved.”

Chapter 1196: Family Incident

“Qiaoqiao, there’s something else I have to tell you.” Wei Ziqin relayed with a smile, “Do you remember the day when Mom got taken away by the Qiao Clan’s main family? The person who went out with Madam Ren, the wife of the Deputy Minister of Ceremonies, was actually a young lady from the fourth branch of Madam Ren’s family whom your second uncle is seeing.”

“That young lady is 24 years old and has had a rather hard life. However, Mom sees that she really is admirable, and your second uncle is also quite satisfied with her. Mom plans to ask Madam Ren to go to the young lady’s family on our behalf to settle the engagement and discuss the marriage date. If there are no accidents, your second uncle’s marriage ceremony will probably take place before yours.”

Qiao Mu's eyes turned as round as longan fruits. "So urgent? I'm going to have a new second aunt?"

"That young lady is already 24, so it is quite urgent. However, you don't have to worry. Mom has seen that young lady, and she has a mild temper and good looks." Wei Ziqin nodded with a smile before lamenting, "Your second aunt passed on early, so your second uncle has just stayed a bachelor all this time. Now that Xiao Hu has grown up and our family is getting better off, your second uncle, he..."

Just as the family were chatting happily and harmoniously, a scream suddenly came from beyond the courtyard.

"Second Master, Second Master? Eldest Young Master, what is wrong with Second Master."

Qiao Zhongbang and the others quickly walked out the door, but what they saw almost made them faint from shock.

They saw Second Uncle Qiao hanging from his son Qiao Hu's shoulder, half of his body beaten bloody. It looked extremely horrifying, so no wonder the servants' voices had started shaking.

"Second Uncle." Qiao Mu yelled as she bolted for Second Uncle Qiao.

"Sis, Sister!" Qiao Hu managed to brace himself as he dragged Second Uncle Qiao across the threshold.

When he saw Qiao Mu dashing over, he finally spewed out a mouthful of blood like a deflated balloon and collapsed, his breathing feeble. "Quick, quickly save Eldest Aunt. At, at the Zh-Zhou Family's entrance..."

"Brother Xiao Hu, Brother Xiao Hu!" However, Qiao Mu was shocked when she took Qiao Hu's pulse.

Someone had injured Brother Xiao Hu's mystic meridians, while Second Uncle was in an even more tragic condition. The bones in his left arm and left leg had actually been forcibly snapped.

After her examination, Qiao Mu exuded a frosty air, as if bathed in an icy mist.

Meanwhile, Wei Ziqin was so panicked that she didn't know where to place her hands and legs. "Second Uncle, Second Uncle, why are you all still gawking there. Quickly go to a clinic and send for a doctor!"

"No need, carry them to their rooms first and prepare clean scissors, bandages, and hot water."

"Right, right, right. Our Qiaoqiao is a pill alchemist, our Qiaoqiao can treat them." Wei Ziqin was a bit confused from panicking.

On the other hand, the crown prince had already ordered light-footed hidden guards to swiftly carry Qiao Zhongxing and his son back to their rooms.

"Go investigate what happened." The crown prince instructed with a sullen face.

Huifeng promptly received his order with cupped fists before leaping over the wall with two other hidden guards to go investigate.

After closing the doors to the room, Qiao Mu flashed inside. She first fed both of them healing pills before starting to administer acupuncture on Second Uncle Qiao, whose injuries were more serious.

After an hour, Qiao Mu finished setting Second Uncle Qiao's arms and legs in place with splints.

She also fed Qiao Hu another pill, and after she administered acupuncture to assist in his treatment, he fell into a deep slumber.

When Qiao Mu finally finished busying about, Crown Prince Mo just so happened to push open the doors and enter. Seeing that she was a bit fatigued, he quickly reached out to support her.

“Qiaoqiao, are Second Uncle and Xiao Hu alright?” Wei Ziqin inquired worriedly.

Chapter 1197: Rescue

“They’re fine.” Even so, Qiao Mu creased her brows. When she was administering acupuncture on Brother Xiao Hu, he kept repeating “Sister, save Eldest Aunt, save Eldest Aunt.”

After Wei Ziqin entered and heard Qiao Mu saying that both father and son were fine, she promptly cupped her hands toward heaven and the earth in thanks. “Aiyo, what happened to Second Uncle and Xiao Hu? Both were fine when they went out early in the morning.”

“Mom, don’t worry, I have already sent people to investigate. They should be sending news back soon.”

“That’s good, that’s good then. Just who could do such a vicious thing.”

“Mom, do you still remember Eldest Aunt?” Qiao Mu suddenly interrupted her mother and questioned.

At this time, Qiao Zhongbang strode through the door with an unsightly expression. “Qiaoqiao, your eldest aunt Qiao Wenxiu had married remotely to Liu City early on. She had lived quite comfortably previously, but as her in-laws were rather strict, she hadn’t come back to visit in years.”

Qiao Mu nodded. Actually, she had some impression of her eldest aunt Qiao Wenxiu.

Compared to that annoying youngest aunt whom the Elderly Lady doted on, Eldest Aunt had a much harder life.

Because she was the eldest sister, Eldest Aunt had basically been in charge of all family matters before she got married.

After marrying remotely to Liu City, it was said that her days weren’t that carefree either. She had a stern mother-in-law who particularly disliked her after she gave birth to a daughter. Hence, she couldn’t even go back home to her maiden family.

Actually, her eldest aunt Qiao Wenxiu’s presence was very weak in her past life. Furthermore, after the zombie outbreak, she had never heard from her eldest aunt’s family again.

But she didn’t expect that in this life...

If she didn’t hear wrong just now, Brother Xiao Hu had been repeating “Save Eldest Aunt” the entire time.

“Save Eldest Aunt.” While knitting her brows in puzzlement, Qiao Mu turned to ask her dad, “Dad, have you heard from Eldest Aunt during all these years?”

“I haven’t.” Qiao Zhongbang said with a shake of his head. “Ever since evacuating Qiaotou Village, I had never seen your eldest aunt again.”

“Your eldest aunt came back once when you were three years old. She had brought Ruolan, your cousin who was seven years old at the time. Afterwards, I had never seen her again.” Wei Ziqin also lamented upon speaking of her eldest aunt, “Your eldest aunt’s mother-in-law is a very forbidding woman. Your eldest aunt didn’t dare come back to her maiden family after marrying into their family. If she dared to mention coming back to visit, then her mother-in-law would not only scold but even hit her.”

Qiao Mu was instantly flabbergasted when she heard this. *Why was it another punching bag!*

She had already sent people to escort those two pitiable punching bags she had rescued the day before yesterday back to the waterways.

They were such wimps, really...

Upon recalling that weak*ss merfolk tribe, Qiao Mu felt upset. However, she couldn’t figure out why she felt this way.

If it weren’t for the fact that her master Long Chuyun and Senior Xuanji had both entrusted her to treat the merfolk tribe well, then she didn’t want to bother herself with this kind of weak*ss tribe.

“Your Highness.” Huifeng’s voice came from outside the door.

“Come in,” Mo Lian responded lightly.

Huifeng and the two hidden guards swiftly appeared beside them and bowed. “We have finished our investigation, Your Highness.”

“Speak.”

“Second Master Qiao was beaten up by two layer-11 body cultivators at the Zhou Estate’s entrance.”

“Why did those body cultivators from that whatever Zhou Estate beat up Second Uncle and Xiao Hu without rhyme or reason?” Wei Ziqin was furious.

Chapter 1198: Reason

“Things are like this, Madam.” Huifeng turned to bow to Wei Ziqin and replied, “The Zhou Family’s eldest son, Zhou Yuan, drove his wife out the door early this morning, and Second Master Qiao and Eldest Young Master Qiao just so happened to be passing by.”

Once she heard this, Qiao Mu raised her hand to rub her head.

Upon seeing this, Mo Lian also quickly stepped beside his wifey to help her massage her temples.

Wei Ziqin and Qiao Zhongbang merely cast their daughter and son-in-law a glance before getting absorbed in Huifeng’s words again.

“Thereupon, Second Master recognized that the person who was sobbing, barred outside the Zhou Estate’s door, was his long-lost eldest younger sister Qiao Wenxiu.”

“It really is Wenxiu?” Qiao Zhongbang gaped in astonishment.

“After a round of inquiry, Second Master learned from Qiao Wenxiu that this eldest son of the Zhou Family, Zhou Yuan, cast off his niece Pu Ruolan in divorce in order to marry the daughter of the Gao

Family, the richest family in the city. Consequently, he got so furious that he went up to reason with the Zhou Family.”

“And then he got beaten up?” Qiao Mu’s face sank. “The Zhou Family means to kill Second Uncle and Brother Xiao Hu because of a domestic quarrel?”

“It is said that these two formidable body cultivator guards had been sent by Gao Qiqi, the daughter of the rich Gao Family. They were the ones who wounded Second Master and Eldest Young Master.” Huifeng stepped behind Crown Prince Mo after quickly finishing his report.

This Zhou Family just had to beat up Second Master Qiao. With the crown prince consort’s protectiveness, this incident probably wasn’t going to end well.

“Then how about Wenxiu? Where are Wenxiu and her daughter right now?” Qiao Zhongbang couldn’t help but ask.

“Because the incident had spiraled out of control and it looked like there would be deaths, someone secretly went to alert capital hall, after which Sir Pang Dahai dispatched people to investigate. Seeing that the matter had blown up, the Zhou Family were afraid to make a fuss for the time being, so they detained Qiao Wenxiu and Pu Ruolan. Right now, they’re locked up in the Zhou Family.”

Pounding the door with his fist, Qiao Zhongbang yelled with a glower, “They’ve gone too far! Are they bullying my Qiao Family because we lack people?”

“Dad,” Qiao Mu had just called out when Qiao Zhongbang waved his hand at her, saying, “Don’t you and the crown prince intervene in this matter. Dad will personally bring people to the Zhou Family and see if they will release them.”

How could Qiao Mu rest assured? Although her dad had consumed a mystic breakthrough pill previously and had broken through to be a level-nine mystic cultivator, the other party had two layer-11 body cultivators. Maybe they still had other hidden forces, too.

By going there so rashly, wasn’t Qiao Zhongbang delivering himself to their doorstep to get beaten up?

“You can’t. Dad, it’s too dangerous this way.” Qiao Mu shook her head and said, “Take several hidden guards...”

“No need.” Qiao Zhongbang waved his hand and asserted, “This is our Qiao Family’s family matters. How can we trouble the crown prince every time.”

“Daughter, don’t worry. Dad is going there to reason with them so that they will release your eldest aunt and your cousin. Is it possible for them to beat me up so brazenly?” At any rate, he was the Marquis of Jiayuan that the king had personally conferred. He was not a commoner that anyone could beat up.

Even so, Qiao Mu pulled her lips into a thin line before sinking into thought for a long while. “Dad, you can go reason with the Zhou Family if you want, but you must bring my mystic beast with you.”

Qiao Zhongbang immediately exclaimed, “Ah, you want me to bring that cyan bird?”

“No.” Qiao Mu tugged Qiao Zhongbang and the others out the door, and they saw a giant ape leaping down from the roof before it cracked a smile at them.

Wei Ziqin jumped in fright before stepping back and stammering, “S-Such a huge giant ape.”

“Mhm, Mom, don’t worry. It won’t attack people.” Qiao Mu reached up to pat the large ape’s head.

Chapter 1199: The House of Treasures’s Auction

“Dad, bring my mystic beast to the Zhou Family. That way, I can feel assured.” Qiao Mu turned to stare sternly at the giant ape before instructing, “I’ll give you a chance to give up vice and turn to virtue. Protect my dad well!”

Qiao Zhongbang was both amused and exasperated as he and the giant ape gazed at each other in speechless dismay. He then hastily protested, “If Dad brings such a large ape over, wouldn’t that Zhou Family think Dad is coming to fight.”

“So what if it’s a fight.” Qiao Mu spat out coldly, “Those two body cultivators nearly crippled Second Uncle. It’s reasonable for the big ape to beat them up in return.”

When Qiao Zhongbang heard this, he felt like that did seem to be the case. Hence, he agreed with a nod, “Fine! Then don’t you intervene in this matter. Dad will come back soon.”

Upon seeing her husband bringing a bunch of people out the door, Wei Ziqin was a bit worried. “That Zhou Family is so unreasonable. Can your dad handle them?”

“Don’t worry, Mom, with the big ape alongside him, nothing can happen.” After all, she was all too aware of how strong this ape was.

When she normally chased it around to thrash it, it was always the one giving way to her. Otherwise, she absolutely wouldn’t be able to lay a hand on its fur.

Wei Ziqin nodded lightly. “That’s good then. Daughter, are you still going out then?”

“Yes.” Qiao Mu nodded. “Second Uncle and Brother Xiao Hu’s injuries have pretty much stabilized. They only need to take their medicine daily. When I come back in four days, I’ll just need to administer acupuncture to them again.”

Seeing that she had planned everything out, Wei Ziqin assented without saying anything more.

That night, Mo Lian and Qiao Mu brought the three kiddos to the House of Treasures Auction House.

“Eh?” A maidservant with an oblong face who was helping a frail and slender miss out from a carriage let out a sound of bafflement.

“Xu’er, what’s wrong?” Yi’an, who was lifting her skirt, paused and looked at Xu’er.

“I seem to have seen His Highness the Crown Prince.”

“It couldn’t be, how would His Highness come and join in on this excitement?” Yi’an determined with a shake of her head.

The servant girl called Xu’er smiled in embarrassment. “I probably saw wrong.”

“Mhm, then let’s go in. I heard that this newly-opened auction house will auction off a high-rank prolongation pill today. This time, I must successfully bid for this prolongation pill at all costs.”

There were just three months until the queen dowager's birthday. With this prolongation pill and the hundred-longevity scroll that she stitched by hand, everything would be perfect.

"Mhm." Xu'er nodded her head.

However, when the two turned around, they suddenly bumped into someone else. Once they looked up, they were mesmerized by a pair of bewitching phoenix eyes.

Xu'er couldn't help letting out a cry of surprise. *What a dazzling beauty.*

Dressed in a fluttering purple dress, she had a tender neck and fair cheeks. She looked happy yet displeased, but gentle and lovely by every means.

Yi'an was also stunned, and she had the feeling that this girl's phoenix eyes seemed familiar.

"Miss." A pretty young maidservant with a round face walked up to the beauty's side with a zither in her arms and glared at Xu'er and Yi'an. "What are you looking at? So rude. If you keep looking, I'll gouge out your vulgar eyes!"

"What are you yelling at us for? It's not like we're looking at you!" Xu'er also started scolding with a glare.

"What did you say? Do you know who our miss is? How dare you be so impudent. Whose family's dog are you? Declare your master's name." The young maidservant with a round face had a very sharp tongue.

"Whose family's dog are you then. You first declare your master's name!"

"I..."

"Alright, Baoyan." A low and gentle voice said, "Do not be impolite."

Chapter 1200: Chumming Up

"Yes, Miss." The young maidservant, who was holding the zither, looked up at the purple-clothed beauty with a gaze that exuded a strange respect as well as an incomprehensible adoration.

Xu'er felt that it seemed to be a bit perverted for one girl to look at another girl with this kind of gaze, and she involuntarily shuddered.

"From the air that these two young ladies carry, they must be wealthy and respectable people. There are good and bad people mixed up here, so please be careful." The purple-clothed beauty gazed at them gently.

Xu'er's small face reddened for no reason, and she replied with a nod, "Many thanks for Miss's reminder."

"You are from the capital? Could I ask which family's miss you are? I seem to not have seen you before." A hint of puzzlement passed through Yi'an's eyes.

Her astonishment came as no surprise. After all, this kind of beauty should be famous throughout the capital and not be unknown to the public.

“Humph, our miss is Young Madam Xin of Beijing Manor. Why aren’t you two people stepping aside already, don’t block the way! What are you doing here asking about this and that?” Servant girl Baoyan gave a harrumph.

“Beijing Manor?” Yi’an was taken aback. “Could it be? The Beijing Manor within Cuiwei Mountain’s Sorrowless Valley?”

The purple-clothed beauty nodded as she slowly revealed a transcendent smile.

Even as a female, Yi’an felt that this young lady before her was beautiful beyond belief.

Perhaps her facial features were not as outstanding as that stoic-faced young crown prince consort, but the untainted, unworldly air about this woman compelled people to yearn for it.

“So it is Beijing Manor’s Young Madam. Greetings.” Yi’an spoke with a faint smile.

She understood that the more friends you had, the more options you would have in life. No matter if it be the family members of officials in the royal court or people of the pugilistic world, there was nothing wrong with knowing more people.

“Humph, don’t try to be chumming up with us.” Baoyan stood in front of the purple-clothed beauty.

“You’ve said and asked what you needed to, yet you’re still not leaving?”

After exchanging a helpless look with Xu’er, Yi’an shook her head with a smile. “Why are you little lass so unamenable to reason.”

“Humph! Don’t think that I don’t know what you are planning! I’m telling you, don’t you entertain designs on my miss...”

“Baoyan!” The purple-clothed beauty knitted her brows. “What nonsense are you saying? You must not be rude.”

“Miss.”

“As I haven’t left the valley in a long time, it is rare for me to meet two friends whom I get along with and wish to chat with more. This isn’t an excessive request, right.” The purple-clothed beauty stated coldly while staring at Baoyan.

“Yes.” Baoyan frowned before stomping her feet and retreating back behind her slowly. She then suppressed the wispy cold light that flitted across the depths of her eyes.

“I have reserved a private box on the second floor. If you are willing, how about sitting with us?”

When she looked at you with such an entreating gaze, even if you were made out of rock or wood, you couldn’t bear to deny her wish.

Yi’an pondered for a moment. When she thought about how she hadn’t been able to reserve a private box today, it was nice that there was now someone inviting her into one.

Consequently, she nodded and said with a smile, “Thank you.”

The purple-clothed beauty seemed to be very happy, and she gestured with a flick of her sleeve.
“Please.”

As Baoyan followed behind the three people, her small mouth covertly pursed into a snicker.

These two women really were fools!

It really was too hilarious. They were thinking of befriending Beijing Manor when they couldn't even distinguish their young master's gender.

If it weren't for the fact that their young master thought that these two people were still a bit useful...

Ha ha. Then they really wouldn't pay this pair of foolish master and servant any attention.