

My Crown 1871

Chapter 1871: This Darling is Fifteen Years Old

In the Divine Province, twenty years old really was a very young girl in view of the generally long lifespans.

Madam Jing wasn't wrong in saying this, but...

"Well excuse me, but I'm fifteen this year." Qiao Mu icily interrupted Madam Jing's argument and cast them an indifferent gaze.

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If your daughter is still a child, then this darling is still only a baby!

"Pfft." Qi Xuanxuan smothered her laughter with her hands.

Qiaoqiao's stoic face really was so inexplicably hilarious and adorkable!

Qi Xuanxuan found it exceptionally amusing looking at Madam Jing's flabbergasted expression.

Was this madam brainless? She actually declared how her twenty-year-old daughter was immature in front of Qiaoqiao, and so she hoped that the other party would let her daughter off due to her "immaturity?"

Truly, from her teachings, what kind of mother begets what kind of daughter was obvious.

Madam Jing's jaw was indeed nearly dropping to the floor.

Even she could not guarantee that her own daughter would be able to achieve the level of the surging spiritual energy coming from that whip just now after triggering her divine meridians.

Yet this girl was actually only 15 years old?

Madam Jing took a deep breath as she looked at her daughter, who was still in Luo Yang's grip. She then hastily turned to beg Mo Lian, "Your Highness the Crown Prince! Please be merciful! Our entire Jing Family will definitely remember Your Highness's goodwill in the future."

Even though Mo Lian had curled his lips, the frigid air about his smile made Madam Jing involuntarily give a shudder.

Luo Yang did not need Mo Lian to give another order. He scooped up the dagger that Qiao Mu had tossed to the ground with the tip of his foot and pressed it against Jing Minyao's neck.

Jing Minyao turned ashen.

She still had yet to trigger her divine meridians, so she could be considered just a normal person, her existence like an ant. She was simply powerless to resist Luo Yang.

Of course, she was completely unaware that Luo Yang's cultivation realm would not even make her a match even if she had triggered her divine meridians.

"Your Highness!" Jing Minyao gazed tearfully at Mo Lian, her charming eyes imploring him piteously.

“So d*mn ugly.” The Gingko Immortal looked away with a snort.

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On the other hand, the Little Despot observed the drama with interest.

He felt that he really was lucky to have followed the punk Mo out from that god-forsaken Punishment Tower. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to experience the wonders of the world.

Sure enough, it was too boring inside the Punishment Tower!

Mo Lian turned a blind eye to her and smilingly followed his wife's slender little figure with his gaze.

“No, you cannot kill her! My daughter! My daughter is the Jing Family's prodigy! Her divine energy was projected to reach level 10 during testing. This means that she will definitely become a level-10 grand divine cultivator within 20 years. If you dare kill her, the Jing Family will fight you people to the death!” Madam Jing's horrified gaze was fixated on Jing Minyao's neck.

“Shut up!” Jing Linyao creased her brows. “Do not casually speak for the Jing Family. Jing Minyao was at fault in the first place for this matter. She should be responsible for the consequences on her own! The Jing Family has no obligation to pay the price for her foolishness.”

Madam Jing glowered malevolently at Jing Linyao and pointed shakily at her while screeching, “You, it's you who actively plotted to kill my Minmin!”

“It's only her who is foolish,” Jing Linyao responded apathetically.

Meanwhile, the Second Young Lady, Jing Qiyao, watched the farce coldly from the sidelines.

Chapter 1872: Mine!

She was just a transparent existence in the Jing Family.

There was the older sister who was versed in both letters and martial arts, as well as the exceptionally gifted younger sister whose test results projected that she would possess level-10 divine energy.

As for her?

She was only a useless nobody whose test results had shown that she barely possessed level-seven spiritual energy. So what if she triggered her spiritual meridians? Her cultivation state would peak as a level-seven spiritual cultivator.

This was unlike Eldest Sister who would probably be able to break through to the divine realm in two years.

As for Younger Sister, her situation was even more unusual.

The reason Jing Minyao still had not triggered her spiritual meridians even at twenty was that this was a special method the great patrician families used to nurture their talent.

The great clans of the Divine Province would indoctrinate around ten exceptionally gifted talents every year with a special method that would accumulate the energy needed to develop their divine meridians.

They would then help those talents trigger their divine meridians once they reached a certain point in their accumulation. This method allowed them to skip over the spiritual realm stage and enter the divine realm without exception after triggering their divine meridians.

Jing Qiyao felt bitter. The servants all spread rumors behind her back that she was probably an adopted child. Otherwise, why was her talent so disparate from her elder and younger sisters?

Her parents were not fond of her ever since she was young, while anything good would go to her younger sister Jing Minyao.

Just like this time, everyone knew whom the emperor meant by decreeing a marriage between the crown prince and the daughter of the Jing Family.

But her father and mother stubbornly attempted to enact this marriage engagement with her younger sister.

Jing Qiyao crossed her arms as she looked on mockingly at this mother-daughter pair of clowns.

They finally got their just deserts, no?

“Minmin!” Madam Jing’s heart-rending screams pulled Jing Qiyao back from her thoughts.

She leaned against a nearby tree with a sneer on her lips. Afterwards, she looked at Jing Minyao, who had been thrown back at Madam Jing with her head drooping.

There was a bloody cut on her exceptionally gifted younger sister’s neck, and blood kept sputtering out no matter how much Madam Jing pressed against it.

Jing Linyao’s eyes flickered, and she turned to say matter-of-factly to Crown Prince Mo, “Your Highness, Linyao wants to discuss something with you alone.”

“What can you not say here?” Crown Prince Mo rejected Jing Linyao at once and went up to pull back the fuming little fellow.

“What the hell is that marriage decree she mentioned?” *Don’t take Qiaoqiao for a fool. Qiaoqiao was very clever!*

Mo Lian blinked innocently at his little wifey and asserted, “How would I know? That father of mine is probably thinking of arranging a concubine.”

Qiao Mu gaped in surprise while looking at him. “Really?”

“What else would it be?” Crown Prince Mo squeezed her soft and petite hand. “I was in the Punishment Tower the entire time! You can ask Luo Yang and them if you don’t believe me! I’m completely clueless about this marriage decree, just like you.”

Qiao Mu agreed with him after musing it over. After all, Mo Lian had been locked up in prison the whole time, so he naturally wasn’t a part of this mess.

Then it would be...

Qiao Mu turned with a ferocious gaze to the brandy-nosed senior, who was cowering in the back. “Go back and tell your master that he can go ahead and stir up trouble if he doesn’t find it annoying to do so! But let him consider carefully lest he wants the people he dispatches to be missing their limbs or heads.”

Everyone: “...”

This vicious little lady!

Afterwards, she pulled on Mo Lian’s sleeve again to make him bend down.

The man gazed puzzledly at his wifey.

Afterwards, he got stupefied by the little fellow’s sudden smooch on the lips!

“Mine! I’ll kill whoever comes to snatch him!”

Chapter 1873: The Crown Prince’s Threat

Crown Prince Mo was momentarily dumbfounded. His phoenix eyes kept looking to and away from his wifey as his mood surged and fell. He felt like he was floating on clouds.

Ah! It was this feeling, this feeling of flying to the skies and taking to the air!

Qiao Mu stared at the dumbstruck crown prince. She pinched his cheek and was somewhat worried: *What should she do? Her hubby completely couldn’t take this flirting...*

The long petrified crowd around them: ...

How come they never knew that the little fellow was actually so wildly audacious, to the point that this steamy move was not beyond her!

Miss Qiao let go of the crown prince’s cheek and happened to see Feng Chen, Duanmu Qing, and the others’ petrified expressions when she turned around.

She was promptly stunned, and her short-circuited nerves finally connected properly. Her frosty face abruptly turned bright red.

Oh my goodness!

How come she forgot that there were still so many people beside them?

Just now, her action of forcing a kiss on a man was too immodest, too forward! Too... too irrational!

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Mhm, mhm. Her rationality, her rationality, quickly come back!

Everybody’s queer expressions meant that... they all saw?

The little fellow got faint-hearted in an instant and buried herself into the crown prince’s arms!

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It was best that they didn’t see her. It’d be great if they didn’t!

The crown prince patted the back of her petite head both in amusement and exasperation. He whispered into her ear, "Qiaoqiao, you're sleepy, right?"

Qiao Mu nodded vigorously and incessantly recited in her mind: *Calm, keep your calm. Calm down!*

Strictly speaking, this wasn't strange, right! So what if she kissed her man? This person was hers from head to toe, and inside out. So what if she kissed him?

Once the little fellow reached this conclusion, she recovered and popped her head out from Mo Lian's embrace. She turned to give the brandy-nosed senior a warning look.

Before today, she had quite a positive impression of this senior.

But it was unfortunate!

Her impression of this senior had dropped negative today!

The brandy-nosed senior: *Wuwuwu...*

He felt so wronged. He really despaired from getting stuck between this young couple and the emperor!

The crown prince picked up his little wife. When he walked past Jing Linyao, the latter suddenly turned and gave him a deep look. "Please wait, Your Highness. Word of the emperor's marriage edict has already spread throughout the Three Provinces. Perhaps you are still unaware, but this marriage is most likely an absolute necessity. However, I can put on an act with you and help you cancel this engagement in three years. But you must promise me..."

"There is no act." Mo Lian icily interrupted Jing Linyao's words.

"Hm?" Princess Jing was startled, and she involuntarily fixed her gaze on this outstandingly handsome man.

The man raised his phoenix eyes and formed a frigid smile. "I'll give you three months' time. Before I return to the Divine Province, go to the emperor and break off the engagement yourself. Otherwise, I don't mind exterminating your Pangu Tribe."

Jing Linyao's expression changed, and she clenched her fists with gritted teeth.

This man completely refused to listen to her suggestion and arbitrarily made such a decision?

There is no act?

He meant that he disdained to even put on an act?

He only had to put on an act in front of other people! It wasn't like he was really going to marry her!

He wasn't even willing to do this? How much did he not want to upset the little lady in his arms!

Heaven knows how much she was completely uninterested in marrying him!

How could she, a princess of a tiny Pangu Tribe, tell the emperor that she was going to break off this engagement he arranged?

Chapter 1874: You Owe Me One

If she dared say such brazen words to the emperor, she was afraid that the emperor would exterminate her tribe first even before the crown prince's return to the Divine Province!

Her heart hurt from getting stuck between a rock and a hard place!

She was simply in a dilemma!

Yet the man in front of her was totally unaffected and unconcerned, as if everything was beneath him.

At this time, Madam Jing was glaring vengefully at Crown Prince Mo and Qiao Mu as she held her lifeless daughter.

"The Jing Family will not take this lying down," Madam Jing declared with a contorted expression.

"Mother." Jing Linyao's expression turned sullen. "You cannot speak on the Jing Family's behalf."

Her words startled Madam Jing, and the latter glared at Princess Jing with hatred. She buried her head into her daughter's chest and wept loudly, "Minmin, my pitiful Minmin! Minmin..."

A cold smile surfaced on Crown Prince Mo's lips, and he stated nonchalantly while giving Madam Jing a glance, "Since you aren't willing to end things peacefully, you can all die here."

Jing Linyao's expression faltered, and she abruptly blocked the crown prince's way, declaring coldly, "Will Your Highness exercise your penetrating judgement. Jing Minyao has already paid the price for her foolish actions. If you continue to involve other people for this, it would be a bit... inappropriate."

Crown Prince Mo stared frostily at Jing Linyao for a while. When he saw that she did not intend to back down, he chuckled coldly. "You sure have guts."

"The crown prince is exaggerating." Jing Linyao bowed in salute.

In the instance that the two were talking, Madam Jing had already left while carrying Jing Minyao. Qiao Mu couldn't resist observing her rapidly retreating figure with curiosity.

Jing Linyao also seemed to have thought of something, and her gaze flickered. She bowed to the crown prince and stated, "Linyao will be retreating first."

"Princess Jing." The little lady's crisp voice smoothly entered Jing Linyao's ears, making her halt her footsteps.

When Jing Linyao turned to look into Miss Qiao's emotionless eyes, her heart involuntarily shuddered.

The little lady had clear eyes that could seemingly see into the depths of a person's heart. She couldn't help suspecting whether this little fellow had seen through her?

"Does Miss have any instructions?"

"Are you blind?" Mo Lian cast Jing Linyao a glance. "This is Our crown prince consort."

Jing Linyao silently lowered her head and gave a formal salute. "Greetings to the crown prince consort. Does the crown prince consort have any instructions?"

Qiao Mu's cold gaze fixated on Jing Linyao for a long time before she spoke. "Remember, you owe me one."

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Hearing this, Jing Linyao raised her eyebrows, and her heart sank with a thump.

Not only did this little lass possess exceptional cultivation, but she was also this intelligent. She did not expect her to be so shrewd!

Meanwhile, Crown Prince Mo did not give Jing Linyao another glance and carried his little wife into the tavern.

The Little Despot, Dao Wuji, Qi Xuanxuan, and company naturally filed inside as well. It was time to rest after dragging this on so late into the night.

The innkeeper gazed worriedly at this group of villains that came walking in. He dared not slight them and hastily arranged all the empty rooms in the tavern for them to stay in. He also called for the frightened staff to quickly wait on them.

The disconsolate brandy-nosed senior was the only one left remaining at the entrance of the tavern. The chilly winds of December turned his mood even more glum.

'Go back and tell your emperor that there is no marriage engagement! We don't acknowledge it! Let him scam!' These were the last words the little lady left him.

Chapter 1875: Lovey-Dovey Sweetness...

He felt like a disaster would occur if this continued. If the emperor and the young couple's relationship had already become so strained even before meeting face to face, what would happen to him once they did?

Wahhh...

There was nothing he could do to save the situation. He was afraid that the seed of hatred had already been planted in the little lady's heart.

Trudge, trudge, trudge. The group filed through the second floor hallway.

They finally entered their respective rooms, and the noisy hallway finally turned quiet.

The other guests who had been disturbed awake were no longer sleepy, but they just kept their doors shut, afraid to watch the messy drama.

In the first room on the left on the second floor, Jiang Qi heaved a sigh of relief and walked to the table. She informed her other martial sisters, "It's over now."

Senior Sister Yu Gui said with a nod, "Everyone be careful. It is unsuitable to cause trouble when away from home. Go sleep for four more hours, and we'll immediately depart at dawn."

"Yes," everybody responded quietly. Yet they didn't return to their rooms and just found a place to lie down while fully clothed.

How was it possible for them to not hear the loud commotion outside? However, it was unsuitable for them to go outside with so many experts standing off with such parade.

Now that things had finally settled down, they just wanted to rest and hurry to Mount Tai as soon as possible.

Yet they were unaware of what they had missed...

On the other side.

Mo Lian kissed the little fellow in his arms as soon as he kicked the door shut.

Miss Qiao had also missed Mo Lian very much, and she fidgeted while hugging him.

What should she do? She missed him when she couldn't see him, but now that she did, it felt so unreal.

She was getting swayed by this worry of loss and gain...

Why was this?

Crown Prince Mo discovered that his wifey was daydreaming, so he cupped her cheeks and nuzzled her icy little nose. "Qiaoqiao, what are you thinking about."

"Thinking about you." Qiao Mu answered honestly as she silently straightened out this peculiar emotion in her heart.

Mo Lian was surprised, but he quickly revealed an unrestrained smile. He cupped her petite face and gave her a loud smack on the lips. "Good!"

He caressed her petite face and led her to the table. He then set her on his knees and snuggled his head against her slender neck before saying softly, "Darling, you must not have missed me as much as I missed you. You were even there in the illusions to clear in the Punishment Tower!"

"You saw me inside the Punishment Tower?" Qiao Mu was surprised.

"What was I doing?" The little fellow turned to ask him curiously, "Did I battle you? Was I able to defeat you?"

You can only think of battle and defeating me? Crown Prince Mo rubbed her petite head both amused and exasperated. He deadpanned, "No."

"You didn't battle with me. You were so busy!" Mo Lian looked at her seriously. He couldn't help but hold in his laughter when he saw her so curious, and he kissed her tender cheek. "You were moving gold bars! With such gusto!"

Qiao Mu turned around at once to direct the back of her head toward a certain person as she also deadpanned, "You saw wrong."

Crown Prince Mo burst out in laughter, and Qiao Mu quickly turned her head around again. Her eyes shone as she admired the crown prince's handsome face in the candlelight.

This person looked so dashing!

Crown Prince Mo's phoenix eyes curved as he lifted her up. "How about we bathe together?"

Dong!

After giving him a whack on the head, Qiao Mu hopped down and waved her hand without looking back. "Wait!"

Chapter 1876: This Wasn't a Jailbreak Right?

"Here! Go ahead." The little fellow stuffed a basin into his hands before trotting away.

His Highness the Crown Prince twitched his mouth as he looked down at the basin his wifey had shoved into his hands before walking away. He could only speechlessly carry the tub out the door and arrange for the tavern staff to fill it up with bathing water...

Wait! Wife, don't you have the water spirit? Wouldn't everything be set once you dispense some water and Hubby heats it up for you?

Hubby would also be able to scrub your back for you at the same time too, no?

Why did you have to make him find a tavern worker for basins of hot water...

"Don't waste spiritual energy." His wifey expressionlessly supervised a certain person in filling up the bathing tub with one basin of water after another. Afterwards, she had this free labor help her carry the tub into the inner chamber before promptly booting a certain crown prince out. She then happily went to enjoy her bath.

The pitiful crown prince: ...

How about the couple bathing we had agreed upon!

Giving me a basin to fill up the tub with so much water counted as bathing together?

By the time Miss Qiao ran out after bathing herself clean, she saw Crown Prince Mo drinking tea in the candlelight while lazily sitting at the table. He had also changed into a white middle layer garment to prepare for bed.

Miss Qiao ran over joyfully, and she gave him a kiss while hugging him.

Crown Prince Mo: ...

My wife, don't start randomly teasing me. It's very easy for accidents to happen this late into the night. Your hubby doesn't have the self-control you think I have!

He wasn't someone who didn't have impulses.

There was simply no notion of self-control, especially when it came to his wifey.

Qiao Mu saw his queer expression, but she paid no mind and pinched his cheeks before snuggling into his arms.

"You're sleepy?" Mo Lian sighed. He brushed away the stray hair on her cheeks before bending over to kiss her on the head.

“Sleep now.”

“I still want to talk with you.” Qiao Mu shook her head.

Mo Lian chuckled and carried her to the bed. “We’ll talk once you wake up. Don’t worry, I won’t be going anywhere. I’ll be here to accompany you.”

“You big liar!”

“How am I a big liar?” Mo Lian looked speechlessly at his wifey. “Look, I kept my promise and reunited with you in less than five months.”

Qiao Mu tilted her head on the pillow and stared at him for a bit. Afterwards, she nodded in acknowledgement and asked, “Why aren’t you sleeping?”

“I’ll sleep in a bit. I’ll watch you fall asleep.”

You’re acting so strange. You can’t be thinking of coaxing this darling to sleep so you can slink off by yourself, right!

Crown Prince Mo couldn’t help bursting out in laughter when he saw the little fellow’s undisguised doubts. He then caressed her petite face and reassured, “Don’t worry, Hubby won’t run off.”

“You really came out from the Punishment Tower?” Qiao Mu was still worried and scrambled up from bed.

It couldn’t be that this was a jailbreak, and then he had to go back inside after getting some fresh air...

Mo Lian: ...

However, he was both happy and touched when he saw the little fellow’s worry and unease. He held this fair and soft little lady in his arms and lay down together with her. “I’m not lying to you. I really did come out.”

Qiao Mu hugged his neck back and buried her petite head in his chest. “How did you come out? Was it dangerous?”

“How could it be dangerous?” Crown Prince Mo promptly started boasting. He simply made himself sound like a god from how he surmounted all difficulties to clear the tower.

It wasn’t until the little fellow succumbed to her drowsiness and fell asleep in his arms that he quieted down.

After a long time, the little one’s steady breathing entered his ears.

Chapter 1877: Find Something For Him to Do

Mo Lian kissed her ear and gently lay her flat on the bed while tucking the blanket around her. He touched her petite hand before putting on his outer robe and bolting out the door like lightning.

Outside the tavern, a crescent moon was hanging high up in the night sky.

Mo Lian's figure had just appeared in the dark night when a black shadow landed beside him. "Master, Madam Jing hurried back to the Divine Province through the night with her two daughters."

"Oh?" Mo Lian asked coldly, "How about Jing Linyao?"

"Jing Linyao is still in Wanlu Town."

"Give her a lesson for daring to scheme against my Qiaoqiao." *Don't think that you can scheme against anyone in this world.*

"When does Master plan to return to the Divine Province?"

"What, even you want to meddle in my business?"

"This subordinate dares not!" The black shadow lowered his head in reverence and quickly explained, "This subordinate is only thinking that if Master plans to stay in the Six Prefectures for a prolonged period of time, this subordinate should make some arrangements. After all, we cannot have Your Highness continue putting up with this rundown tavern."

"No need! We will be departing tomorrow." Mo Lian waved it off and asked, "Oh, has Huifeng made contact?"

"Not yet."

"When he comes back, have him first return to the Divine Province with a group."

The black shadow was startled, but he then said with a nod, "Yes, Master."

"My father seems very bored, so might as well let Huifeng and them find something for him to do. Otherwise, he might worry about things that don't need his attention because he has nothing to do all day long."

That subordinate's heart instantly sank with a thump, and he quickly hung his head low.

"He sent you to my side, so of course you can also leave first to inform him of this."

"Master, Tung has not been unfaithful ever since following Master!" The black-clothed man named Tung quickly knelt and beat his chest with his fist to express his loyalty.

Mo Lian sized him up with an icy gaze before saying with a nod, "Then I'll leave this to you?"

"Yes! This subordinate will do his utmost to contact Huifeng and relay Master's message to him without leaving out a single word."

"Very good." Mo Lian restrained his killing intent as he nodded lightly. "You should know what to do right now."

"Yes! Rest assured Master, this subordinate will carry out your orders right away."

Mo Lian's lips raised into a sneer as the black-clothed man melded into the dark night. *Jing Linyao, you are clever, but not clever enough!*

At the same time.

Inside a very ordinary residence in Wanlu Town.

Jing Linyao leafed through the intelligence in her hands while sitting at the table by the window.

“Princess, the reason Madam is hurrying back to the Divine Province in the middle of the night must be to tell the Chief about this incident. Is it really okay for us not to hurry back?”

“What’s not okay about it,” Jing Linyao asked indifferently.

“Madam will certainly push all the blame onto you in front of the Chief.”

However, Jing Linyao merely curved her thin lips into a sneer. “Even if she doesn’t push all the blame onto me, will Father believe me?”

“This isn’t the first time she’s accused me wrongly. It’s fine once you get used to it.” Jing Linyao set down her teacup and placed that paper with the intelligence into the candle flame to burn into ashes.

“You think that Wang Limeng is so anxious to hurry back just to accuse me behind my back?”

Jing Linyao fiddled with the candle wick and turned to look at the maidservant beside her. She said with a smile, “She’s gone to plead with Father to save someone’s life.”

It went without saying whose life she wanted him to save.

Chapter 1878: Decisive Action

The maidservant widened her eyes. “Princess? You mean that! Third Miss can still be revived?”

That was impossible right! She clearly saw that dagger slit her throat. A person could still be saved after losing that much blood?

She couldn’t be saved no matter how genius the doctor was right?

Princess Jing did not say anything more and merely cast her a look. “You’re dismissed for now.”

She naturally wouldn’t tell this maidservant that her Jing Family had a divine weapon called the Soul-Gathering Bell. It could gather a person’s soul and save a person by subverting heaven and earth, yin and yang.

Let alone someone who had died for two hours, it might possibly be able to revive someone who had died a decade or two ago.

However, this Soul-Gathering Bell could only be used three times. Reportedly, it had already been used once.

If it was used to save her third sister, then that would be the second time.

A sneer appeared on Princess Jing’s lips, and she crushed her teacup into pieces.

If Third Sister died once more, even the Soul-Gathering Bell probably wouldn’t be able to save her again.

So all her efforts went down the drain...

But it wasn’t completely a waste. She had already known before playing this hand.

That Third Sister wouldn't necessarily die for real. However, her death this time would definitely throw them into confusion, giving her some precious time.

However... the crown prince consort, that little lady, was too intelligent.

She actually saw through her plot at a glance. Even her closest personal maidservant, Xinlan, was not able to discern this.

She had been scheming for Jing Minyao's life from the moment she received the emperor's marriage edict.

She knew that Father would definitely make her pass this first-rate marriage engagement off to her youngest sister from how much he doted on the latter.

As expected, everything progressed according to plan.

This moron actually sent assassins after the young crown prince consort without thinking after she leaked this information to her.

Did she sincerely send people to stop the moron from ordering the assassination?

Was she sincerely cleaning up the moron's mess for her?

No!

It was all an act in which everyone were the actors, yet only a select few were able to see through it.

In the Divine Province, it was truly way too easy to investigate an ordinary person from the Lower Star Domain.

Jing Linyao had naturally investigated Qiao Mu and knew that she was not ordinary. Yet all these rumors were just rigid words on a piece of paper before she truly met her.

It was only today that...

She could tangibly sense a cold and threatening pressure coming from Qiao Mu when she came face to face with her. It was only then that she discovered this young crown prince consort might not be as easy to make use of as she had thought.

She owed the crown prince consort for using the latter to eradicate her pampered half-sister!

Jing Linyao felt admiration for this little lady.

A girl from a small Lower Star Domain was able to achieve such an advanced cultivation at such a young age. This was definitely not something that could be accomplished by relying on luck.

Bang! The door to the residence was suddenly slammed open as she was lost in her thoughts.

Thirty plus black-clothed men appeared at the entrance, their austere eyes fixated on Jing Linyao.

"You guys seem to have come late." Jing Linyao was not fazed in the least and merely smoothed out the hair by her temples.

Under the gaze of the leader of the black-clothed men, she abruptly drew her shortsword from her waist and made three solid cuts on her wrist with force. "Consider this as Linyao's penitence. Linyao will remember that she owes the crown prince consort a favor."

"Princess!!" Xinlan and the others shouted in alarm after rushing over.

A faint smile hung on Princess Jing's lips as she looked at them calmly, just sitting there steadfastly by the waning candlelight.

Chapter 1879: Missed Encounter

The black-clothed men had probably not expected Princess Jing to be so decisive, so they were taken aback for a moment.

Princess Jing set down the blade in her hand and smiled at the intruders.

The leader of the black-clothed men eyed the three deep cuts on her arm that went to the bone. He gave a nod before gesturing for his subordinates to leave with a wave.

"Princess?"

"Princess!" Xinlan and the others quickly surrounded Princess Jing and frantically treated her wounds.

"Princess." The maidservants couldn't help but weep.

"Don't cry." Princess Jing said nonchalantly, "The world is like this. The strong prey on the weak!"

If she hadn't acknowledged her fault decisively today, then she might have gotten even more injured.

Even so, she would not resent anyone for this. She could only blame herself for being incompetent and not clever enough, allowing other people to see through her objective.

She was going to be even more careful in the future and work even harder to empower herself...

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Until no one was able to easily hurt her!

Before day broke the next morning, Yu Gui left the small town with her martial sisters.

The group hurried toward Mount Tai, planning to meet up with the other six people from the academy there.

Their Godsend Academy had dispatched twelve people this time, and they were originally going to set out together.

However, because Yu Gui and the other five had to meet up with Yang Xirong and company in Wanlu Town, they separated from the other six people earlier by making up some reasonable excuse.

Yu Gui and them had told Yang Xirong and company that the people in the academy treated them rather well, and that they were on harmonious terms with the other students.

But in reality, most of these were just words of comfort.

They did not have an easy time in the academy.

After all, Yu Gui and the others had very ordinary backgrounds. In this kind of academy filled with people representing different influences and forces, they were usually practically transparent existences.

This time, the other team that was entering the mountain was not on good terms with Yu Gui's group. They usually had some conflicts, but they were only minor.

That's why even though the teacher chaperoning the team was displeased when Yu Gui's group left the academy for Mount Tai first, he didn't comment.

The two teams originally didn't get along well, so it was instead troublesome if they were forced to be together. They might as well travel separately and meet up at Mount Tai, which would spare them any conflict along the way.

It was some time after Yu Gui's group left that the lobby of the tavern finally started bustling with activity.

Guests descended from the second floor intermittently, and they ate and sipped tea like usual. It was as if that loud ruckus in the middle of the night had happened in their dreams instead.

Miss Qiao slept all the way until it was almost noon. She rolled around on the bed before finally opening her drowsy eyes.

When she looked up, she immediately saw Crown Prince Mo's resigned expression.

Qiao Mu blinked her eyes and stuck out her two pudgy arms. Seeing this, the crown prince promptly picked her up.

"My Qiaoqiao really can sleep." The crown prince asked with a smile, "How long has it been since you had a good night's sleep?"

She had no idea why she had slept so soundly last night.

Qiao Mu looked at him suspiciously. "Did you use medicinal power on me?"

Mo Lian shook his head. "I didn't."

Then it was probably... because his return set her mind at ease.

After washing up, she peered at the crown prince and rubbed her petite belly. She said in a crisp voice, "I'm hungry."

The crown prince could not help but laugh, and he led her outside the door. "What do you want to eat?"

In contrast to Qiao Mu and Mo Lian's late arrival, Fairy, the Peony Immortal, Dao Wuji, Qi Xuanxuan, Duanmu Qing, and the rest had long gotten up. They finished eating breakfast and then listlessly waited for a long time...

Chapter 1880: It's Fine

After the tavern staff's cleanup operation through the night, the lobby looked considerably neater after last night's ruinous aftermath from battle.

Meanwhile, their party alone took up three to four tables in the most central area of the lobby.

When Qi Xuanxuan saw Qiao Mu coming down, she quickly waved at the latter with a smile. "Qiaoqiao!"

Qiao Mu let her gaze wander when she glimpsed the group all looking at her. She sat down beside Qi Xuanxuan with a poker face before yanking Mo Lian down to sit beside her.

Every time Qiaoqiao felt that she didn't take the best plan of action and stubbornly refused to admit it, she would purposefully put on a stoic face while letting her gaze wander.

Qi Xuanxuan chuckled in amusement and poured a cup of tea for her. "Drink some water first. We'll set out after eating lunch."

Qiao Mu nodded and took a gulp from the cup.

"Speaking of which, we didn't go sightseeing along the way because we were hard-pressed to hurry to Polan Prefecture." Ma Ta grumbled, "We definitely won't have time to play again once we enter Mount Tai."

"What do you mean by play." Zhou Danjin fumed, "You guys must remember that you bear the weight of the entire academy's glory. Be on the alert and don't stir up trouble outside!"

Who's stirring up trouble? The students frowned and took exception. *They had behaved themselves the whole time, but it was just that trouble came knocking on their door instead!*

Mentor Wei Xu looked solemnly at Miss Qiao. Everybody felt that this mentor's gaze was simply like how he would look at a troublemaker!

Miss Qiao drank tea calmly without commenting.

"Cough." Mentor Hu coughed to change the topic when he saw that the atmosphere was turning bad. "Xiao Qiao, we will soon be setting off for Mount Tai. Cough, then how about this young sir and his friends?"

"Hubby," Qiao Mu called crisply.

"Wifey!"

The two of them corrected the mentor's forms of address at the same time.

Mentor Hu twitched his mouth. "Cough, cough. Then how about your hubby's group. What will they be doing?"

"We'll go together." Crown Prince Mo's faint voice interrupted Mentor Hu's questioning.

"No way!" Mentor Wei Xu and Zhou Danjin rejected in unison with solemn expressions.

"Aiyah, this is the first time I've come to sightsee in Polan Prefecture," The Gingko Immortal giggled while covering her mouth.

"I heard that the weather and scenery in Mount Tai is rather pretty."

*Pretty my *ss!*

Mentor Wei Xu and the other mentors' eyes kept twitching as they did their best to hold themselves together.

Everyone, the zombies have already occupied that place, so what the hell was there to sightsee!

They were going there this time to participate in the academy ranking competition and advance from the preliminaries. They weren't going to sightsee!

Mentor Wei Xu's expression had sunk, and he stared at Qiao Mu. "What do you say."

"It's fine!" The little lady took a sip before looking up at the waiter that had come to set down the dishes.

Even though they were called dishes, the ingredients were paltry. It was just a plate of white mantou plus a bit of home-pickled salted veggies from who knows when...

Miss Qiao scrutinized that plate of salted veggies in distaste and silently took a mantou.

The veins bulged on Wei Xu's temples. "What 'It's fine?'"

*It's fine my *ss! Make yourself clear when they ask you a question. What the hell did you mean by it's fine!*

"Qiaoqiao means that everybody can go together." Qi Xuanxuan hastily grabbed a mantou and explained to the mentors when she saw that Mentor Wei Xu was about to erupt.

Wei Xu's face darkened. "No way!"

Yet Qiao Mu was expressionless. "Since it's not fine, why did you ask me?" *She said that it was fine, yet he objected. What was the use of asking her then?*