My Crown 2101

Chapter 2101: I Have Lost Everything

"Huanghe."

"Little Savior!" Fairy Huanghe stumbled over while holding Yunxue. She knelt down at once in front of Qiao Mu and stammered with quavering lips, "Little Savior, save Yunxue. Please save Yunxue."

"I heard Starlight Academy's Great Master Zhou say before that you have superb medical skills. You will definitely be able to save her, Little Savior. Little Savior, save her. Please save Yunxue."

"Huanghe, calm down. Let me examine her first." Qiao Mu quickly placated her with her hands when she saw the latter's nervous breakdown.

Fairy Huanghe clenched her fists tightly as she sat on her heels beside Qiao Mu.

Her soaked hair and her muddied clothes put her in a sorry state.

Qiao Mu did not know what had happened to Fairy Huanghe, but she gestured for the latter to lay Yunxue down on the floor.

She set her fingers on Yunxue's wrist. Afterwards, she slowly turned to Fairy Huanghe, who had a dazed expression.

"Apologies, but she is already dead."

Fairy Huanghe's tears dribbled down, her entire mind gone blank.

"Huanghe, Huanghe." Qiao Mu called her softly.

Fairy Huanghe suddenly hugged Yunxue's body that was slowing losing its warmth. She sobbed, "I'm so useless. So what if I'm a black-level pill alchemist! I fed her so many pills, but none of them worked! I can't even save Yunxue. I let Changfeng and Yunxue die for nothing!"

"I let them down, I let both of them down!"

"Huanghe."

"Little Savior. Do you know how it feels to have lost everything?" Huanghe murmured raspily, "I have lost everything right now."

Her sect? The sect would no longer tolerate her.

Her master was actually so heartless and barbaric to want to remold her into a monster!

She had escaped, but she had implicated her two most intimate maidservants.

She had truly lost everything!

Qiao Mu felt her heart squeeze, and she wrapped her arms around Fairy Huanghe's dirty shoulders. "I can tell you without a doubt that I have! Three years ago, I was once like you, feeling like I had lost

everything, but in reality, no matter how difficult or winding the journey may be, we can start over again as long as we don't give up on ourselves."

Fairy Huanghe lay on her shoulder and bawled like a lost child. Her tears and snot streamed down her face, and she cried her eyes out.

"I really can start over again?"

"You can."

"I really can?"

"You can!" Qiao Mu kept repeating these words with an affirmative yet gentle voice in Fairy Huanghe's ears.

"Little Savior, did you know? Master wasn't like that in the past! She really was very good!" Fairy Huanghe murmured, "Very, very, good. I don't know when she turned to become so scary, and so cold-blooded!"

"Could this still be my master?"

"I'm so tired, really so tired!"

"Little Savior, I feel like there is a fog blocking me from going forward."

Qiao Mu clutched Fairy Huanghe's chilly left wrist. "Huanghe, Huanghe."

After watching Huanghe slowly faint on her shoulder, Qiao Mu supported her and beckoned to the Peony Immortal and the Gingko Immortal. "Come help."

"What happened to this clown." The Peony Immortal and the Gingko Immortal flashed to her side and supported Fairy Huanghe.

"We don't know at the moment." Qiao Mu looked up at Mo Lian.

The latter nodded towards her. "I'll have Tung investigate."

Chapter 2102: Little Fourth Duan Is Out from Closed-Door Cultivation

5000 kilometers away, the Ultramarine Province.

A dazzling purple light shot up abruptly from the inner hall of the imperial ancestral temple, instantly lighting up the entirety of the Ultramarine Province.

Whether it be the nobility in the temple's hall, or the common people on the streets, they were all shocked by this soaring purple light.

Everybody swarmed onto the streets and talked excitedly while pointing at the sky.

"My heavens, what is that?"

"It looks like it came from the imperial ancestral temple."

"Me, me. I heard that half a month ago, His Highness the Chen Prince remained at the imperial ancestral temple, apparently to succeed the demon emperor's inheritance."

"No way, the demon emperor's inheritance of legend actually exists?"

"Then right now ... "

"His Highness, he has succeeded?"

Meanwhile, the two princes who were chatting with the crown prince in the Eastern Palace had also sensed the anomaly in the sky. The promptly jumped up from their chairs.

"Eldest Brother! Look at what's happening outside."

Rong Li coldly strode out the door with his two younger brothers.

That purple light had completely dyed the entire horizon in resplendent colors.

Suddenly, they heard the cry of a dragon. A true dragon gradually surfaced from the condensing purple air. It swished away the clouds with its tail as it darted about in the sky.

Rong Li felt his heart thud heavily, and a bad premonition surfaced in his mind.

"Dammit, Old Fourth succeeded in the inheritance?"

"Why did he have to succeed in obtaining the demon emperor's blood?"

"Our worst fears came true!" The second prince spoke angrily, "This brat has heaven-defying luck! How come everything good happens to him?"

Rong Li subconsciously clenched his fists. He relaxed his furrowed brows and suddenly remarked with a smile, "Looks like Fourth Brother has come out of closed-door cultivation! As his brothers, we naturally have to go congratulate him."

"Eldest Brother, how can you actually still laugh," the second prince chastised, expecting better from him. "Imperial Father is already viewing that brat highly enough. Now that he has succeeded the millenium-old inheritance, where do we brothers stand!"

"Sigh, as brothers, we naturally should be happy that Fourth Brother could obtain the demon emperor's blood."

The second prince couldn't help but laugh from anger. "How generous you are. Aren't you unconvinced losing to this brat?"

Rong Li smiled noncommittally, but his gaze turned cold as he turned to walk out the door.

"Hey, Third Brother. Didn't you say you would send people to investigate that drawing?" The second prince suddenly recalled this matter and asked with a smile, "Did you find any clues?"

"Hey, Second Brother. Don't you mention it. I actually did find out something."

Rong Li didn't say anything, but he slowed down, evidently listening in on what the third prince had to say.

"I started investigating from where he came from, the Sikong Planet. Guess what I found out." The third prince boasted triumphantly, "I had planned to tell you in due time, but since Fourth Brother has come out of closed-door cultivation in advance, I naturally have to let you know just in case."

The third prince did not say what he was referring to, but the other two understood.

Just in case Imperial Father really did place high importance on Old Fourth. After all, it really was difficult to say in the future.

The third prince said, "Do you know who that woman in the drawing is?"

Having a quick temper, the second prince swatted the third prince. "Alright, don't leave us hanging. Just say it."

"She is the future crown prince consort of the Divine Province."

1

What?! Rong Li was startled.

Chapter 2103: Up to Shenanigans

For real? The second prince was shocked by what the third prince said.

Seeing that his brothers were doubting his words, the third prince quickly filled them in.

"Old Fourth seems to be on pretty good terms with the crown prince of the Divine Province."

Rong Li mulled over this information before saying, "I have heard of the crown prince of the Divine Province. It is said that he grew up elsewhere. Could he also be returning to the Divine Province soon?"

"This I do not know."

Rong Li couldn't help but laugh coldly, and his face turned frosty when he turned around. It looked like this Fourth Brother of his truly wasn't simple.

The second prince halted before saying, "Hey, how about we bring along that painting and go see Imperial Father?"

Rong Li's eyes glinted, and he revealed an awkward expression without batting an eyelid. "Wouldn't that not be too good?"

"Hey, we aren't going in order to make this difficult for him! Are we not doing this for his benefit? Perhaps Imperial Father will merrily decide on our good fourth brother's behalf. So what if she is the future crown prince consort of the Divine Province? She isn't yet at the moment!"

1

Rong Li's eyes flashed.

In reality, he had long wanted to expose this matter to Imperial Father, but he was lacking the right opportunity.

Since the third prince was happy to spearhead it, he naturally would not dissuade against it. In fact, he had to properly thank him for this magnanimous act.

Hurry up and go!

If Imperial Father knew he had such a cowardly son, he would definitely be "extremely happy!"

Meanwhile, Duan Yue got taken aback by the carriages welcoming him just as he stepped out of the imperial ancestral temple.

The subjects who had come to worship the demon emperor's bloodline couldn't help but fall in a trance as they looked at that handsome figure standing at the entrance to the imperial ancestral temple.

They couldn't pinpoint what had changed about him, but they felt that he was vastly different from the Chen Prince of half a month ago.

His aura had changed.

Or was it that the sharp glint concealed in the depths of his eyes had changed?

His Highness right now looked especially reserved, like a sheathed treasured sword that could give one a fatal strike at any moment.

"This old official Wu Yong greets Your Highness the Chen Prince."

"There is no need for the formalities," Duan Yue responded coldly.

Wu Yong, the Minister of the Left, looked up, but he immediately hung his head again, afraid to look straight at those beautiful eyes glowing a faint purple.

Those eyes were as chilly as icy snow. The faint purple glow was also terrifying, almost like it was going to suck him inside!

The Minister of the Left had seen his fair share of bigwigs, but he blanked out with a shudder after glancing at Duan Yue.

A tall young man walked out next to him and said with a chuckle, "We officials have come on the emperor's orders to welcome Your Highness the Chen Prince out of closed-door cultivation! Will Your Highness please board the carriage for us to escort you back to the palace."

"Uh, Your Highness, your forehead?"

At this moment, a faint purple seal that looked like three flower petals appeared for an instant before vanishing from Duan Yue's pristine forehead.

Wu Yong nearly got scared to death by this young man. He glared at him and quickly pulled the latter behind him. He cupped his hands toward Duan Yue and said, "After you, Your Highness."

Duan Yue nodded apathetically and turned to board the carriage.

An attendant lowered the layers of sheer curtains for him, and the carriage started moving. Duan Yue propped his forehead with his hand in fatigue.

"Wu." A small fox suddenly burrowed its way out from his clothes.

Chapter 2104: Pay Up

"Wu." The little fox clambered at his clothes.

Duan Yue's lips could not help but reveal a faint smile.

That instant, the iciness pervading his eyes dissipated.

"Sigh." He sighed as he picked up the little fox and set it on his shoulder. He patted it and said, "Chestnut, if Qiaoqiao saw how cute you look right now, she definitely won't like you anymore."

Chestnut ruffled his clothes and pointed at the sky and at the ground with its paw in protest.

"Tsk, isn't it just advancing to eight tails? Yet you can't transform anymore and even lost the ability to speak."

"Wu, wu!!" The little fox was totally pissed. *This unreliable master was actually disdaining him? So infuriating*!

So it was his fault?

If this master of his didn't just suddenly start absorbing this whatever demon emperor's bloodline out of nowhere, would he have advanced to become an eight-tailed heavenly fox?

"Chestnut, thank you for being here with me." Duan Yue said softly while stroking the little fox's glossy fur.

The little fox snuggled against his neck, but then it suddenly smacked his head and whimpered at him again while pointing up at the sky.

"Speak human language." Duan Yue calmly pulled away its claw and gave it a look of distaste.

The little fox: ...

Wait until I finish advancing into an eight-tailed heavenly fox. I will definitely blab in your ears every day, bothering you so much that you can't sleep!

1

Fairy Huanghe had a restless sleep.

It wasn't until noon the next day that she woke up with a start. She rolled off the bed and landed on her feet.

"Yo, you're awake now. Hurry up and wash up, and then come down to eat lunch."

A female voice that drifted in from the window startled her.

After washing and dressing, Huanghe headed down. She quickly hurried over upon seeing the people in the inn's lobby.

Huanghe bowed toward Qiao Mu and the others in embarrassment. "I, I've made a spectacle yesterday."

"Alright, sit down and eat." Qiao Mu pointed next to her, gesturing for Fairy Huanghe to sit down.

After sitting down uneasily, Fairy Huanghe started explaining, "Little Savior, I..."

However, Qiao Mu broke her off.

"We already know your situation."

The Shuntian Prefecture was big, but even if their people couldn't infiltrate the official mansion, right now they had Dunzhu, an informer of the highest rank.

With enough purpose, there wasn't anything they couldn't uncover.

Qiao Mu did not expect Passionless Palace's palace master to be part of Heavenly Fate.

At the beginning, she only suspected Shuntian Prefecture's Prefecture Lord Geng Pengcheng of colluding with Heavenly Fate. She didn't expect that his wife too was connected to this heretical Heavenly Fate organization.

Sure enough, birds of a feather flock together.

Fairy Huanghe looked at Qiao Mu gratefully. "Thank you so much for yesterday."

"I didn't help much." Qiao Mu served her a bowl of rice. "Do you have any plans for the future?"

Fairy Huanghe shook her head cluelessly.

"Let me offer you a suggestion." Miss Qiao deadpanned, "You can pay two years' worth of boarding fees and come along with us for now."

Everyone: !

•••

"Cough. Cough, cough, cough." Dao Wuji choked on a mouthful of soup.

Qiao Mu swept him a glance and turned to ask Mo Lian, "Hubby, did you collect fees?"

A certain crown prince who spoiled Qiaoqiao into having this habit of collecting fees silently twitched his mouth. He shook his head. "No, I didn't."

Qiao Mu gave him a look of disapproval that lamented at his huge loss. She turned to say to the Little Despot and Dao Wuji, "Pay up then."

Chapter 2105: I Won't Double-Cross You in the Future

Everybody couldn't help but look at her in both amusement and exasperation.

Dear, did your conscience not hurt saying this?

Qiao Mu deadpanned, "My Ao'ye and Shaoyao also paid their fees when they first followed me."

In other words, what cheek did you people have not to pay a fee?

Everyone: ...

Feng Chen chuckled and bobbed his head while suggesting wickedly, "Right, right. They should pay up! Look at you lot, you're so much older than Qiaoqiao, yet you're still mooching off her every day! They should pay you! Let's say they should pay eight to ten years' worth at once!"

1

"Aiyah, Little Sis Xiao Qiao, you gave me such effective beautifying cream. It is most natural to be paying you!"

The Gingko Immortal smiled while covering her mouth. With a flick of her sleeve, a small pile of peculiar treasures appeared on the table. "Little Sis Xiao Qiao, please accept this kindly."

Qiao Mu expressionlessly collected that pile of items into her own inner world and then looked at Dao Wuji, the Little Despot, and the others.

After everybody silently made their payments, they glanced at Feng Chen, who was sitting on the side and watching the show.

"How come he doesn't need to pay??" Dao Wuji couldn't help but ask indignantly.

"Isn't that obvious? Am I the same as you guys? Qiaoqiao had personally summoned me over! I am hers, and she is mine. With our relationship, do I still need to pay?" *Don't be kidding him! There was a difference between close and distant relations, understand?*

Mo Lian cast him a sidelong look and then harrumphed noncommittally.

"Besides, I don't eat much," Feng Chen asserted.

Ha ha! Everybody sent him a sharp look.

So who was it that needed to be fed well three meals every day! Yet he still said that he didn't eat much? Simply shameless!

1

Fairy Huanghe took out a sack of spirit currency from her pocket. "Here, two, two years of boarding fees."

Everyone: ...

Meanwhile, Qiao Mu nodded and accepted everything that they gave her. She then patted Huanghe's shoulder.

"Don't worry, you definitely won't lose out following me." She paused, seemingly recalling something. She turned to say to Fairy Huanghe, "You are one of us now. There's something that I won't hide from you anymore."

Even though everybody didn't comprehend the situation, they still twitched their mouths. They felt that Miss Qiao's following words were definitely going to be rather zany...

Sure enough, Qiao Mu glanced at Xiao Huanghe and said, "Actually, last time in the Lava Mountain Range."

"The reason you guys got besieged by several thousand mystic beasts."

"Is because I scattered some medicinal powder that attracts mystic beasts to lure them over."

"You guys got unlucky and just so happened to be walking over. That's why you guys got implicated."

"That time, the entrance exam for our Apex Academy was to hunt a batch of beasts, but it was rather troublesome to track them down."

"So I thought of this method."

Everyone: ...

Mo Lian silently twitched his mouth and couldn't resist facepalming.

The little fellow continued deadpanning, "Rescuing you later was also unintentional. I am not as selfless as you have you been imagining."

"As teammates, you are now one of us. That's why I must tell you this. Don't worry, I won't be doublecrossing you in the future."

Everyone: ...

"Pfft!" The Gingko Immortal cracked up in laughter. "I-I can't anymore, quickly help me up."

Fairy Huanghe stared at her in stupefaction for a while before stammering in reply, "I-I got it."

Afterwards, she exclaimed gratefully, "Little Savior, you really are a good person. You clearly didn't have to tell me this, but you still did."

Chapter 2106: Seizing People

"Don't worry, we'll let bygones be bygones and start with a clean slate. I, Huanghe, acknowledge you as a friend!"

Qiao Mu: ...

She got labeled "a good person" out of the blue! Qiao Mu felt unworthy of this praise. She patted Huanghe's shoulder and said, "Mhm. Call me by my name in the future."

Don't keep calling her "Savior." It made her teeth ache hearing it!

"Okay." Huanghe nodded.

"I have already dispatched someone to tidy up that girl's remains. Find a time to cremate her."

Huanghe nodded, subconsciously clenching her fist. "Okay."

"Come with me after we finish eating."

"Make way. Make way, make way, make way!" A ruckus suddenly came from outside the inn's entrance.

Qiao Mu and company turned towards the source of the voice.

They saw the people at the door part to the side to make way for a spacious path.

A pair of black boots embroidered with gold thread appeared in everyone's sight.

A tall and handsome man with flowing hair who was wearing deep purple robes was walking over. He had upturned eyes that were bewitching and seductive.

Uh, it was truly difficult to explain why a man would give off the feeling of being seductive.

"Ah! Qiaoqiao." When that person walked in, his eyes shone as if he had discovered outer space. He instantly zeroed in on Qiao Mu.

Mo Lian set down his chopsticks and looked at that person with nonchalance. He scoffed, "So it is Young Sir Ding."

Ding Yun pointed at him. "You? You! How come you are also here?"

Mo Lian held Qiaoqiao's petite hand and cast him a cold look. "Naturally to eat with my wife."

Dao Wuji felt for some reason that this bewitching young sir was probably feeling crushed...

Because the other party's expression instantly became unsightly.

"Make way, make way. Everyone make way. Scram! Don't block the door!"

"What are you shouting for!" Young Sir Ding turned around and flicked his sleeve in chagrin. Several burly men who were charging in nefariously instantly got swept out by a powerful force.

Crash, crash, crash. They all yowled miserably from their injuries.

"Surround them!" A large group of guards rushed inside at their leader's order, forming a tight encirclement in the inn's lobby.

"One can't even eat in peace." Feng Chen looked at the intruders in exasperation.

"We are carrying out the prefecture lord madam's orders to bring Fairy Huanghe back to the official mansion!" The head of the guards announced and shouted, "Seize her!"

Young Sir Ding had sauntered over to Qiao Mu's group by this time. He asked with a giggle, "Qiaoqiao, do you need help."

"Why are you here?" This was what Qiao Mu had wanted to ask. She had nearly forgotten after getting interrupted by that group of guards.

"Me? Ah! I have come to settle accounts." Young Sir Ding said with a smile, "It's hard to do business these days, so slackening supervision is a no-no."

"Oh." The little stoic replied and then got up to tell everyone, "Let's go if you've finished eating."

The common people, who got spooked into being as silent as cicadas in winter, as well as the innkeeper who was hiding beneath the counter and only poking out his head, all looked in stupefaction at this young lady who suddenly stood up.

Did this young lady not see the people who barged in?

Yet she was just so lightly telling her companions to leave? How oblivious must she be!?

The head of the guards had also turned green in the face. He looked at Huanghe, who was seated at the table.

Chapter 2107: Losing All Dignity

The head of the guards was incensed when he just saw Fairy Huanghe sitting there without moving. He berated, "What are you all waiting for? Seize her! If you meet resistance, kill on the spot!"

Qiao Mu sneered. "What big attitude! Such airs."

"Let me give you a word of advice. If you don't want to die, hurry up and skedaddle." The Gingko Immortal also stood up while swaying her slender waist. She gave the head of the guards a flirtatious wink.

The head of the guards was entranced, but he quickly regained his senses. His face flushed bright red as he shouted in embarrassment, "Quickly surround them! Huanghe, I advise you not to put up a fight and make things difficult..."

Just after he said this, he saw an ink-colored figure flash before him.

"Where is all this nonsense coming from?" Mo Lian struck the other party's chest with his palm. This promptly sent the head of the guards flying horizontally out the entrance.

The head of the guards was not able to get up. He raised his head and started coughing up blood.

Mo Lian stood apathetically at the entrance to the inn. With a sweep of his sleeve, the row of guards also flew out and landed on top of each other with oomphs and aahs in a human pyramid.

After cleaning up the eyesores before him, Crown Prince Mo turned around and flashed back to his wifey's side.

He naturally grasped her petite hand and said with a chuckle, "Let's go, Qiaoqiao. Let's not bother ourselves with those people of no concern."

Qiao Mu nodded her petite head and walked with him back to their room on the second floor.

Fairy Huanghe hung her head spiritlessly. "I've already fled here, yet she still isn't willing to let me off."

When Qiao Mu heard this, she raised her hand high and swatted the back of Fairy Huanghe's head. "There's always me no matter what happens! What are you afraid of?"

Fairy Huanghe was startled, but she then gave Qiao Mu a smile.

"Isn't that right? We'll cross that bridge when we get there. If worse comes to worst, we'll just kill them and end it," The Gingko Immortal giggled.

If not for the viciousness that she emitted from her eyes, everyone in the lobby would have only thought that she was joking.

After everyone entered their private rooms, they sat down in a circle.

Qiao Mu extracted a soul wisp from a storage talisman and glanced back at the Little Despot. "Make it rain boulders in this dirt prison!"

The Little Despot raised an eyebrow. "You sure? This guy is only a spiritual conscious apparition. His soul will certainly dissipate with this boulder rain."

"No, don't, don't. Don't!!" Shuntian Prefecture's Prefecture Lord Geng Pengcheng shook all over in fear. He knelt inside the dirt prison and kowtowed nonstop towards Qiao Mu.

He did not need any dignity right now. He only wanted his life!

Unfortunately, Qiao Mu did not pity him one bit. She eyed the Little Despot and hit the dirt prison. "Then allow me."

Geng Pengcheng still did not comprehend what Qiao Mu meant when the next second, it seemed as if a sharp, tangible object had pierced through his spiritual conscious apparition. A transparent hole appeared in his body, and he started screeching while grabbing his head.

Qiao Mu silently retracted her spiritual conscious and sneered at him. "You're still not fessing up?"

"I, I will. I confess. What do you want to know, Crown Prince Consort. This humble one will definitely tell you everything I know without reservation."

Qiao Mu stared at him apathetically. "Tell me, whose orders exactly are you carrying out? Why are you targeting me, refusing to let me off?"

Chapter 2108: Incomplete Untruths

"Me, it is all my fault! It's me, I'm the one targeting the crown prince consort! I was the one who dispatched assassins multiple times to attack the crown prince consort. AH..." Geng Pengcheng's spiritual conscious apparition once again screeched miserably.

Qiao Mu gazed at him expressionlessly. "You had better tell the truth at this point! Who exactly are you slaving away for!? Say it."

She wasn't going to believe this person's incomplete untruths.

If talking about their relation to each other, she had never seen this prefecture lord of the Shuntian Prefecture before in both her lifetimes!

She was certain that a person could not harbor resentment for no reason.

Mo Lian also coldly uttered word for word, "Find this little lass in the Lower Star Domain. You must make sure that nothing goes right for her and that she lives like trash. That she struggles on whilst at death's door, never catching sight of hope nor the end!"

"You cannot let her have the chance to head to the Divine Province!"

"Once she shows any signs of burgeoning talent, you don't need to wait for her to grow up wretchedly, just obliterate her!"

These sentences came from the memory fragments he extracted from Liu Yizhi's soul. Even until now, he still could vividly remember every word.

His voice was low and pleasing to the ears as he recited these words for Geng Pengcheng, but even the obtuse Dao Wuji could make out the callousness in his voice.

Qiao Mu suddenly smiled and gave a nod. She condensed her spiritual conscious into a sword and pierced it through Geng Pengcheng's shoulder. "I had always been particularly curious. How did I offend you!? To make you punish me like this!"

"You want me to suffer and struggle on whilst at death's door. Is this the perfect life you people have laid out for me?"

"Yet who knew that I would climb out of hell, no longer advancing along the path you had set for me. My life was now like a wild horse that had lost its reins, completely out of your control!"

"Therefore, you no longer had the patience to watch me grovel. You were anxious to eliminate me, no?"

"Cough, cough. Cough." Geng Pengcheng's spiritual conscious apparition had completely wilted, and he lay limply inside inside the dirt prison.

His eyes lost focus as he muttered, "Don't, don't kill me. Don't kill me!"

"You are part of Heavenly Fate, right." Qiao Mu spoke coldly, "Fan Qiuhe and Fan Gu are your subordinates?"

Geng Pengcheng shook his head dazedly.

"You still want to lie at this point?" Mo Lian couldn't resist chiding, "You really won't accept the outcome until you see it for yourself! In that case, I'll roast your spiritual conscious apparition for 49 days and act as a tonic for my purple divine flame."

Geng Pengcheng's pupils contracted, and his mind was now fully awake. He shouted while struggling, "Spare my life, Your Highness the Crown Prince. Spare my life, Your Highness! I was muddle-headed to target the crown prince consort, but before this, I simply wasn't aware of the crown prince consort's true identity at all! That was why..."

"Shut up!" Mo Lian berated.

Didn't know her identity? This could deceive kids, but forget about them.

He and Qiaoqiao's marriage, from betrothal to the ceremony, had all been carried out in the eyes of the public.

If Shuntian Prefecture's prefecture lord was intent on watching Qiaoqiao, how would he not know these small details.

He probably feared Qiaoqiao's growth, so he did everything on purpose!

A cluster of burning purple flames suddenly landed on Prefecture Lord Geng's spiritual conscious apparition. The scorching flames covered his body icily, and the sensation of ice meeting fire engulfed him.

That sensation of getting burned was truly too unbearable.

Chapter 2109: The Soul Search Failed?

Prefecture Lord Geng screamed from being enveloped in purple flames. He rolled back and forth inside the small dirt prison.

Qiao Mu watched him apathetically while contemplating: *Who exactly would Geng Pengcheng continue covering up after being subject to such pain?*

She simply did not believe that Geng Pengcheng had targeted her in both lifetimes for his own reasons.

How could there be love and hate without cause or reason in this world?

The person concealed behind him was too mysterious.

Perhaps...

"How about searching his soul?" Qiao Mu turned to look at Mo Lian and Feng Chen. "Can you still perform a soul search with his spiritual conscious apparition in this state?"

Feng Chen nodded. "It is possible, but he won't survive long after this soul search."

Before Qiao Mu could respond, the small figure cowering in a corner of the dirt prison quickly scrambled up and shouted, "Don-Don't search my soul! Y-You won't be able to search anything from it!"

"Do you want to search?" No one listened to Geng Pengcheng's wishes. Feng Chen turned back to look at Qiao Mu, indicating for her to make the decision.

Qiao Mu nodded decisively. "Do it!"

She wanted to see who exactly it was that insisted on becoming her enemy in both her lifetimes.

Feng Chen stretched out his hand, and that dirt prison got sucked into his palm.

Geng Pengcheng's spiritual conscious apparition shook from fear. He rushed to kowtow to Feng Chen, "Don't kill me, really, don't kill me! I've already confessed everything, so let me off!"

As a horrifying force cut straight for the depths of his soul, Geng Pengcheng's spiritual conscious apparition gradually turned transparent. He also tottered like a flower swaying in a rainstorm, looking rather pitiful.

Suddenly, Geng Pengcheng's spiritual conscious apparition let out a deafening scream. Feng Chen shook, even taking several steps back.

Mo Lian reached out to support him. He also swung his sleeve, and several purple flames sprung out to surround the fleeing Geng Pengcheng.

Just earlier, the collision of opposing forces caused the bars on the dirt prison to disappear.

This crafty fellow nearly escaped.

Feng Chen shook his head and glared at Geng Pengcheng. "There are at least nine restrictions inside this person's conscious pool. We can't search his soul at the moment."

Nine restrictions? Guarding against what?

Qiao Mu squinted her eyes.

The more it was like this, the more interested she was in the things this person's mind was hiding.

This prefecture lord of the Shuntian Prefecture really had gone to great lengths.

Since this was the case, Qiao Mu was unwilling to say anything to him anymore. She directly grabbed the person that was burning in the purple flames.

"Since you are so unafraid of dying, then suffer the punishment of getting burned alive for 49 days." After declaring this, she refused to look at Geng Pengcheng any longer and stuffed him back into the storage talisman.

Feng Chen chuckled. "I'm guessing that he won't make it past tonight."

At the same time.

High up on the platform where the imperial throne was located, the Ultramarine Province Emperor was staring gloomily at the painting the third prince had presented.

"You've investigated thoroughly?"

"This indeed is the case. This person Fourth Brother fancies should be the future wife of the Divine Province's crown prince."

The Ultramarine Province Emperor's felt his temples throbbing.

It was fine that this fourth son of his had returned and wasn't intimate with him, but exactly what disaster was this?

Chapter 2110: Embellishing Details

The third prince retold the story behind the painting Duan Yue had hid beneath the study table, but while embellishing details.

Afterwards, he said, "This son had only inadvertently discovered this painting. This young lady truly has limpid eyes and beautiful features. Her pristine aura is extraordinary. This son's counterfeit painting probably cannot even recreate a third of her charm. No wonder Fourth Brother fancies this beauty."

"However, Fourth Brother is truly too ruthless. He had put poison in the original painting, causing one of Eldest Brother's personal attendants to get implicated and thus die from poison."

The third prince rambled on and on.

Meanwhile, the crown prince, Rong Li, merely stood in front of the Ultramarine Province Emperor without saying anything.

The second prince was all smiles. He would occasionally glance up meaningfully at the third prince.

When describing this third brother of theirs positively, he was honest and frank, forthright and sincere. When describing him negatively, it would be brainless, prone to anger, rash...

Tsk, tsk, Imperial Father's complexion really looked ugly.

"Alright!" The Ultramarine Province Emperor shouted and beckoned to the attendant on his left. "Go summon Old Fourth."

The third prince clammed up upon seeing the emperor flare up.

The Ultramarine Province Emperor turned to look at the crown prince who had been keeping quiet. He suddenly asked, "What does the crown prince think."

The crown prince, Rong Li, stepped up and bowed respectfully. "Imperial Father, this son deems Fourth Brother's actions as truly somewhat muddle-headed. Just as Third Brother says, Fourth Brother secretly hiding the portrait of the Divine Province's future crown prince consort... is not beneficial to the Ultramarine Province and the Divine Province's peaceful relationship."

"The present situation in the world has become unpredictable, and the barbarian tribes are eyeing us covetously. Even though we signed a peace alliance with the Nether Province a hundred years ago, the affairs of the world have changed much since then. How do we know if the Nether Province will be as reliable as in the past?"

"Even though the Three Provinces coexist, it is common knowledge that the Divine Province is most powerful. Even after experiencing that political upheavel many years ago, the Divine Province is still standing at the peak of the world."

"This son implores Imperial Father to issue an edict to choose a consort for Fourth Brother."

"This son believes that this is only a result of Fourth Brother's immature youth. When he settles down, he will definitely be a pillar of our Ultramarine Province's well-being."

The Ultramarine Province Emperor glanced at Rong Li meaningfully. He nodded and turned to look at the second prince. "Old Second, what do you think?"

"This son agrees with what the crown prince has said."

Rong Li lowered his eyes, sneering on the inside.

This second brother of his had a temperament that completely differed from their third brother. However, he also looked down on this person's cowardly stance with no views of his own.

At least Third Brother had a bit of courage and uprightness in him. As for this Second Brother, he had nothing to say.

"Reporting to Your Majesty, the fourth prince has arrived."

"You all go back first. Let Old Fourth come in." The Ultramarine Province Emperor waved them out.

"This son will excuse himself now." Rong Li and them bowed and then turned to walk out of the main hall.

The trio saw their fourth brother walking inside when they got to the main entrance with the open red lacquered doors.

His peerless countenance was complemented by pearl white clothes and a quiet air.

His long hair fell freely to his waist, making him look indolent, but his sharp gaze jolted Rong Li to the core.

How was this gaze so piercing?

"Greetings to Imperial Father." Just as the trio exited the main hall and the four doors shut, they heard their fourth brother announce this with a crisp voice.