

Physicist 81

Chapter 81: She's Taken (2)

The sudden invasion had nothing to do with the Duke's Estate, nor did it have anything to do with Xue Batian or Xue Fanxin.

The three days were up. Xue Fanxin followed the agreement and came to give Gu Jinyuan a checkup. When she reached the main street outside the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company, Gu Jinyuan and Steward Mo had already come out to greet her.

"Miss Xue, you're here!" Steward Mo's attitude towards Xue Fanxin was clearly much better than last time. He was basically fawning on her, smiling and bowing repeatedly.

Gu Jinyuan also had a smile adorning his face. His pallor was much better than it had been three days ago, and he looked much more energetic. Clearly, the medicine Xue Fanxin had given him had taken effect.

"Miss Xue is indeed on time."

"Since I said I would come in three days, I will definitely come. Furthermore, you have helped the Duke's Estate so much, so I have all the more reason to come. Seeing Young Master Gu's expression today, I believe your injuries have improved." Xue Fanxin was grateful for Gu Jinyuan's help these few days. If not for the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company, the Xue family army's problem would not have been resolved so quickly.

"Let's talk inside." Gu Jinyuan led the way and generously brought Xue Fanxin into the inner hall of the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company. This place typically served only special guests. Even the Nanling Emperor did not have the right to enter here.

It could be seen that Xue Fanxin's status in the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company was extremely high.

Xue Fanxin was not surprised by this treatment, though. After all, she had superb medical skills.

The moment she entered the inner hall and sat down, a maidservant immediately served her the best tea and snacks.

Gu Jinyuan, on the other hand, was sitting on the main seat. He smiled elegantly and said, "Let me tell you something. The Dongxiang Empire is mobilizing 500,000 troops and is about to attack the Nanling Empire's border."

"I assume the Nanling Emperor is furious?" Xue Fanxin had not expected the war to break out in the Nanling Empire so quickly. Fortunately, she had dissolved the Xue family army in advance, or else, the Nanling Emperor would definitely have sent the Xue family army to be the vanguard to die.

If the Nanling Emperor had treated the Xue family army well, it would be understandable for the Xue family army to serve him. After all, protecting the country was a soldier's duty. However, the Nanling Emperor could not tolerate their presence, always worried that they would undermine his imperial authority.

This kind of emperor was not worth serving.

“He’s not just furious. He wants to take back the imperial edict that was issued. The Duke is famous as a Divine General in the Nanling Empire. With him around, the other countries are more or less afraid of him and don’t dare to act recklessly. But once the news that the Duke was assassinated and almost lost his life and became a cripple was spread, the other countries started to become restless. The Nanling Emperor doesn’t know how to use his men and think about the picture. This war has been started by him.”

“The Nanling Emperor is digging his own grave. He’s not worth pitying at all. It’s just that the commoners in the Nanling Empire will have to suffer. My personal ability is limited, and I’m not a saint, so I can’t care too much.” Although Xue Fanxin pitied the commoners who were about to go through the flames of war, she was helpless.

She could not even help herself now; how could she care about others?

Gu Jinyuan smiled. “How do you want the Nanling Empire to develop in the future?”

“What do you mean?” Xue Fanxin asked.

“If you want to quickly end this war and save the people of the Nanling Empire from the pains of war, I can help you do it. If you want the Nanling Empire to perish, I can do that too. Even if you want the Nanling Emperor’s life, I can help you claim it at any time.”

As long as it was what Xue Fanxin wanted, he would fulfill her wishes. It was for no other reason than to make her smile.

“There’s no need to go through so much trouble. Let the Nanling Emperor do it himself. If he can protect this empire, then so be it. If he can’t, then he can be a ruler who has lost his country. Anyway, I don’t care. Alright, don’t worry about others. Let me see how you’re doing first.” Xue Fanxin didn’t want to talk about things that had nothing to do with her. She started to treat Gu Jinyuan again.

Gu Jinyuan was very cooperative.. He reached out to let Xue Fanxin feel his pulse and looked at her quietly, an inexplicable joy surging into his heart.

Chapter 82: She’s Taken (3)

Xue Fanxin took Gu Jinyuan’s pulse and diagnosed his physical condition. “The previous treatment has been effective. I’ll give you another acupuncture session today and write a new prescription. Take it for a month. If nothing unexpected happens, your injuries will recover fully. As long as you nurse yourself well during the later stage, your body will recover in less than three months. However, these will all be very valuable spirit herbs. You have to be mentally prepared.”

“It’s okay. I can get it no matter how valuable the spirit medicine is.” Gu Jinyuan already had an idea that Xue Fanxin had the ability to treat his injuries after eating her prescribed medicine.

Even the divine physician of the Tongxuan Continent could not treat his injuries, but a little girl could. It could be seen how powerful her medical skills were.

“Then I’ll start performing acupuncture. The session this time is more complicated and will hurt a little. Bear with it.” Xue Fanxin took out her silver needles and used the Yang Acupuncture Technique in the Yin Yang Nine Needles Art again. It was much more profound than the previous needle technique, and every needle contained a strange power that acted on Gu Jinyuan’s old injuries.

To improve the effects of the acupuncture technique, Xue Fanxin did not hesitate to use the Reverse Spirit Art to insert the needle. However, she only used it in small bursts, afraid that she would exhaust herself and collapse.

Gu Jinyuan watched Xue Fanxin administering treatment for him. Although he was happy, his heart ached too, because he could tell that Xue Fanxin had exhausted a lot of energy and was using her full strength.

Using the Yin Yang Nine Needles Art indeed consumed a lot of energy. If she used the Reverse Spirit Art, the energy consumption would be even greater. Xue Fanxin’s cultivation level was not high, and her spirit energy was extremely limited. Under such circumstances, she really should not use the Reverse Spirit Art.

However, to completely treat the old injuries, she had to use the Reverse Spirit Art. Otherwise, the later treatment would be even more troublesome.

Oh no, she didn’t have enough spirit energy.

Gu Jinyuan knew that Xue Fanxin’s spirit energy was about to be exhausted. He did not want her to trouble herself for his sake, so he took the initiative to advise her, “Miss Xue, you don’t have to do this. My injuries have already reached a stage where I can control them. You can take your time and put away the needles now.”

“Shut up.” Xue Fanxin was doing her best to treat him. She did not want to fail because of Gu Jinyuan, so she scolded him and continued to insert the needles.

She would not have time to come and treat Gu Jinyuan every day in the future, so she could only work harder and settle things once and for all.

However, doing this consumed a lot of her energy. She was on the last step, but her spirit energy had been exhausted. She could no longer insert needles.

This was going to be troublesome.

Just as Xue Fanxin was helpless, a warm force suddenly came from her back. The depleted spiritual energy in her body gradually filled up, causing her to quickly recover to her best state.

Xue Fanxin was puzzled. She turned around and saw Ye Jiushang. She was shocked. “You?”

Why had this guy appeared here?

“Do your thing properly and don’t be distracted.” Ye Jiushang injected spirit energy into Xue Fanxin and helped her finish her task. Although he was a little displeased, he still forced himself to do so.

He had actually helped a person that had nothing to do with him. He was even someone who was eyeing his future consort. How depressing.

But he had no choice. After all, his future consort had to save this person.

This was also good. He might as well let Gu Jinyuan owe him a favor.. That way, he would not have the face to snatch his woman from him.

Chapter 83: She's Taken (4)

Gu Jinyuan was also shocked by Ye Jiushang's appearance. He did not know much about this mysterious Ninth Imperial Uncle, who always came and went without a trace. He went on full alert.

One had to be wary of a person who could treat the inner hall of the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company as his backyard. If Ye Jiushang had not revealed himself, he would not have noticed him at all. It was obvious that his strength was way above his.

If the Nanling Empire had such a powerful Ninth Imperial Uncle, it would have long become a magnificent country in the Tongxuan Continent. But it was the lowest-ranking country on the continent. It could be destroyed by the surrounding great countries at any time.

Unless this Ninth Imperial Uncle did not care about the survival of the Nanling Empire at all.

Based on what he knew, Ye Jiushang was not really a part of the Nanling royal family. However, when the Grand Imperial Sire of the Nanling Empire brought him back, he announced his identity to the public and became the Prince. Hence, Ye Jiushang became the Ninth Prince and Ninth Imperial Uncle of the Nanling Empire.

As for Ye Jiushang's true identity, not to mention the Nanling Imperial Family, even the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company had no idea.

In short, this person was mysterious.

With Ye Jiushang's help, Xue Fanxin's acupuncture work became much easier. After fifteen minutes, she completed her task and put away the needles. Then, she turned back to look at Ye Jiushang and said tiredly, "Thank you!"

"You are my future consort. Helping you is what I should do. There's no need to thank me." Ye Jiushang deliberately announced Xue Fanxin's identity in front of Gu Jinyuan, letting him know that she was the woman he had his eyes on.

Xue Fanxin could no longer be bothered with Ye Jiushang, so she did not offer a retort.

Her lack of response made Gu Jinyuan assume that she had tacitly agreed. He felt a little lonely, but he still tried his best to hide the sadness in his heart. With a smile, he said, "Thank you for saving me. I can't thank you enough."

"There's no need to thank her. I'll return the favor that my future consort owes you. As for the Xue family army, I'll also thank you on her behalf." Ye Jiushang's tone was domineering, his words emphasizing that Xue Fanxin was his future consort. He wanted to declare his sovereignty first.

As Gu Jinyuan listened to Ye Jiushang mention his future consort left and his future consort right, he felt even more depressed. However, he still forced a smile and said, "About the Xue family army, it was originally a deal between Miss Xue and me. It was a win-win, so there's no need to thank us. However, I don't understand why Miss Xue is your future consort."

"If I say she is, she is."

"This..." Gu Jinyuan looked at Xue Fanxin, hoping to hear her deny it. However, after waiting for a long time, Xue Fanxin did not explain at all.

Even if Xue Fanxin wanted to explain, Ye Jiushang would not give her a chance to. Furthermore, she had long been used to him calling her his future consort. Therefore, she was numb and could not be bothered to open her mouth.

Ye Jiushang saw through Gu Jinyuan's thoughts and said straightforwardly, "She's already taken."

In other words, Xue Fanxin had a man. He'd best not have any designs on her.

Gu Jinyuan was a smart person and naturally understood what Ye Jiushang meant. He suppressed the sadness in his heart.

His heart had just been moved. Was it going to be killed immediately?

"Alright, according to the prescription, take these new medicines for a month and then rest for a period of time. Your injuries will recover soon." Xue Fanxin wrote the medicine and handed the paper to Gu Jinyuan. In her opinion, there was only trade and cooperation between her and Gu Jinyuan, no other feelings. After finishing her task, she left.

This made Gu Jinyuan even more depressed.

If Ye Jiushang had not suddenly appeared, he would have definitely invited the beauty to dinner today.

Chapter 84: Have a Big Meal

Xue Fanxin did not think too much about the incident. She never thought Gu Jinyuan would have feelings for her because they had only met twice. After finishing her business, she left the Heavenly Treasure Trading Company. Who knew that just as she stepped out the door, she would be hugged by someone?

"Ye Jiushang, what are you doing?"

"I'll take you to eat a big meal." Ye Jiushang did as he pleased and obtained Xue Fanxin's favor in a different way.

Hearing that there was food, Xue Fanxin immediately became energetic. She did not mind Ye Jiushang's hand on her waist at all and said impatiently, "Sure, sure. Where are we going?"

She had never been one to reject delicious food.

"The imperial palace."

“Imperial Palace? The Imperial Kitchen? That’s a good idea! I’ve never eaten anything from the Imperial Kitchen!”

“Then I’ll let you eat enough this time.” Ye Jiushang carried Xue Fanxin and used a secret technique. His figure flashed, and in the blink of an eye, they arrived at the glorious palace and entered the Imperial Kitchen.

The chefs in the Imperial Kitchen were all busy preparing food. When they saw Ye Jiushang walk in, they instantly went forward and knelt down to greet him. “Greetings, Ninth Prince.”

The Imperial Kitchen’s steward went forward and asked respectfully, “May I know what instructions the Ninth Prince has for us?”

“Go about your own things; don’t worry about me,” Ye Jiushang casually said to the steward. Then, he looked at Xue Fanxin. His tone and attitude were a little gentler than usual. “Eat whatever you want.”

“Then I won’t stand on ceremony!” Xue Fanxin was really not polite at all. She came to the place where the dishes were placed and ate whatever she saw. There was a drumstick in her hand. Before she finished it, she went to eat something else. She started stuffing delicious food in her mouth and ate with relish.

“It’s delicious, it’s really delicious. As expected of the imperial chefs in the palace. They sure know their craft.”

When the people in the imperial kitchen saw Xue Fanxin eating like this, they were all stunned. They were so shocked that their jaws almost fell off.

Who was this girl? Why did she look like she had been hungry for ten days?

Which girl did not maintain her beautiful and demure image in front of the Ninth Imperial Uncle and try her best to leave a good impression on him? However, this girl did not want her image at all. Forget about the Ninth Imperial Uncle, even they would not marry such a girl when they saw her. She was too unorthodox.

However, this was just what others thought. In Ye Jiushang’s eyes, Xue Fanxin’s table manners were as cute as they could be. She showed her true self and did not hide anything.

Furthermore, her table manners were not ugly. She just ate a little more and ate faster. Overall, she looked quite elegant.

“Ninth Imperial Uncle, aren’t you eating?” Xue Fanxin asked Ye Jiushang after eating half her fill. She even brought a plate of desserts to him.

“Is it that delicious?” Ye Jiushang casually picked up a snack and tasted it, not finding it all that tasty.

In a small place like the Nanling Empire, what delicious food could there be?

“It’s delicious!” Xue Fanxin continued eating. She looked like a hungry wolf who would only be satisfied after clearing the entire table of food.

This meal was prepared for the emperor and his wives in the palace. It was at least for ten people. However, this girl alone had almost finished all of the food. Her appetite was too shocking.

“Alright, alright. Don’t overload yourself. After eating your fill, I’ll take you to watch a show.” Seeing her gorge herself, Ye Jiushang was afraid that she would overload herself. Hence, he stopped her and took her away.

“Wait, wait.” While Xue Fanxin was being pulled away, she had to get a plate of desserts no matter what.

It was rare to have delicious food delivered to her doorstep, so how could she be polite?

She really wanted to pack the rest..

Chapter 85: A Treacherous Scheme (1)

Ye Jiushang brought Xue Fanxin to the roof of the imperial study. He removed a brick from the roof and sat on it to eavesdrop.

“Ye Jiushang, why did you bring me here for no reason?” Xue Fanxin ate her snacks and looked at the person in the imperial study in boredom. She was not interested in the dull conversation at all.

Now that her grandfather had resigned and the Xue family army had been disbanded, everything that happened in the Imperial Court would have nothing to do with her. She was not interested in anything related to the Imperial Family.

“Don’t be anxious. Listen carefully. We’ll talk afterward.” Ye Jiushang sat on the roof patiently and watched the scenery. He accompanied Xue Fanxin in doing something he had never done before.

If not for this girl, he would never have interfered with the Nanling Empire. He did not care even if the country was destroyed.

When Xue Fanxin heard Ye Jiushang’s words, she was originally not interested in the people and things in imperial study. But now, her interest was piqued. She perked up her ears.

At this moment, the Nanling Emperor was calling for the Imperial Preceptor, Yan Song, in the imperial study to discuss the Dongxiang Empire’s invasion.

“Beloved Official Yan, the Dongxiang Empire has already mobilized 500,000 soldiers. They have invaded the borders of my Nanling Empire. I wonder what you have in mind? If the Xue family army was still around, I would definitely have sent them to be the vanguard, but now... Sigh, now that things have come to this, there’s no point in dwelling on that. Why don’t you think of something useful?” When the Nanling Emperor thought about how Xue Batian had already become a cripple and the Xue family army had been disbanded, he felt so depressed and regretful.

Back then, he had allowed Yan Song to secretly send people to assassinate Xue Batian. He had been the one who had insisted on killing Xue Batian. Now that there was a war at the borders of the Nanling Empire, he did not know who to send to fight this war.

Although there were many generals in the imperial court, he knew very well that those so-called generals had relied on their connections to climb to the top. They did not have much real talent. If they were really sent to the battlefield, they would be beaten up and forced to run away.

He had originally thought that the Nanling Empire was impregnable, and the other countries did not dare to act recklessly. This was because Xue Batian's contributions were just too great, far greater than his, the emperor's. That was why he wanted to eliminate Xue Batian.

However, who knew that just as Xue Batian became a cripple and his men were dispersed, the Dongxiang Empire would invade?

He really regretted it now! Had he known, he would have kept Xue Batian even if he did not like him.

"Your Imperial Majesty, the reason why the various countries dare not invade my Nanling Empire is because of the War God Xue Batian. Now that Xue Batian has become a cripple, some restless fellows can't be stopped. Now, my empire doesn't have a suitable commander, but I do have a plan," Yan Song said to the Nanling Emperor.

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"What's your plan? Quickly tell me."

"Although Xue Batian has become a cripple, his head is still there. He's familiar with military history and uses troops like a god. He can't be more suitable to be a strategist. But if you want Xue Batian to work for Your Majesty sincerely and with all his heart, Your Majesty still needs to do something."

"What is it?"

"Tie Xue Batian to the royal family. Everyone in the royal capital knows that Xue Batian dotes on his stupid and foolish granddaughter. If Xue Fanxin becomes a part of the royal family, even if Xue Batian isn't interested in saving the Nanling Empire, he will do his best to win this battle for his granddaughter."

Xue Fanxin was incensed when she heard Yan Song's sinister scheme on the roof.

Yan Song, I haven't settled the accounts with you yet. Are you going to create new ones again?

Watch how I skin you alive.

Chapter 86: A Treacherous Scheme (2)

The Nanling Emperor accepted Yan Song's plan and began to draft an imperial decree for marriage.

"I will now give the marriage decree to Xue Fanxin and let her marry the Third Prince as his consort. She is a stupid and useless person. It is already her good fortune to be Third Prince's consort."

If it were not for the fact that he needed Xue Batian's help now, he would never have let his favorite son marry a useless person as his wife, not even if she was his consort.

"Your Imperial Majesty is wise." Yan Song first flattered the Nanling Emperor, then continued, "But everyone knows that Lian Bingyu is in love with the Third Prince. With this imperial edict, Lian Bingyu

will definitely see Xue Fanxin as a thorn in her side. With her ability, she can crush Xue Fanxin at any time. Once anything happens to Xue Fanxin, Xue Batian will definitely go crazy.”

“Lian Bingyu is Sage Zhong Yang’s disciple and is a Rank Two alchemist, to begin with. Such a person can’t be offended, not to mention that she has the Lian family backing her.” The more the Nanling Emperor thought about it, the more he felt that the imperial decree would land him in trouble with the Lian family, so he hesitated.

Yan Song gave another suggestion. “Your Majesty, this matter is actually very easy to resolve. You can send another imperial decree. It will also be a marriage decree, asking Lian Bingyu to marry the Third Prince and become his official wife. At the same time, you can have a private chat with her and say that giving Xue Fanxin a wedding is only a temporary measure. Let her bear with it for the sake of the Third Prince.”

“You have a point. Let’s do it.”

Xue Fanxin’s anger grew as she listened from the roof. She really wanted to rush in and beat these two heartless fellows up, but she ultimately resisted.

Are you plotting against me?

Then you will have to bear my wrath.

“Little Xin’er, isn’t this show exciting?” Ye Jiushang asked with a mysterious smile. Although he was smiling, he was actually very angry. There was a hidden knife in his smile.

How dare they lay their hands on his future consort? How could he not be angry?

It was time for the Nanling Emperor to be replaced.

“It’s indeed very interesting, extremely interesting. Initially, I thought that after Grandpa resigned, the Nanling Emperor would no longer look for trouble with us. It looks like I was thinking too much. How can such a heartless person let go of anyone of value? I’ll go and destroy that Third Prince Ye Chenping now and see how this imperial edict for marriage is going to be issued!”

“Even if Ye Chenping is dead, you’ll still have to marry him and live as a widow for the rest of your life as long as that imperial edict is given.”

“Then I’ll destroy the imperial edict secretly.”

“If the imperial edict is destroyed, the Nanling Emperor can write again.”

“Then I’ll destroy the Nanling Emperor.”

“If you have the ability, I won’t stop you.”

Although the Nanling Emperor was only the ruler of a small country, he still had quite a few experts protecting him. If one wanted to kill him, they would have to be powerful or they would just be sending themselves to death.

Xue Fanxin also knew that killing the Nanling Emperor was not an easy task, but she really could not think of a better solution. No matter what, she could not let the imperial edict of marriage be announced to the world.

“Don’t be anxious. I have my ways.”

“What ways?”

“I’ll send you back to the estate first. You’ll find out soon.” Ye Jiushang deliberately kept her in suspense and did not explain. In the blink of an eye, he returned to the Duke’s Estate before leaving again.

Xue Fanxin did not know where Ye Jiushang had gone or what he had gone to do, but she had an inexplicable trust in him. If Ye Jiushang said that he had a way, then he must have a way. She just had to wait at home.

Taking a step back, even if the imperial edict for the marriage was really issued, she had a way to end the marriage.. At most, she could escape. As long as she escaped from the Nanling Empire, what could the Nanling Emperor do to her?

Chapter 87: The Imperial Decree to Get Married (1)

When Xue Fanxin returned to the Duke’s Estate, she first took a bath with flower petals before sleeping soundly. As for what Ye Jiushang was doing, she had no idea. However, she was very confident in him.

This guy had always been clamoring for her to be his future consort. How could he allow the Nanling Emperor to betroth her to someone else? She would just wait and watch the drama unfold.

The next morning, Ye Jiushang led a mighty army and thousands of large chests of betrothal gifts. They beat the gongs and drums along the way as he came to the Duke’s Estate to propose.

This formation almost shocked Xue Batian to the point his jaw dropped to the floor.

Because of the huge commotion, the news that the Ninth Imperial Uncle had come to the Duke’s Estate to propose marriage quickly spread. Everyone on the streets was talking about it, and all of them were extremely envious of Xue Fanxin.

How could a stupid and useless person enter the Ninth Imperial Uncle’s eyes?

Not many people in the Imperial City had contact with the Ninth Imperial Uncle, especially the young women. Basically, they had never seen him, so they did not have any adoration for him. Therefore, when the Ninth Imperial Uncle went to the Duke’s Estate to propose marriage, those young women did not have any reaction other than sighing.

“Ninth Imperial Uncle, what are you doing?” Xue Batian personally received the Ninth Imperial Uncle and was actually quite afraid of him.

“Proposing a marriage! Because of the limited time, I could only get my hands on 5,000 large chests of secular things in this place. They are all gold, silver, or jewelry. They can’t be used in any elegant hall.

However, I guarantee you that in the future, I will add ten times the betrothal gifts to escort Little Xin'er." The Ninth Imperial Uncle directly stated his purpose.

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When Xue Batian looked at the priceless boxes of gold and silver jewelry, his eyes widened, unable to imagine just how much wealth this was.

A thousand-year-old jade and ten-thousand-year-old spirit ginseng were things that even the royal family of the Nanling Empire could not take out. However, the Ninth Imperial Uncle said that these were just ordinary things that were not worth taking out in an elegant hall.

If these things could not be considered elegant, then what could?

When Xue Fanxin found out that Ye Jiushang had come to propose with the betrothal gifts, although she was a little surprised, she did not find it that unexpected. She got up and slowly washed up before heading to the hall. Seeing the dazzling lineup of gold and silver jewelry, her face was filled with joy and excitement.

"Wow... So many treasures! This is a high-grade white jade bracelet and ten-thousand-year-old spirit ginseng. This is good, this is good. It's actually a jade, a thousand-year-old jade. Ninth Imperial Uncle, where did you rob and get so many good things?"

"Ptui, ptui, ptui. What are you talking about, little girl?" Xue Batian was unhappy when he heard the word 'rob' and reprimanded her dotingly. His eyes were slowly filled with love.

"Grandpa, I was just joking." After Xue Fanxin's excitement subsided, she looked at Ye Jiushang and casually replied, "I agree to your marriage proposal, but I can't get married until I'm 18 years old. Can you accept such a condition?"

"No problem. From now on, you will be my fiancée." Ye Jiushang smiled mysteriously.

Xue Fanxin suddenly felt as if she had boarded a pirate ship. The reason she had agreed to Ye Jiushang's marriage proposal was that she wanted to avoid being betrothed to Ye Chenping by the Nanling Emperor. As far as she was concerned, being engaged to Ye Jiushang was much better than to a stranger.

But was that really the case?

Just as Xue Fanxin was organizing her thoughts, Xue Batian suddenly asked, "Little Xin'er, have you thought it through? This is your marriage, so you can't just do whatever you want. Although this guy has many betrothal gifts, money is not as important as happiness."

"Grandpa, do you want me to marry Ye Chenping and become his consort, or do you want me to become the Ninth Imperial Uncle's fiancée?" Xue Fanxin asked in a serious manner.

Chapter 88: The Imperial Decree to Get Married (2)

Xue Fanxin's question made Xue Batian anxious. "Little Xin'er, why would you say that? Did something happen?"

"The Dongxiang Empire has mobilized 500,000 soldiers to invade the Nanling Empire's borders. The Nanling Emperor wanted you to help and become his strategist, but he was afraid that you wouldn't be willing to serve him wholeheartedly. He planned to use me to tie you up and marry me to Ye Chenping as his consort." Xue Fanxin quickly explained the situation to her grandfather, her tone flat. She did not take the matter of the Nanling Emperor's upcoming marriage to heart at all.

The Ninth Imperial Uncle had come to propose in advance. Now that she and the Ninth Imperial Uncle were already engaged, she wanted to see how the Nanling Emperor would issue the imperial decree.

"What?" Once Xue Batian learned the whole story, he hated the Nanling Emperor even more. He could bear with the Nanling Emperor targeting him, but he could not tolerate him touching his precious granddaughter.

This damned Nanling Emperor was tired of living.

At this moment, someone suddenly called out from outside, "The imperial decree has arrived. Xue Batian, receive it."

When the imperial edict arrived, everyone knelt outside, except for Ye Jiushang.

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Actually, Xue Fanxin did not want to either, but she could not openly fall out with the Nanling Emperor. Otherwise, it would not do her and her grandfather any good.

The eunuch who was submitting the imperial decree clearly did not know what was going on. He stood in front of Xue Batian and the others with arrogance and read the imperial decree, "In the wake of the heavens, the emperor has ordered that he will betroth the daughter of the Imperial Preceptor, Yan Jinfeng, and the Third Prince, Ye Chenping, to a date of marriage."

What?

Wasn't this imperial decree intended for the Imperial Preceptor's daughter? Why had they come to their Duke's Estate to read it?

Not only were the people who heard the decree confused, but even the eunuch who was issuing the decree felt that it was strange. Before coming, the emperor had clearly told him that this was an imperial decree bestowed to the daughter of the Duke's Estate, Xue Fanxin. Why had it suddenly changed to the daughter of the Imperial Preceptor, Yan Jinfeng?

This blunder was not a joke. Although it was still an imperial decree, the target of the marriage was very different.

"Eunuch, did you find the wrong place to read this imperial edict?" Xue Fanxin pretended to be stupid and innocent, being the first to ask harmlessly.

The eunuch had an awkward expression, and his heart was filled with incomparable anxiety and panic. The emperor had originally wanted to give Xue Fanxin a wedding, but in the end, the imperial decree

had become something else in his hands. If the emperor were to blame him, ten of his heads wouldn't be enough for him to chop.

If this imperial decree had not been read out, there would have been room for discussion. However, the imperial edict had already been read to the public. Now, many people knew that the emperor had bestowed the daughter of the Imperial Preceptor to the Third Prince. There was no room for discussion, so how could he not be anxious?

"This... Perhaps we made a mistake. I'm sorry, but I have something to do. I'll take my leave now." The eunuch fled in a hurry. He had lost all his face.

As for the false timing of the imperial decree, it quickly spread throughout the entire Imperial City with the news that the Ninth Imperial Uncle had gone to the Duke's Estate to propose to her. It became more and more exaggerated.

"What? The emperor personally conferred a marriage order to the daughter of the Imperial Preceptor, Yan Jinfeng. It was also conferred to the current Third Prince."

"The Imperial Preceptor's Estate is a family of high officials. As the Imperial Preceptor's daughter, Yan Jinfeng is also compatible with the current Third Prince."

"These two people are indeed a good match. Although the Third Prince has excellent talent and is the most outstanding among the princes, Yan Jinfeng is not bad either.. I heard that she has already stepped into the Spirit Building realm."

Chapter 89: The Might of the Imperial Uncle (1)

The news of the imperial decree quickly reached Lian Bingyu's ears. She was so angry that she slammed the teacup in her hand onto the ground. "What did you say? The emperor actually betrothed that slut, Yan Jinfeng, to His Highness the Third Prince?"

During this time, she had been thinking about how to deal with Li Yaoyao. However, the other party seemed to have disappeared from the face of the earth. There was no trace of her. The people she had sent out to search for her had yet to find any news of her.

Who knew that before she could find Li Yaoyao, an imperial decree for marriage would make her feel like she had been struck by lightning. She was furious and enraged.

She had thought that her greatest enemy was Li Yaoyao, but in the end, Yan Jinfeng had suddenly swept the stage.

"Yan Jinfeng, how dare you snatch His Highness the Third Prince from me! I'll make you die without a burial place!"

Yan Song had never expected that by offering advice to the Nanling Emperor, he would end up digging his own grave. Now that the imperial decree for the marriage had been publicly announced, unless the Nanling Emperor was willing to bear the loss of his reputation and take back the imperial decree, there was no way this marriage could be changed.

However, if the imperial edict for the marriage was not taken back, their Imperial Preceptor's Estate would have to bear Lian Bingyu's wrath. What should they do?

After learning about the imperial decree for the betrothal, Yan Song rushed to the palace to discuss countermeasures with the Nanling Emperor.

"Your Majesty, why was the imperial decree for marriage changed?"

"If you ask me, who should I ask?" The Nanling Emperor was in a bad mood. Not only had he given the wrong marriage, but he had also given Ye Jiushang the opportunity to be the first to have an engagement with Xue Fanxin.

Now that Xue Fanxin was already the Ninth Imperial Uncle's fiancée, his original plan was impossible to carry out. Without Xue Fanxin, his bargaining chip, he did not know how to make Xue Batian fight for him with all his heart.

The current situation was quite disadvantageous to him. The Dongxiang Empire was watching his lands covetously, and he could not find the best general to fight this battle. He was filled with regret!

If he had known this would happen, he would not have been in a hurry to get rid of Xue Batian in the first place, causing things to worsen to such a state.

Long ago, when the Ninth Imperial Uncle stepped forward to speak for the Xue family army, he should have sensed it and not been in a hurry to attack Xue Batian.

"Someone, come and prepare the carriage for the Ninth King's Estate."

"Your Majesty, are you going to see the Ninth Imperial Uncle?" Yan Song asked weakly. At the mention of the unfathomable Ninth Imperial Uncle, he felt nervous and afraid.

In the past, the Ninth Imperial Uncle had often disappeared and did not care about the matters of the court. There were no conflicts of interest between him and the Ninth Imperial Uncle, so they had been living in harmony all these years. But now, the Ninth Imperial Uncle had proposed marriage to the Duke's Estate. This meant that the Ninth Imperial Uncle would be standing on the Duke's Estate's side.

No wonder the imperial edict had changed. That must be something the Ninth Imperial Uncle had done. Only the Ninth Imperial Uncle could do this without anyone noticing.

What Yan Song could think of, the Nanling Emperor naturally could too. That was why he was in a hurry to see the Ninth Imperial Uncle and discuss the matter with him.

However, at this moment, the Ninth Imperial Uncle was playing chess with Xue Batian in the Duke's Estate. He seemed very relaxed.

Xue Batian, on the other hand, was so anxious that his forehead was covered in sweat. He hesitated for a long time, but it was still a loss, making him extremely depressed. "You punk, your chess skills are really impressive. I admit defeat, okay?"

"Since the Duke has admitted defeat, I'll take Little Xin'er away. I guarantee that I'll send her back unscathed a month later," Ye Jiushang said with a mysterious smile.

Xue Fanxin watched the two of them play chess and felt very bored. She yawned a few times. Just as she was about to doze off, the butler suddenly came to report, "Duke, the emperor is here. He's almost at the door."

"This Nanling Emperor is not in his Imperial Palace working hard as an emperor. What has he come to my estate for? Could it be that he wants to force me to fight for him?" Xue Batian already knew about the shady dealings between the Nanling Emperor and Yan Song. He also knew that these two people were in cahoots and wanted to use his precious granddaughter for their own benefit. As a result, he did not have a good impression of either of them, not even the Nanling Emperor.

Ye Jiushang played with the chess piece on his finger and smiled coldly.. "He should be looking for me."

Chapter 90: The Might of the Imperial Uncle (2)

When the Nanling Emperor went to the Ninth King's Estate to look for Ye Jiushang, he found that Ye Jiushang was at the Duke's Estate. Although he was extremely unwilling to go there, he had to bear with it if he wanted to sit on the throne steadily.

If the Dongxiang Empire really attacked and the Nanling Empire was destroyed, his throne would also be gone. In order to protect his seat, he could no longer be bothered with his petty grudges. Even if he felt humiliated, he had to make a trip to the Duke's Estate.

Xue Batian did not want to see the Nanling Emperor at all, so when he found out that he was coming, he found an excuse to leave. He left the rest to Xue Fanxin and Ye Jiushang.

After this whole farce, he had finally seen through the Nanling Emperor. He would never sell his life for such a person again.

The purpose of the Nanling Emperor's visit to the Duke's Estate was Ye Jiushang. As for Xue Batian, he did not think too much about it. When he arrived, he only saw Ye Jiushang and Xue Fanxin sitting there playing chess, drinking tea, and eating snacks. They did not even look at him, which made him very angry.

To think that he, the dignified ruler of a country, had actually been ignored to such a degree. This was simply looking down on the dragon's might and the imperial authority. This crime deserved ten thousand deaths.

1

But the other party wasn't someone he could go against.

Yan Song had come with the Nanling Emperor. When he saw that Ye Jiushang did not bow to the emperor, he did not dare to have any thoughts. He did not harbor any complaints about Xue Fanxin, either, who was sitting beside Ye Jiushang. He just waited quietly, which was already enough to make him nervous. If he were to talk to the Ninth Imperial Uncle, wouldn't he be sweating buckets?

It was best for the emperor to resolve the current situation. He could just stay here obediently.

“Ninth Imperial Uncle, you are the Ninth Lord of the Nanling Empire. Now that the Nanling Empire is in danger, shouldn’t you contribute?” No matter how dissatisfied the Nanling Emperor was with Ye Jiushang, he did not dare to speak too harshly. He tried his best to suppress his emotions and use nice words.

“I am only an idle lord. Although I have the title of lord, I don’t have any real power. How can a lord who has no authority or military power help you?” Ye Jiushang replied leisurely as he played chess. There was a nonchalant attitude in his words.

He did not care even if the Nanling Empire was destroyed.

When the Nanling Emperor heard this, he was enraged, but he still had to maintain his polite attitude. “Ninth Imperial Uncle, others might not know, but I know that you have the ability to save the Nanling Empire, as long as you are willing.”

“What if I’m unwilling?”

“This...” The Nanling Emperor was rendered speechless. Indeed, if Ye Jiushang was unwilling, he really could not do anything to him.

Ye Jiushang placed the chess piece in his hand on the chessboard and raised his head to look at the Nanling Emperor. He asked solemnly, “Do you know what this game is called?”

The Nanling Emperor raised his eyes to look and really did not understand why the Ninth Imperial Uncle had set up a game of chess where he set himself up to lose. That move just now had clearly cut off his own escape route. “Ninth Imperial Uncle, why have you cut off your own path?”

“Because this is called seeking your own death.”

“I don’t quite understand what the Ninth Imperial Uncle means.”

“You understand very well. You’re just playing dumb with me. Xue Batian indeed has great achievements, but he has the ability. If he really coveted the throne, do you think you could still sit on it for so long? The reason the Nanling Empire is facing the current crisis is on you. You should interrogate those people who fan the flames by your ear all day and speak ill of Xue Batian. Ask them what their intentions are. They actually don’t care about the benefits of the country and insist on targeting a meritorious servant. Also, you should go back and reflect on yourself. If you kill Xue Batian, will your throne really be secure? The art of the emperor is about balance. If Xue Batian dies, the Imperial Preceptor’s Estate can become independent, right?”

2

Hearing the last sentence, Yan Song was so frightened that he knelt on the ground, his entire body drenched in a cold sweat.