

Medical Princess 1121

Chapter 1121 Go Against the World for Her

Visitors from the Marquis Xing's Mansion left. Only then did Chu Liuchen return to Shao Wanru's Celestial Cloud Lodge.

He waved the others away. With arms around her supple wasp waist, he drawled lazily, "If any woman like them comes here again, just kick her out!"

His meaning was self-evident, and Shao Wanru flashed a smile, asking, "You saw her?"

"Sure I did. How could I not see a person bump into me? I'm not blind." Chu Liuchen said lazily. He sat down on the large chair with Shao Wanru in his arms, his eyes on her colorless face. "If you don't want to see them, shut out them."

Chu Liuchen had witnessed how Shao Wanru returned to the Marquis Xing's Mansion step by step and how hard a life she lived there. He knew she would never like anyone from this mansion.

Since she disliked these people, she could ignore them!

Shao Wanru reached out and gently touched his big hand, pulling it before her. Then, her lustrous eyes opened wide, and her face creased into a light and sweet smile. "Qu Le and others thought she looked a bit like me!"

"Really?" Chu Liuchen pretended to think about it seriously and said with a smile, "Does she look like you? No, not at all! Zhuozhuo, you're unique in my eyes. How could anyone look like you?"

Shao Wanru, with a faint feeling of sweetness rising in her heart, couldn't hide her happy smile.

"What's up with you? Are you jealous?" Chu Liuchen asked, raising her eyebrows, thinking the woman was not devoid of any merit. "If women like that frequently run into me, could I better appreciate her care and love toward me?"

"Well, it's feasible, isn't it?"

With a wicked, enigmatic grin, Chu Liuchen lifted his dark eyebrows in amusement.

"Is it interesting to you?" Shao Wanru asked, curling up the corner of her mouth. It looked like a smile on her pink and tender face, but Chu Liuchen also thought she appeared a little annoyed.

"No!" Anyway, he couldn't let her know he relished her jealousy, so he decidedly shook his head and denied it.

"Then, why are you so happy?" Shao Wanru asked, curling her light red and tender lips. They looked well-matched with their fair and delicate looks. Besides, Shao Wanru's cherry lips showed a rosy tint, which looked pretty delicate and charming.

Chu Liuchen couldn't refrain from gazing at her lips as appealing as rose petals, then her fair-skinned face. At this time, her luminous eyes dilated a little. Her long eyelashes fluttered twice, disturbing his heart. He felt his heart positively itched with a burning desire, and Adam's apple involuntarily bobbed in

his throat. Chu Liuchen was never strictly upright and correct. Before him was his beloved woman, and they married.

He lowered his head, his lips gently landing on her sweet lips. Merely because of a light touch, he felt an upsurge of emotion.

He couldn't help tightening his grip and nearly fixed her firmly into his body.

No longer satisfied with the swift kiss on her tender lips, he parted her cherry lips, going further into her mouth...

"Ah!" The low cry of pain awakened the two people indulging in kissing. Chu Liuchen stiffened and immediately loosened his tight grip on Shao Wanru. "What's wrong? Did you get hurt?"

Shao Wanru gasped breathlessly. Feeling the fresh air entering her mouth, she blushed up to the roots of her hair. A smooth strand of her black hair fell, accentuating her striking and tender appearance. Chu Liuchen saw himself in her eyes as limpid and soft as water. This innocent and charming woman was devilishly attractive.

Seeing her short of breath, Chu Liuchen felt he loved her to the very marrow of his bones.

"I... I'm fine. You knocked against me accidentally." Shao Wanru gasped for breath. Finally, she was beginning to breathe more easily. However, she still leaned against Chu Liuchen's chest, too shy to lift her head. Just now, she lost herself in the kiss and moved her injured arm involuntarily.

True enough, she let herself go and raised her arms affectionately, but she was so embarrassed that she couldn't admit it. Then, she blamed Chu Liuchen for colliding with her arm in a flirtish manner.

Looking at her bashful face, Chu Liuchen laughed aloud. He put down his hand and gently hugged her, trying to suppress his desire.

Gradually, the intense look in his eyes faded, and his eyes became deep and thoughtful. He suddenly stretched out his hand and touched her head, saying, "I just visited my Imperial Grandmother. She wanted to send several consorts into my mansion just like before, saying I was in good health and didn't need to stay only with you!"

Shao Wanru froze at the news. Immediately, the wave of tenderness on her face vanished, and she tried to push Chu Liuchen away so that she could see his reaction. However, he still kept his arm around her slender waist. Then, she heard his delighted laughter as he whispered in her ear. "Don't worry. I'm not interested in any of those women. Imperial Grandmother knows I won't be satisfied with other women!"

Shao Wanru breathed a sigh of relief but couldn't help asking, "Then... then what about the matters in the imperial court?"

Marrying a few more women would be the best way for Chu Liuchen to get a meteoric rise. He could get vital links to high-ranking officials through these women, just like adding wings to a tiger.

In the past, Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou fell for Shao Wanru because of her exceedingly beautiful appearance and the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Though Shao Wanru mentioned this topic on her own initiative, her heart inexplicably tightened. She grabbed the handkerchief in her hand, rubbing it hard. Her head was still leaning against Chu Liuchen, so she could hear his strong heartbeats falling on her heart one after another. She felt limp and numb and a little flustered.

Involuntarily, Shao Wanru bit her lips for some unspeakable reasons. At this moment, she concentrated all her attention on Chu Liuchen, listening carefully to the answer he might give.

There came Chu Liuchen's light chuckles, but Shao Wanru could tell he was pleased. "Is he very happy?" Somehow, such an idea flashed through her mind.

"The affairs of the imperial court have nothing to do with you. If I can't even protect my beloved woman, how can I handle the business in the imperial court? Only weak ones have to gain power by marriage. Even if I obtain the crowning glory, Zhuozhuo, you will be the only one in my imperial harem!" Chu Liuchen's soothing voice was low, but every word sounded loud and clear in Shao Wanru's heart.

His words rang in her heart, like hot tea soaking into the ground covered with ice. When the ice on the surface was broken, her heart became as tender as water.

No matter how thick the ice surface was, it was tender water under the cracked ice. Shao Wanru closed her eyes tightly. After suppressing the excitement in her heart, she slowly reached out her hand and decisively hugged Chu Liuchen. She could eventually set her disturbed mind at rest. After all, she had always been unconfident!

She was very grateful for his love, but she always felt insecure!

In her previous life, she had been repeatedly hurt because of her marriage. Her engagements had been broken off again and again. At last, she was at the end of her rope, but those people didn't let her off either.

As her engagements were canceled, she lost her dignity and confidence.

When she was a young lady from a respectable family in Jiangzhou, she was still a little naughty. But in the end, she became so timid and overcautious that she hardly dared to speak — those people ground her down to this miserable state.

Though she was reborn, deep down in her heart, she always had a sense of inferiority and never dared to make demands. She feared if she asked for anything, she would lose more than gain and end up with nothing.

"Thank you!" Tears started from her eyes. After going through her previous tragic life, she became open-minded and generous in this life. Because of Chu Liuchen, she broke through the emotional entanglements in her heart slowly and firmly, baring her soul to him.

Sensing her mood swings, Chu Liuchen reached out and gently touched her face. To his astonishment, he felt her salty and wet tears. Instantly, he pulled her out of his arms and gloomily examined her.

"What's wrong? Did anyone mention something improper to you?"

"No!" Shao Wanru smiled and shook her head. She looked strikingly beautiful with crystal tears on her face.

In silence, Chu Liuchen stared fixedly at her. Then, he kissed away all her tears and gathered her into his arms. "Don't worry. It won't happen!"

Chu Liuchen had never considered marrying any other woman. So what if he had a great many beauties in the inner court? There had always been only one person in his heart. She kindled his hope of life and his desire to live. To better protect her, he was willing to take the throne.

The world without her would be meaningless!

If she were murdered, he would start wholesale slaughter in exchange for a faint hope of waiting when she was on the path to reincarnation.

Shao Wanru didn't see the domineering and bloodthirsty expression on Chu Liuchen's handsome face. He had never been kind-hearted, and he didn't intend to be as kind and harmless as he looked.

He was more than heartless and cold-blooded. People like him were courageous enough to go against the whole world for one person. Even though numerous people would die and the ground would be littered with their corpses, so what? He didn't care!

"I know, I... I'm just happy..." Shao Wanru no longer hid her emotions. Though a warm flush came to her cheeks, she spoke her mind decisively.

Luckily, she was leaning against Chu Liuchen's chest tightly; otherwise, she would be too ashamed to say such words.

As Chu Liuchen's low laugh echoed in her ear, she could feel his chest shake. Then, her face lit up with a radiant and enchanting smile, which made her delicate facial features vivid and beautiful.

"The Xu State's princess will soon enter the capital city. Princess Yutao is the messenger responsible for sending Princess Yuyan here. Princess Yuyan is going to marry Chu Qing. It has nothing to do with our mansion. Next, Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou will get married. If Imperial Grandmother takes these chances to say something, you don't have to worry about it, and just let me handle these troublesome things!"

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Chu Liuchen taught her how to respond to the Empress Dowager's request. He knew his Imperial Grandmother well. Since she had mentioned it, she would talk about it to Shao Wanru. Therefore, he had to remind Shao Wanru beforehand to prevent her from promising anything inappropriate.

Anyway, he could always do what he wished without restraint. He had never fallen in love with anyone else, nor would he like others in the future. It was useless for Imperial Grandmother to talk to him.

"I see!" Shao Wanru said, feeling at peace. After she thought for a while, her long eyelashes trembled, and she opened her eyes. "Nanny Wei is Wei Dahai's aunt. Wei Dahai covets my Butterfly Clothing Shop. He was Madame Dong's former husband but abandoned her and their daughter. Then he started another marriage. And he has a niece, who is Commandery Prince Qing's fiancée. She had been living in the Yuhui Nunnery for five whole years!"

"Wei Dahai?" Chu Liuchen thought it over and assured Shao Wanru, "I've noticed him. Don't worry!"

Shao Wanru breathed a sigh of relief. This matter was terribly complicated. She was worried that Chu Liuchen would overlook Wei Dahai. His official position was not high, but she inexplicably felt that he was related to the overall situation.

Chapter 1122 Settle Nanny Wei's Matter

"I'll go to see the Empress Dowager in the Palace. Shao Jing will marry his mistress, so I want to ask her to let Old Madam out. It's not good when no elder is in the mansion!" Shao Wanru said again. The matter of the Marquis Xing's Mansion was very annoying. She didn't say it in detail because she didn't want to bother Chu Liuchen.

Besides, she didn't think she was a good-for-nothing when dealing with the affairs of the inner court.

"Okay, just be careful. If you meet any difficulties, remember I'm always with you!" Chu Liuchen nodded and said with tenderness in his heart. The gloomy and bloodthirsty expression on his face had long disappeared. He lowered his head slightly and set his pretty eyes on the top of Shao Wanru's head with a trace of gentleness that he himself didn't notice.

Outside the window, a gentle breeze was freely blowing, lifting the gauze curtain and revealing this exceedingly beautiful couple hugging each other tightly. The scene was as beautiful as a painting. The man lowered his head slightly, looking warm and tender when looking at the woman. But when he looked up, a hint of violence flashed across his dark and cold eyes.

All he wanted in this life was the woman in his arms. For Chu Liuchen, he was more than willing to help her settle everything. But since she insisted on doing it herself, he would give her plenty of space. No matter how things went, he would always be there for her!

Shao Wanru went to the Empress Dowager's Palace of Benevolent Peace the next morning. As soon as she walked out from the side door of Prince Chen's Mansion, she met the palace maid named Qing Mu, Consort Lan's personal maid.

"Her Highness!" Qing Mu stepped forward and saluted respectfully.

Shao Wanru's eyes fell on Qing Mu as she asked, "What's the matter?"

"My master invites Your Highness to her Shuangxi Hall. Is that okay?" Qing Mu asked politely.

"Consort Lan wants to see me at this time?" Shao Wanru's heart skipped a beat. Consort Lan was not the one she used to be — everyone in the Palace knew her now.

The Emperor was said to have been living in the Shuangxi Hall for the past few days. In addition, he harshly punished many servants in the imperial kitchen for her.

Did Consort Lan win the Emperor's favor again? Or were there some other reasons?

She had asked Chu Liuchen about this, but he was quite indifferent to Consort Lan. Evidently, he didn't feel like mentioning her, nor did he change his unfavorable attitude toward her.

If Consort Lan's situation hadn't changed, Shao Wanru wouldn't have had to care about her. But now, Consort Lan was in the limelight. In this case, if Chu Liuchen provoked her, she had to be careful.

But Shao Wanru, still worried about this, asked Nanny Zheng about it. Nanny Zheng wanted to say something but stopped on second thought. In the end, she said she couldn't talk about it and asked Shao Wanru to find the chief supervisor.

When the chief supervisor came over, he spoke frankly and told Shao Wanru that Consort Lan was Chu Liuchen's aunt. However, their misunderstanding had not been cleared up, so Chu Liuchen still did not like her aunt.

Hearing this answer, Shao Wanru breathed a sigh of relief. At least she was sure of one thing: Consort Lan had no malice toward Chu Liuchen. Knowing this was enough. As for other things, she could pretend she noticed nothing.

Chu Liuchen would tell her anything if necessary.

Since Chu Liuchen didn't like Consort Lan, it was not convenient for her to have more contact with her. Therefore, Shao Wanru refused with much regret, "I'm not feeling well, so I'm afraid I won't have much strength to meet Consort Lan after coming back from the Palace of Benevolent Peace!"

"It won't take long. My master has something important to tell you. Please make some time. A soft sedan chair will be waiting for you before the Palace of Benevolent Peace!" Qing Mu pleaded.

"How dare she send a sedan chair to wait for me at the gate of the Palace of Benevolent Peace?" Shao Wanru's eyes darkened. After thinking for a while, she accepted the invitation. "Okay!"

With a sense of relief, Qing Mu briskly stepped aside. "Your Highness, please!"

Shao Wanru nodded and went to the Palace of Benevolent Peace with Yujie. Since she was much better now, she could walk all the way if at a slower pace. Nevertheless, she couldn't exhaust herself. She had used her poor physical condition as an excuse to refuse others, and it wasn't a lie.

After entering the Empress Dowager's Palace of Benevolent Peace, Shao Wanru turned around the large screen and saw the Empress Dowager leaning back against the pillows on the bed. She looked listless and sick, her face as withered as autumn leaves.

At first glance, Shao Wanru felt relieved. The Empress Dowager looked ill, but she was not in a bad state. She must just have had a common cold and would recover after recuperating.

"Greetings, Imperial Grandmother! I wish you good health!" Shao Wanru stepped forward and was about to prostrate herself before the Empress Dowager, but Nanny Wei, standing aside, stopped her.

"Don't stand on ceremony. You are in poor health and should carefully heal your wound in your mansion. Why do you come here?" The Empress Dowager rebuked in a low voice.

Suddenly, Nanny Wei fell to her knees with a thud and pleaded, "Please forgive me, Your Highness. I was deceived and misled you with dissatisfaction. I told you the Empress Dowager liked that kind of screen and asked you to put it on. Please pardon me this time. I only want to serve Her Majesty wholeheartedly and would no longer care about other people's affairs!"

She apologized for what she had done to the table screen presented at the Empress Dowager's birthday.

Shao Wanru's liquid eyes ran across the Empress Dowager's face. Seeing that she looked unperturbed, Shao Wanru instantly knew the Empress Dowager must have known this. So, she smiled slightly, reached out to help Nanny Wei up, and comforted her. "Nanny Wei, you are too polite. I only hope you can take good care of my Imperial Grandmother in the future. You should serve her with your whole heart and soul and never betray her. Then, I can forget what you've done in the past."

Nanny Wei's heart leaped. She suppressed the panic in her heart, wiped away her tears, and nodded repeatedly. "Your Highness, you're right. I'll remember what you said. I won't be so self-opinionated and do such a thing again. After that, I regretted it, but I thought there might be nothing wrong. I'm sorry I brought disgrace on you!"

It was unknown how severe the matter of the table screen was. But in the end, everyone thought Shao Wanru had been framed.

The person behind this matter had taken the initiative to stand up and bear all the responsibilities. If Shao Wanru insisted on inflicting severe punishments on her, it seemed she showed no respect to the Empress Dowager.

Moreover, the Empress Dowager was sick now. With a familiar person serving her, she could recover quickly. At this time, Shao Wanru couldn't do all in her power to deal with Nanny Wei.

Shao Wanru's response was the most appropriate and kindest.

Of course, a trace of displeasure emerged in the Empress Dowager's eyes when Shao Wanru said the word "betray". She glanced at Nanny Wei and pondered it. Nanny Wei was still helpful. But although the Empress Dowager appreciated her devotion to her, she knew Nanny Wei wouldn't serve her wholeheartedly like before.

Frankly, the Empress Dowager preferred punishing Wei Dahai. Yet she didn't do it because Nanny Wei had begged her piteously.

Nanny Wei repeatedly said Wei Dahai was her elder brother's only son. When she was a child, she was raised by her elder brother. How could she bear to see his only son suffer?

The Empress Dowager had been very edgy lately, and she wasn't feeling very well. Thus, she had no energy to deal with Wei Dahai. There were so many vital things in the imperial harem and imperial court. She could hear them even when lying in bed. At this time, she knew she could put many things aside. In the Empress Dowager's eyes, Wei Dahai's official rank was low to get her attention.

The Empress Dowager didn't even bother to tackle this trivial matter. For Nanny Wei's sake, she spared him.

Of course, the Empress Dowager also said she should ask for Shao Wanru's opinion. Just now, what Shao Wanru said showed enough respect for the Empress Dowager. After all, Nanny Wei had served her for many years, so the Empress Dowager didn't have the heart to see Nanny Wei get into trouble because of such a thing.

Since the matter had been made clear, the Empress Dowager was in a good mood and asked Shao Wanru to sit on the chair beside the bed. With a loving smile, she looked at Shao Wanru's delicate face and asked, "Is Prince Chen fully recovered? Is he fine these days?"

The Empress Dowager still couldn't believe Chu Liuchen had made a full recovery. A little cold could no longer send him to the gate of death. The Prince Chen's Mansion was adjacent to the Palace, so it could be considered one part of the Palace. The Empress Dowager had virtually raised Chu Liuchen day by day. Many times, she worried about him so much that she couldn't sleep well. It was because she feared she would hear the news that Prince Chen was at his last gasp when she woke up.

Now, he was all right, and the Empress Dowager no longer needed to worry terribly like this! The imperial physicians said Prince Chen wouldn't fall seriously ill easily.

"Thank you for your concern, Imperial Grandmother. He is okay. Actually, we're quite concerned about your health. When he came back yesterday, he talked about your condition with me, saying that you should get away with gloomy thoughts and be happy. Everything can be solved, and keeping a good mood can help you get better more quickly. He told me he was speaking from his experience!"

Shao Wanru comforted the Empress Dowager.

"This child... How could he joke about his illness..." The Empress Dowager's nose twitched, and she almost cried. Her grandson had often been on the verge of death. Every time he escaped from death, he would soothe her with a smile. Whenever the Empress Dowager thought of it, she would shed tears in distress.

Thank goodness, it was over! Finally, he was cured!

"Imperial Grandmother, I also told him not to make fun of his illness, but he said it was okay," Shao Wanru said softly.

The Empress Dowager nodded and added with concern, "Tell him not to be restless and wander in thought. He might disturb gods in heaven. When he is free, ask him to worship gods in the Buddha halls."

Thinking of Chu Liuchen's character, the Empress Dowager felt it was more appropriate to entrust this to Shao Wanru. Therefore, she added, "If he doesn't want to go, you can go by yourself and pay respects to the gods on his behalf."

"Imperial Grandmother, I understood!" Shao Wanru agreed obediently.

The Empress Dowager was very satisfied. She took the handkerchief from Nanny Wei and wiped her tears. A light smile appeared at the corners of her eyes. "Well, let's not talk about this anymore. I heard some people from the Marquis Xing's Mansion came to see you yesterday. So, after so many days, did they only come to see you once?"

"Imperial Grandmother, it's not like that. Since I was in poor condition, and Prince Chen wasn't at home, I didn't let them come over. Prince Chen has come back, so I welcomed them as they visited me!"

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Shao Wanru explained.

From her words, she had been following on the heels of Prince Chen. The Empress Dowager, obviously pleased, nodded and said, "This mansion is descending into chaos, and you haven't intervened much."

The Marquis Xing's Mansion was getting more and more unreliable. The Empress Dowager was afraid that they would implicate Shao Wanru.

"I do have something to ask for your permission!" Shao Wanru said, kneeling with an embarrassed look.

"What did they ask you to beg me for?" The Empress Dowager asked, and her face darkened. She understood fully what had happened after one glance at such a scene.

Chapter 1123 If His Highness Disagrees, I Dare Not

"They wanted you to do them a favor and let Old Madam out. They said... Uhm..." Shao Wanru felt too embarrassed to finish her words, and her elfin face turned red with anxiety.

"Get up and talk!" The Empress Dowager snorted coldly because she loathed those people of the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Nanny Wei came over to help Shao Wanru up, showing every concern for her. Then she stepped aside and looked at Shao Wanru with a smile as if there had been no grudge between them. Since they had talked the previous matter through, everything appeared fine.

Nanny Wei looked broad-minded.

After a brief hesitation, Shao Wanru sat down, lowered her head, and said, "The mansion needs elders. Sister Zhao said Second Uncle wanted to marry his previous mistress. Before this, Second Uncle had even brought that woman to me!"

It seemed she didn't know how to make this matter clear. After all, such a matter was usually handled by elders. As a niece, it was shameful for her to talk about this.

"Shao Jing is getting more and more ignorant. How could a mistress marry into the Marquis Xing's Mansion? And he even brought her to you. What was in his mind? Did he want you to admit her status first?" After a cold snort, the Empress Dowager leaned back in anger. She was increasingly convinced that she had misjudged Shao Jing for many years.

In the past, she thought he could be entrusted with an important post, but now it was obvious that he was frivolous and dissipated.

The Empress Dowager frowned and suddenly felt she might have missed something. After thinking about it carefully, she said with an increasingly gloomy face, "He attempts to marry another woman? No matter how wrong Madam Jiang is, she is still Madam of Marquis Xing. Does he want to let the mistress replace her? He has no sense of decency at all!"

"It was not that he would give up Madam Jiang. He just wanted that woman to be his secondary legal wife!" Shao Wanru bit her lip and said bluntly.

"How dare he say that! A mistress from nowhere wishfully thinks she could be Madam of Marquis Xing one day! And he even wants you to back her up. Shao Jing thinks so highly of himself!" The Empress Dowager thumped the edge of the bed and bellowed.

Nanny Wei hurriedly said with a smile, "Her Majesty, don't be angry. I guess the Marquis Xing's Mansion needs an elder to take charge of it!"

Shao Wanru raised her head and nodded. "Imperial Grandmother, please allow Old Madam to come back. When an elder is in charge of the inner court, she could prevent Second Uncle from doing anything improper. If this trouble is left unsettled, who knows what will happen? The woman had even come to the Prince Chen's Mansion, but His Highness was away, so I was not in the mood to meet her!"

Shao Wanru calmly told her that the woman named E'niang had come to the Prince Chen's Mansion.

No matter what Shao Jing had planned to do to her, it was right to report it to the Empress Dowager first. Shao Wanru always felt this matter couldn't be so simple. That woman dared to make trouble before the Prince Chen's Mansion. Without any support, she wouldn't have been audacious enough to do that. Besides, how could E'niang know she wouldn't do anything to hurt her?

"How dare he! How could he make use of the Prince Chen's Mansion at will? I'll let His Majesty rectify the situation in the Marquis Xing's Mansion." The Empress Dowager felt his anger mounting. Prince Chen was the prince she cared about the most, and Shao Jing intended to take advantage of him.

"Send some people to get her back. She must manage the Marquis Xing's Mansion well and never let such things happen all the time," the Empress Dowager said grumpily.

"Thank you, Imperial Grandmother!" Shao Wanru expressed her gratitude.

"All of this has nothing to do with you, and you don't need to worry about it. Let those people in the Marquis Xing's Mansion solve their problems. If they can't even deal with a mistress, Shao Jing should give up his title of nobility as soon as possible!" The Empress Dowager became more and more disdainful of the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Meanwhile, she felt lucky. Fortunately, although Shao Wanru was a Miss of the Marquis Xing's Mansion, she didn't grow up there and was different from the other Misses from that mansion. Upon hearing what the famous lady, Shao Yanru, had done, the Empress Dowager felt sick.

"Yes, I'll keep it in mind. But I'm afraid outsiders might misunderstand it and think I abandoned my parents' home after I became Princess Chen!" Shao Wanru said, looking uneasy.

She was a new daughter-in-law of the royal family. Since she was young and vulnerable, she did have these scruples.

The Empress Dowager could understand that and would support her. Thus, she said, "It's okay. If anyone criticizes you for this matter, I will uphold justice for you!"

"Thank you so much, Imperial Grandmother!" Shao Wanru stood up excitedly and bowed deeply to her.

Nanny Wei looked down at her toes and listened quietly to the Empress Dowager and Shao Wanru with a respectful look. At this time, she knew that she had underestimated Princess Chen.

She was young and married Prince Chen, who enjoyed a much superior status, yet she could make flawless arguments. When Nanny Wei reflected on what had happened at the Empress Dowager's birthday and what Princess Chen had said just now, she could tell that Princess Chen was not as innocent as she looked. If Nanny Wei was going to deal with Princess Chen, she had to be extremely careful and could no longer act as recklessly as before.

Because of her mistake, the Empress Dowager nearly drove her away.

She had gone through thick and thin with the Empress Dowager for many years. Beyond that, she piteously begged the Empress Dowager, who happened to fall ill. This time, Nanny Wei was lucky. Otherwise, she would have been punished severely.

Thinking of this, Nanny Wei felt a lingering fear in her heart. She was indeed careless and almost lost everything she and Wei Dahai had.

“Well, let’s put these things aside! I want to talk about something else with you. Prince Chen is no longer in poor health. You are underage, but Prince Chen isn’t. Anyway, he should have his children. Many people in the imperial court have been arguing with each other. If he has a son, it will be more justifiable for him to fight for something!” A smile touched the corners of her mouth, and the Empress Dowager dropped a hint. Then, she gestured for Shao Wanru to take a seat.

“I’ll do whatever His Highness wants.” Shao Wanru sat down and answered softly, lowering her head and pinching the handkerchief in her hand with a slightly red face. Since Chu Liuchen had instructed her on how to deal with this situation, Shao Wanru was well-prepared.

“You’re Princess Chen. How can you let him make all the decisions? You have the final say in the affairs of the inner court!” The Empress Dowager said in disapproval.

“But... I have no courage to do that if he doesn’t agree!” Shao Wanru raised her long eyelashes and blinked uneasily like a little girl.

It could be seen that she was perturbed. “He is recovered, but he should maintain his good condition. It’s not good to provoke him, so I must do whatever he pleases. If he is fond of anyone, I’ll take her in without hesitation. But if he dislikes those women sent into our mansion, I’m afraid he will blame me and drive them out. Even worse, he might...”

Speaking of this, Shao Wanru raised her eyes to look at the Empress Dowager with uneasiness.

Her words reminded the Empress Dowager: the few palace maids taken to the Prince Chen’s Mansion didn’t even come out alive.

It was not a big deal because they were insignificant palace maids. But this time, there would be daughters of aristocratic families. The Empress Dowager didn’t want them to get the same tragical ending after marrying them to Prince Chen.

In this case, the marriage would bring him no staunch allies but bitter enemies!

The Empress Dowager couldn’t do anything about her stubborn grandson, so she turned to Shao Wanru.

Thinking about it now, she realized it was inappropriate. No matter what, she had to satisfy Chu Liuchen. Otherwise, she had no idea what a terrible scene he would make.

The Empress Dowager sighed helplessly and reached out to rub her forehead. This grandchild always worried her, but she felt he was much more considerate than the other princes.

The Empress Dowager feared that Chu Liuchen would kill and throw out these Young Madams from aristocratic families sent to his mansion.

“Well, I know about it. I’ll ask for his opinion next time!” The Empress Dowager helplessly replied, her eyes falling upon a few paintings on the table — they were portraits of some Misses from aristocratic families. Initially, she wanted Shao Wanru to look over them, but it was not necessary now. When Chu Liuchen came to see her again, she had to let him have a look and choose one or two ladies.

Prince Yue and Prince Zhou had chosen their consorts, but there was no consort in the Prince Chen’s Mansion. In the past, the major concern was his health. Now that he was fine, he must pick one or two at least and give birth to more children for the royal family as soon as possible.

Shao Wanru nodded meekly as if she didn’t see the Empress Dowager was in a quandary. Seeing that the Empress Dowager looked tired, Shao Wanru got up and said goodbye.

The Empress Dowager didn’t ask her to stay. Instead, she asked Nanny Wei to see Shao Wanru off.

Nanny Wei accompanied Shao Wanru to the gate of the Imperial Palace. There, she stopped and looked at Shao Wanru with a radiant smile full of gratitude. “Your Highness, thank you for forgiving me.”

“It’s not a big deal. Just forget about it.” Shao Wanru smiled slightly and said casually, “I heard you’re Lord Wei’s aunt. You’ve been out of touch for so many years. It’s rare for you to meet each other again after a long separation.”

“It’s indeed a blessing. I thought I was alone in the world and didn’t expect to meet one of my close relatives,” Nanny Wei sighed and said.

“Do you know why Lord Wei insisted on taking Madame Dong back?” Shao Wanru asked curiously, “The Butterfly Clothing Shop is mine. He can reunite with Madame Dong if she forgives him. Other than that, there are no obstacles for him!”

Nanny Wei had learned that the woman Wei Dahai brought to her was not Madame Dong. With an awkward smile, she said, “Yes, I know. He is very anxious to get his wife and daughter back and make up for the mistakes he made when he was young. Back then, due to all sorts of accidental mishaps, the mother and daughter suffered. Now, it is not easy to end this matter! Your Highness, trust me. I will warn him not to use improper means!”

Accidental mishaps? Misunderstandings? Since Nanny Wei said so, the Empress Dowager must have agreed with the statement. It looked like Wei Dahai’s intention was good: he only wanted his wife and daughter to come back to him. The Empress Dowager believed them, but Shao Wanru was not convinced!

Wei Dahai didn’t seem to give up. That was good. Shao Wanru happened to want a chance to get in touch with him. Madame Dong could bring her a good opportunity. Then, Shao Wanru wondered what Wei Dahai would do...

Mo Qiuyi had something to do with Yuhui Nunnery...

...

Chapter 1124 Bring His Cousin Home

Shao Wanru got on the sedan chair waiting for her outside the Palace gate, heading for Consort Lan's Shuangxi Hall. Along the way, the road became more and more desolate, and they could barely see any palace servants in the end.

Finally, they arrived at the entrance of Shuangxi Hall.

Shao Wanru held Yujie's hand and got out of the sedan chair. When she stood still, she frowned because she accidentally saw a familiar figure that seemed to be Shao Yanru.

A trace of deepness flashed across her watery eyes. Shao Yanru seemed to have noticed Consort Lan long ago. At that time, many people in the Palace didn't even know about Consort Lan. How did Shao Yanru notice Consort Lan and see anything extraordinary in her?

"Who is it?" Shao Wanru asked.

Qing Mu, who came out to welcome her, looked in the direction pointed out by Shao Wanru and said with a smile, "Just a palace maid. There have been a lot of palace maids wandering around these days, but the guards drove all of them away!"

Hearing her words, Shao Wanru looked at the four guards at the gate.

She paused.

"Rest assured, Your Highness. My master has given the order. They won't stop you!" Qing Mu smartly explained in time.

Shao Wanru fell silent for a moment before walking in slowly. It seemed that Consort Lan was much more powerful than she had imagined.

The four guards looked straight ahead and didn't reach out to stop them. With Yujie, Shao Wanru entered the Shuangxi Hall, which was in the limelight.

The Shuangxi Hall's layout was not magnificent. Many parts looked old and time-worn, but they were very clean. Consort Lan, sitting in the main hall, was in plain clothes as usual. They might not have guessed her identity if they hadn't known it beforehand. Consort Lan was the most eye-catching consort for the time being.

After bowing to Consort Lan, Shao Wanru sat down beside her as she was told.

"I got you here today because I have something important to tell you. If I say anything inappropriate, please pardon me for Prince Chen's sake."

Consort Lan went straight to the point. Her words were very polite, but what she said afforded much food for reflection.

"Please go ahead, Your Grace!" Shao Wanru nodded and said.

"Go and ask cousin Miss to come here!" Consort Lan, revealing a smile, gave an order to Qing Mu.

Qing Mu hesitated for a moment but still entered the inner hall. After a while, she brought a beautiful girl into the hall.

She was about 17 or 18 years old, with a striking appearance as appealing as Shao Yanru. Shao Wanru had never seen this woman.

"Greetings, Aunt!" The woman called Yiyao gracefully stepped forward and gently bowed to her.

"Yiyao, come here. Greet Princess Chen!" Consort Lan said with a warm smile in her eyes.

"Greetings, Your Highness!" The woman turned around and bowed sideways to Shao Wanru, her watery eyes sparkling.

Shao Wanru nodded but said nothing in reply. Silently, she waited for Consort Lan to say something, with a trace of displeasure across her heart. Both the Empress Dowager and Consort Lan had a clear purpose: they all wanted to force Shao Wanru to take a few women back. But they would be Chu Liuchen's consorts, so how could Shao Wanru accept them happily?

"Yiyao is the niece of my parents' home and Prince Chen's cousin. They used to play together when they were young. Later, my parents moved out of the capital. At that time, they felt so reluctant to part with each other that they hugged and cried together. In the end, they had no choice but to separate. After that, so many years have passed in the blink of an eye!"

Consort Lan let out a sigh.

Shao Wanru gently pinched the handkerchief in her hand and sneered in her heart. "She made it sound like they were two lovers who couldn't see each other again. But actually, they were just two ignorant children. How could they have any affection between men and women? Clearly, this is an introduction to what follows."

Although Chu Liuchen didn't like Consort Lan and told Shao Wanru to stay away from her, Shao Wanru respected Consort Lan from the bottom of her heart. After all, she was Chu Liuchen's aunt, an elder. Nevertheless, Shao Wanru was very displeased at this time.

"She has only been in the capital for a few days. In the past few days, I asked His Majesty for permission to let her live in my place for the time being. But as an unmarried young woman, it's not appropriate for her to always live here. You take her back later and let her live in the Prince Chen's Mansion for some time. It is not safe for a lonely girl to live outside."

Consort Lan made arrangements with a smile. Her tender eyes fell on Qin Yiyao.

Shao Wanru was so annoyed that she almost laughed. It seemed that Consort Lan didn't care whether she agreed or not. The Prince Chen's Mansion would have to accept her niece. Cleverly, she made this request when Shao Wanru entered the Palace alone in case Chu Liuchen would refuse her.

She cringed before the strong and took advantage of the weak!

"Your Grace... I'm afraid I can't do that..." Shao Wanru shook her head and refused, "The affairs in the mansion are all decided by His Highness. He has always liked peace and quiet. I won't dare to disturb his peaceful life without his consent!"

Consort Lan's smile froze on her face. She looked at Shao Wanru in astonishment, almost not believing that Shao Wanru would say these words to her.

Qin Yiyan's face also flushed crimson with embarrassment, and tears welled up in her eyes. Yet, she could only bite her lip hard to stop herself from crying loudly. She looked so aggrieved.

The hurt look on her face convinced others that she chose not to argue even though she was deeply wronged. It proved that she was pretty tender and amiable.

It was the first time that Shao Wanru had seen a deep sense of grievance on someone else's face. Even without saying a word, she made Shao Wanru an evildoer.

This woman was not simple!

"She can live in the most remote corner of your mansion. In this way, she won't disturb you. I'm just worried about her safety as a young woman if she lives alone outside. No elder is accompanying her. Prince Chen is her cousin. Why can't he do this small favor and let her live in your mansion for a few days?"

Consort Lan finally forced a smile, but her words showed she was unhappy. She was virtually scolding Shao Wanru.

"Your Grace, I can't make the decision!" Shao Wanru lowered her head, neither haughty nor humble.

"You..." Consort Lan exploded with rage.

"Aunt, please calm down. Don't be angry. If you fall ill out of anger, I will blame myself. I will rent a courtyard outside, so you don't have to bother my cousin and cousin-in-law!" Qin Yiyan answered in a soft voice. Walking behind Consort Lan, she gently patted her on the back and comforted her.

Consort Lan pursed her lips and stopped talking. After a long time, she said slowly, "I know Prince Chen bears ill feelings toward me, but we're related by blood. How could I hurt him? His cousin has no place to live now. Even the Emperor would allow her to live in the Prince Chen's Mansion!"

Shao Wanru's heart skipped a beat. They seemed well-prepared for this. If even the Emperor agreed, it would be difficult for her to refuse, and it would be useless to let Chu Liuchen decide.

If what Consort Lan said was true, her niece just needed to stay for a short period. There was no excuse for them to refuse such a small request.

"Why did you come to the capital city alone, Miss Qin?" Shao Wanru asked softly, neither agreeing nor disagreeing with her.

"I missed my aunt. I haven't seen her for a long time, and I specially came to see her in the capital city!" Qin Yiyan withdrew her expression of grievance and even managed to put up a faint smile on her face. Although her smile was crooked, it genuinely showed she didn't care about Shao Wanru's refusal.

But how could she take no notice of it? Who wouldn't mind when being despised in public? In particular, she was just a young girl.

But only such a lady could be more reassuring.

Consort Lan nodded secretly, thinking highly of her niece. Of course, she was partial to her niece. In the beginning, Qin Yiyan was going to get engaged to Chu Liuchen, but after so many changes, this matter was left unsettled.

This time, she brought Qin Yiyan to the capital city, not just because she wanted to see her. Most importantly, Consort Lan wanted her niece to marry into the Prince Chen's Mansion. Thus, they should be more careful, especially at such a critical time.

After so many years, she knew pretty well Chu Liuchen's character. He would ignore her if she asked him to take Qin Yiyan away. Therefore, she thought of starting with Shao Wanru, but it had never occurred to her that Shao Wanru would dare to refuse her on the spot. Consort Lan felt terribly ashamed.

She could do nothing about Chu Liuchen, but it was Shao Wanru who stood before her. She simply couldn't believe that Shao Wanru bluntly refused her!

"Your Highness, if I can stay in the Prince Chen's Mansion for the time being, I will be deeply grateful to you and my cousin!" Qin Yiyan said and looked at Shao Wanru with a little expectation in her eyes. If Shao Wanru refused her again, others would think she was going too far.

...

"Princess Chen, let Yiyan live in your mansion for the time being. If you can't accept it, she can move out after finding a place in a few days!" Consort Lan said.

Shao Wanru's eyes flashed as she came up with an idea. Since the Emperor had already agreed, Chu Liuchen would appear heartless if he vehemently opposed it. After all, this "cousin" looked gentle and sensible.

Female cousins always liked to live in their male cousins' mansions.

Other mansions had elders, while the Prince Chen's Mansion was under the charge of Prince Chen.

"In that case, Miss Qin, please follow me back to our mansion!" Shao Wanru stood up, bowed sideways to Consort Lan, and said goodbye, "I sat with Imperial Grandmother in the Palace of Benevolent Peace for some time. Now, I feel tired and want to return with Miss Qin early. Please forgive me, Your Grace."

Seeing that Shao Wanru had agreed, Consort Lan smiled and nodded gently. "Then, go back home early. You haven't yet fully recovered. I didn't consider it thoroughly. Qing Mu, walk Princess Chen out!"

Princess Chen seemed not bad. In fact, Consort Lan had other plans, but she couldn't tell Princess Chen about them. After all, she was still young, so Consort Lan didn't trust her very much. To avoid causing unnecessary trouble, it was better not to make it clear how to say something and how to take action. The Imperial Palace was full of ears and eyes.

She would feel the most relieved to see her niece move into the Prince Chen's Mansion!

Consort Lan thought about it happily, so she asked Qing Mu to send Shao Wanru out, beaming with delight.

Shao Wanru came over only with her servant but returned with a Young Lady and her servant. When they entered the Prince Chen's Mansion from the side door, Qin Yiyan, who had been following her silently, suddenly let out a cry with a thump...

...

Chapter 1125 Princess Yutao Breaking into the Door

Shao Wanru turned around and saw Qin Yiyan's head hit the doorframe. She looked in great pain and covered her head tightly with her hands. Her maid, Dongshui, standing aside, asked anxiously, "Miss, how are you? Let me take a look at your wound!"

"What's wrong?" Shao Wanru asked.

"My master accidentally slipped and bumped against the door." Dongshui hastily explained.

Shao Wanru looked down and saw Qin Yiyan leaning against the door with one of her legs lifted.

"Is your foot injured?"

"Nothing serious. Don't worry about me. I'm fine!" Qin Yiyan said, still covering her forehead with her hand. But since her hand didn't press closely against her head, Shao Wanru could still see the red swelling under her hand. It was more eye-catching than her fair skin.

So, she indeed had bumped hard against the door. As a Miss from a distinguished family, she should have been taught how to behave decently; for instance, a Miss shouldn't sway her dress when walking and shouldn't show her teeth when smiling. Even if the Qin family was no longer prosperous like before, its family members should still follow the rules from the past. It had only been more than ten years. How could Qin Yiyan have forgotten these rules?

Miss Qin kept a graceful demeanor in Consort Lan's place and could answer questions without a hitch. However, she became reckless as soon as she arrived at the Prince Chen's Mansion. Shao Wanru felt it quite interesting.

"Help your Miss up," Shao Wanru said while asking someone to invite Qi Jue over. Since her guest was injured, she had to ask a doctor to check on her.

Shao Wanru hadn't yet decided on the place to settle Qin Yiyan down, so she could only take her to her own courtyard.

After they took their seats in the yard, Shao Wanru asked Nanny Yu to arrange a place for Miss Qin to live.

Qin Yiyan had few requirements and just wanted a quiet place. A small, inconspicuous place was acceptable, but she asked to live closer to Shao Wanru's courtyard, saying she could talk more conveniently to Shao Wanru, Princess Chen.

She could avoid arousing suspicion and stay close to the hostess by doing so. Qin Yiyan appeared so considerate and sensible that Nanny Yu couldn't help looking at her kindly.

Nanny Yu considered this matter simply. Since Qin Yiyan was Prince Chen's cousin, it was reasonable for her to stay at the Prince Chen's Mansion. After all, the only elder she had was living in the Palace. How could an unmarried Young Lady live there? Moreover, Consort Lan, as the Emperor's favorite woman, was now the focus of everyone's attention. Miss Qin could live with Consort Lan, but it might damage her reputation.

This cousin Miss seemed to know how to behave appropriately, which made Nanny Yu even more satisfied. After leaving the main courtyard, she went straight to pick up a place for Miss Qin.

When Qi Jue came over, he examined Qin Yiyan. Her forehead was seriously injured, and there was a big red bump, which looked scary. Her foot was not badly hurt, and she just sprained her ankle. It would be fine after a few days of recuperation.

After checking her out, Qi Jue left some ointment and withdrew.

"My Lady, His Highness is here!" Yujie came in and reported when a servant girl was putting ointment on Qin Yiyan's wounds.

While they were talking, a young servant girl lifted the curtain. Then, Chu Liuchen, dressed in a light black brocade robe embroidered with bamboo patterns, appeared at the door. There was a faint elegant smile on his handsome face, and his eyes were slightly curved. It could be seen that he was in a good mood.

Qin Yiyan was sitting on the chair when the servant girl put the ointment on her wounds. Abruptly, she stood up and looked at Chu Liuchen with excitement. Her lips trembled before she said softly, "Greetings, Cousin!"

She called him like that when servant girls said, "Greetings, Your Highness!"

The greetings of those servant girls drowned out her voice.

"At ease," Chu Liuchen said, waving his hand lightly without glancing at Qin Yiyan. Afterward, he went straight to Shao Wanru, let her sit down with him, and asked, "How is Imperial Grandmother?"

"Her physical condition is okay, and she is in a good mood today. I think she should be fine after resting for a period!" Shao Wanru said with a smile.

Qin Yiyan didn't know whether to stand or sit down. While biting her lip, she looked at Chu Liuchen and Shao Wanru and slowly lowered her head, looking quite pitiful.

"Consort Lan asked me to bring your cousin back. She will live in our mansion for some time!" Shao Wanru pulled Chu Liuchen's sleeve, pointed at Qin Yiyan, and introduced her.

There was a smile in her sparkling eyes. She believed Chu Liuchen had heard of this matter. Servants in the mansion must have reported it to Chu Liuchen as soon as she took Qin Yiyan back.

Consort Lan asked her to take this cousin back, and Qin Yiyan was wounded when she entered the mansion. In this case, Shao Wanru couldn't hide her presence even if she wanted to. Besides, she had never intended to keep it from Chu Liuchen. The best way was to introduce her openly.

It was as if Chu Liuchen notice Qin Yiyao only when Shao Wanru pointed to her. He shifted his eyes to her.

"Greetings, Cousin!" Qin Yiyao said and bowed sideways to Chu Liuchen again. At this time, no other servant girls were saluting together with her, so her voice could be heard clearly.

"Then let her live here. Has her courtyard been arranged?" Chu Liuchen asked carelessly. After giving her a perfunctory glance, he turned back. He hadn't even noticed the newcomer in the room and directly overlooked her.

"Nanny Yu is tidying it!" Shao Wanru replied.

"In that case, take her away to rest," Chu Liuchen ordered lazily.

"But... but I'm afraid the place hasn't been cleaned up yet..." Shao Wanru added.

"It is not ready. Then find her a clean place to stay," Chu Liuchen said a little impatiently.

Shao Wanru winked at Qu Le, standing aside, and replied with a smile, "I'll ask someone to take her to rest!"

Qu Le came over and said to Qin Yiyao with a smile, "Cousin Miss, please, let me take you to have a rest!"

Looking at her cousin who ignored her, Qin Yiyao nodded and left with Qu Le without saying anything, as if she hadn't deliberately fallen and hurt herself to see Chu Liuchen.

"Why did you bring such a person here?" Chu Liuchen took Shao Wanru's hand with dissatisfaction and asked.

"Consort Lan asked me to accept her. I heard from her that even the Emperor knew it. So, I had no excuse to refuse her to move in!" Shao Wanru knew Chu Liuchen hated it when Consort Lan interfered in the affairs of his mansion, but she really couldn't turn down this request. Even the Emperor had agreed to this matter, so the Prince Chen's Mansion shouldn't and couldn't refuse it.

She swayed his wide sleeves and said coyly, "For my sake, keep her in the inner court. This cousin seems to know how to behave properly. Maybe she won't be so troublesome!"

After she saw Chu Liuchen, Qin Yiyao left decisively. Even if she felt wronged, she didn't wear the pitiful look as what she had shown in Consort Lan's place, nor did she reveal a charming look before Chu Liuchen. This cousin seemed mysterious!

Somehow, she aroused Shao Wanru's interest.

In the next few days, this cousin Miss surprised Shao Wanru even more because she behaved completely differently from what she had shown in Consort Lan's palace.

Usually, she remained quietly at her place. Except for Shao Wanru's courtyard, she rarely wandered into other places. She just did her needlework and was very busy every day, trying her best not to disturb the life of Prince Chen's Mansion.

The scenes that Shao Wanru had imagined never happened — Qin Yiyan never approached Chu Liuchen on purpose. She even tried not to come over when Chu Liuchen was there. Therefore, since she met Chu Liuchen for the first time, she had never seen him again.

When they were at Consort Lan's place, Shao Wanru was almost sure that Qin Yiyan harbored evil intentions, regarding her as a scheming woman who would step on her to get a higher status. To Shao Wanru's surprise, she had always remained in her proper sphere. Qin Yiyan had changed so much that Shao Wanru decided to observe her for more time before judging her.

No one mentioned deposing the Empress because everyone focused on Chu Liuchen. Besides, the Emperor seemed to have put this thing aside. Gradually, everyone ignored it, and the Empress kept her position. Consort of Virtue took over the imperial harem while Consort Ming assisted her. For the time being, the Empress was in charge of nothing. She only said she was not feeling well and needed to recuperate for a while.

The debate about Chu Liuchen in the imperial court had ended. The Emperor recognized Chu Liuchen as one of the rightful successors to the throne, but he had to appraise him carefully in the following days. He hadn't yet decided who would be the crown prince of the Eastern Palace. Since the Emperor was still in his prime, no hasty decision should be made.

Chu Liuchen's previous status was confirmed. From then on, he would have the right to inherit the throne like the other princes. For a time, some of the old officials who had worked for the deceased emperor were overjoyed and satisfied. They were very distressed when Prince Chen had no chance to win over the throne. Finally, their wish came true in a perfectly justifiable way.

Afterward, four princes had the right to succeed to the throne.

At this time, envoys from the Xu State arrived outside the capital city. Chu Liuchen returned to the envoy team with his people. After he put the team into a better shape, they were ready to enter the capital city tomorrow.

That night, Chu Liuchen didn't go back to the capital city. Instead, he chose to camp and rest outside the city.

"Master, Princess Yutao asks to see you!" Xiao Xuanzi reported, smiling broadly.

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"What is she doing here at this time? Tell her to go back. We can talk tomorrow!" Chu Liuchen said lazily.

Xiao Xuanzi answered and left. But after a while, Chu Liuchen heard some people quarreling outside, and their voices became louder and louder. Unhappily, Chu Liuchen stood up and walked out of the door with his hands clasped behind his back. There, Princess Yutao rushed over with two female guards, and Xiao Xuanzi chased after them, appearing angry and annoyed. After all, he couldn't do anything to Princess Yutao.

Princess Yutao could be considered his master's ally, so Xiao Xuanzi didn't want to ruin their relationship.

“What does your master mean? He sneaked away. Well, I can forget it. But why doesn’t he allow me to see him now? Is he plotting against the Xu State?” Seeing Chu Liuchen, Princess Yutao stopped in anger. She was indeed in a towering rage. Back then, she noticed the carriage carrying Chu Liuchen before her was very strange.

She had tried many times to ask about it but was stopped.

As a guest in the Kingdom of Dongcang, she knew full well she couldn’t offend Prince Chen, who looked ruthless and vicious. But she had just learned the truth: that damned eunuch disguised as Prince Chen and fooled them all the way. The real Prince Chen had already arrived in the capital city. Anyway, they made her look like a fool. Princess Yutao was so furious that she couldn’t help dashing over.

She had to make it clear if Chu Liuchen was taking the Xu State seriously.

“What’s my purpose? You burst in, and your intention is completely exposed.” Chu Liuchen smiled gently, but his penetrating eyes were cold. As he fastened his gaze on her face, Princess Yutao felt as if something evil and ice-cold were slithering its way across her back, which made the hair on her back stand on end.

“You... I... What’s wrong?” Princess Yutao took two steps back and vigilantly examined Chu Liuchen’s handsome face. People who had suffered losses would always learn from their mistakes.

Chapter 1126 Coming to Blows, Princess Yuyan Got Slapped

Princess Yuyan and Chu Qing were hiding behind a tree not far away. Quietly, they watched Princess Yutao enter Chu Liuchen’s place and smiled proudly.

“I can’t believe my ‘brilliant’ Eldest Sister still fancies about battling for the throne with my Eldest Brother. At this critical time, she is entangled with Prince Chen. Even if Prince Chen has got married, so what? My Eldest Sister can be his consort!”

Princess Yuyan had sent for two officials who came here with them. As long as they saw Princess Yutao enter Prince Chen’s courtyard and not come out for a long time, the matter would be settled.

Though Princess Yutao was a princess of the Xu State, she would be degraded as a consort. Well, she asked for it — she chose to be with Prince Chen at this time, and no one knew what they were doing!

But the next moment, Princess Yuyan’s face changed greatly. She suddenly grabbed Chu Qing’s hand firmly in great surprise.

Princess Yutao had been thrown out!

Yes, she was tossed out before everyone. After that, Princess Yutao flipped twice or three times before she could stand up. Even so, she stepped a few steps back and finally stood firm.

Princess Yutao was good at martial arts. If it had been any other woman, she would have been either seriously injured or killed.

With several guards, Chu Liuchen came out of the yard step by step. Looking at him on alert, Princess Yutao was about to retreat at any time, and her face turned livid with fear. She asked, “Your Highness, what do you mean?”

"What are you up to? You came here in such a hurry. Don't you have something to say?" Chu Liuchen stood still and asked kindly.

If he hadn't just thrown Princess Yutao out, others would have thought Prince Chen was a refined gentleman.

"I do have something to say," Princess Yutao said, walking inside in a great rage.

However, Chu Liuchen blocked her with his folding fan in his hand and said, "Princess Yutao, please tell me what you want!"

"You mean... here?" Princess Yutao was stunned and asked in astonishment. She looked around as if she couldn't believe she was asked to talk outside the courtyard.

"It doesn't matter if others hear us. Don't you dare talk about it before others?" Chu Liuchen asked languishingly.

"You... Fine... fine..." Princess Yutao was furious, but maybe because of the pain from the hard tumble, she didn't dare to move forward. Instead, she took a step back. "I'm here to ask you why you lied to us. You went back to the capital city on the sly. Why? Do you look down on Xu State? If so, I'll take my Second Sister back and not allow her to marry Commandery Prince Qing!"

Princess Yutao threatened with her head held high.

Princess Yuyan, hiding behind the tree, suddenly had a bad feeling. After exchanging glances with Chu Qing, they rushed out together.

"Eldest Sister..." Princess Yuyan called out before she approached them.

Meanwhile, Chu Liuchen said leisurely, "Princess Yuyan and Commandery Prince Qing have done that thing together. Could she marry..."

"His Highness, I have something important to report!" Feeling that a disaster was imminent, Chu Qing hurriedly shouted and interrupted Chu Liuchen. How could he let Chu Liuchen reveal the matter between him and Princess Yuyan before so many people?

They had not reached an agreement on the marriage yet. Both Princess Yuyan and Chu Qing had their own ideas, so they wanted to cover up what had happened in the Xu State.

Especially since they had arrived in the capital, they had to be cautious at this critical time.

"Second Sister, why are you here? You pleaded with me to ask for an explanation from Prince Chen. Didn't you say you were not feeling well?" Princess Yutao turned to Princess Yuyan behind her and asked in confusion.

Princess Yuyan was so angry that she gnashed her teeth secretly. It had not been easy for her to trick Princess Yutao, but now she had to come and help her out. Princess Yuyan was so aggrieved that she almost vomited blood.

"Eldest Sister, I thought it was inappropriate, so I came to find you in a hurry. We are about to enter the capital city of the Kingdom of Dongcang. At this time, we can't let rumors about us go around. If you

have to stay in the Kingdom of Dongcang because of these rumors, it will be my fault!" Princess Yuyan, pretending to worry about her sister, said and smiled apologetically.

Not far away, the other two envoys of the Xu State also appeared at the end of the road. They looked at Princess Yutao and then at Princess Yuyan. For a moment, they didn't understand what was going on, so they carefully kept silent and watched aside. Second Princess said her Elder Sister and Prince Chen had an affair. Since the pair hadn't seen each other for long, they must have been enjoying their romantic time together.

If Princess Yutao wanted to inherit the throne of the Xu State, she would have to marry a man from the Xu State. She was forbidden to get involved with any prince of the Kingdom of Dongcang. Otherwise, the Xu State might be destroyed.

The two officials did not hold high positions. Since they were neither on the side of Princess Yutao nor the First Prince, they belonged to the most neutral party with real power. At present, both Princess Yutao and the First Prince wanted to draw them over to their side. This time, they were asked to send Princess Yuyan to marry into the Kingdom of Dongcang and help Princess Yutao.

They would report everything they saw to the King of the Xu State. Since they were not partial to any side, they became the King's most loyal subordinates, and Xu State King was most willing to listen to their advice.

"Oh, you picked up Princess Yutao to ask me questions. Were you hiding aside and eavesdropping with Commandery Prince Qing?" It was never easy to fool Chu Liuchen. And he continued, "I have nothing to hide. Whatever I can talk to Princess Yutao, I can share it with you. You can ask questions together!"

Princess Yuyan, flushing crimson up to her ears, still stuck to her story. "You must have misunderstood. I just met Commandery Prince Qing by chance!"

"Commandery Prince Qing, what a coincidence. Did you happen to be outside my courtyard?" Chu Liuchen raised the corner of his mouth and said with a sarcastic and sinister smile.

Chu Qing composed himself and said respectfully, "Your Highness, I've just received the news: Prince Yue will come to pick up the envoys tomorrow. I'm here to discuss it with you!"

He meant he indeed came here for a reason.

Chu Liuchen directed a meaningful look at Chu Qing, and his smile became increasingly unfathomable. Then he gently flicked his sleeves and said, "For this kind of thing, you can discuss it with General Qin. It's not my business!"

After saying that, he ignored the crowd outside the courtyard and turned back. His guards followed him closely. When he reached the courtyard, he stopped before the gate with great dignity, his sharp and vigilant eyes landing on these people.

"Second Sister, are you sure you're here to help me instead of bringing him, your future husband, to harm me?" Princess Yutao looked at Princess Yuyan with a sneer, her eyes ice-cold.

At first, Princess Yutao didn't quite believe it, but when Princess Yuyan, Chu Qing, the two envoys with real power in the Xu State appeared together, how could she not understand it? Princess Yuyan wanted

her to stay in the Kingdom of Dongcang and not return to the Xu State to compete for the throne. What a perfect plan she made!

"Eldest Sister, what are you talking about..." Princess Yuyan argued. After Chu Liuchen left, she breathed a sigh of relief. She was always good at dealing with Princess Yutao. Anyway, Princess Yutao had no evidence against her. She didn't believe that Princess Yutao could do anything to her. For so many years, she had been competing with Princess Yutao and had never been put at a disadvantage with the help of her mother.

"Pa!" A heavy slap pushed Princess Yuyan two steps back. If Chu Qing had not helped her stand still, she would have almost fallen to the ground in embarrassment.

"Yutao, you... How dare you hit me?" Princess Yuyan covered her face with her hand and looked at Princess Yutao in disbelief. Even though Princess Yutao did well in martial arts, she would not dare to hit her so vehemently. After all, she was supported by her Eldest Brother and mother.

"Princess Yuyan, please behave yourself. You come here to get married as a princess of the Xu State. Even after you marry into the Kingdom of Dongcang, everything you do or say represents the image of our state. Without the support of your country, you will be useless. I hope you can see the reality clearly and put yourself in the right position. You will always and forever be Princess Yuyan of the Xu State, so never do anything that will disgrace the Xu State!"

Princess Yutao scolded harshly. After that, she turned around and strode away without looking at Princess Yuyan, whose eyes were full of tears. Since they were not in the Xu State, Princess Yuyan was no longer protected by her devilish mother, her biological brother, and Xu State King.

The two envoys of the Xu State looked at each other and nodded secretly. The future heir of the Xu State should indeed put the interests of the Xu State first. Princess Yuyan was too ignorant to understand that. It seemed that she and Commandery Prince Qing were so close. Could it be that she had already decided to seek benefits for the Kingdom of Dongcang?

From this point of view, the branch of First Prince might no longer be suitable to take the throne! They were determined to send a secret imperial edict to the King when they got back.

Seeing Princess Yutao walk away, the two envoys also turned to leave and overlooked Princess Yuyan, who felt wronged and wanted to say something with a pitiful look. Wasn't her future husband accompanying her? Why should they care about her? For the sake of her future husband, Princess Yuyan even wanted to plot against her Eldest Sister. The two envoys were very dissatisfied with this.

"Bitch, I... I'm going to kill you!" Princess Yuyan watched Princess Yutao's receding figure; her stare was malevolent. Knowing she couldn't defeat her at this time, Princess Yuyan was full of hatred and anger. Finally, she realized that her supporting power became invalid outside the Xu State.

She turned to Chu Qing standing nearby, gnashed her teeth furiously, and swore at him, "Trash!"

After scolding him, she stamped her feet angrily and pushed Chu Qing away. As she strode off, she secretly made a decision. Even though she had to marry into the Kingdom of Dongcang, she would never marry Chu Qing, a good-for-nothing. Princess Yutao slapped her before so many people, but this pathetic man said and did nothing for her. It was funny that her mother said Chu Qing was also a good

choice. At least he was of imperial lineage and had the pure blood of the royal family in the previous dynasty.

The royal family of the previous dynasty? She was the daughter of the distinguished Xu State King, while Chu Qing was merely a royal descendant of the long-gone dynasty. No matter what, she would not marry Chu Qing. She had to find herself another husband.

Chu Liuchen was unavailable, but there were several other princes, weren't there? She had found out that the other princes were not married. In that case, she still had a chance, right?

Chu Qing looked at Princess Yutao's back coldly. He also felt reluctant to marry this woman, but he had to do so for a reason. In the very beginning, he just conspired with her to scheme against Princess Yutao and Chu Liuchen. Unexpectedly, he was tricked instead! He had a wife. Likewise, he married her for a reason...

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Chapter 1127 The True Identity of E'niang?

The princess of the Xu State would marry into the Kingdom of Dongcang, and she was on the way to the capital city. Shao Wanru had long known it. Hearing that it would be very lively outside, Shao Wanru had told Chu Liuchen early that she would join in the fun.

During this period, she had been staying in the mansion every day and was bored.

She lived in peace in the mansion. None of the troublesome things in her mind happened. A lady moved here, but her appearance made no difference to the life in the mansion. Shao Wanru had sent someone to watch her, but gradually, she became much less vigilant against her. It seemed that Miss Qin Yiyang had never thought of being Prince Chen's consort.

However, it had only been a few days, and they didn't have much contact. Shao Wanru couldn't see through Miss Qin Yiyang. As long as Miss Qin behaved well in this mansion like this, Shao Wanru was not in a hurry.

The wound on her arm was almost healed. If she moved it gently, she could hardly feel she was hurt.

Early in the morning, Shao Wanru got up and went out with Qing'er and Yujie. This time, she didn't take her spacious carriage. Instead, she chose one that looked normal. It appeared exactly the same as other ordinary carriages except for the symbol of Prince Chen's Mansion.

Of course, its interior was elaborately furnished. Upon entering the carriage, they stepped onto the soft carpet. Though the road was a little bumpy, they would not feel uncomfortable in the carriage.

Shao Wanru got on the carriage with her two servants, heading for the city gate. They heard there would be a welcoming ceremony there today.

Chu Liuchen had booked a room for her. It was a private room with a good location in a restaurant near the city gate.

When Shao Wanru arrived, many people were already at the city gate. They were Young Madams and children rarely seen in the past. Everyone was anxious to see the two princesses of the Xu State. It was

said that they were the most famous beauties in the Xu State. They wondered if the two princesses were more charming than the beautiful women in the Kingdom of Dongcang.

"My Lady, are Miss Zhang and Miss Luo over there?" Yujie was sharp-eyed. She pointed to one of the carriages in the crowd and asked.

Some people in the carriages before them also lifted their curtains to watch.

Before they reached their destination, the road was blocked. Everyone moved forward little by little. Many Misses sitting in the carriages could hardly wait and secretly peeped out.

Some girls, refined in manner, watched from behind the gauze curtains, and some cheerful ladies lifted their curtains high to enjoy the fun.

Today was such a joyful day, so no one criticized them for being slightly unrestrained.

Shao Wanru looked through the gauze curtain and nodded, and her eyes deepened a little.

"Miss Zhang and Miss Luo like hanging out with you the most, don't they? It is an exciting event, but why didn't they invite you to come with them?"

Yujie asked without thinking.

After that, she suddenly thought of something and hurriedly zipped her mouth. She stole a glance at her master and breathed a sigh of relief, for Shao Wanru looked calm and collected. Yujie almost forgot what had happened in the imperial Palace that day. Back then, it was obviously the two Misses who had eavesdropped outside of their tent.

The two Misses had a good relationship with her master, so why would they overhear her? Besides, even if they secretly heard something, so what? They didn't say anything confidential. Thus, Yujie didn't understand why they never showed up later on.

Somehow, they had distanced themselves from her master.

Their carriage moved forward slowly and finally arrived at the restaurant where they had booked the private room. Today, the restaurant was bustling with lots of customers. Not only the private rooms upstairs but also the tables downstairs were all occupied. Many people sat together, chatting animatedly. Sure enough, what they talked about the most were the affairs of the Xu State.

Things related to Princess Yutao and Princess Yuyan were mentioned the most frequently.

Princess Yuyan was said to be the princess who would marry into the Kingdom of Dongcang, and Princess Yutao was here to accompany her younger sister. The two princesses enjoyed a good reputation in their home country. According to their stories, they had looks that outshone the moon and put the flowers to shame.

They gathered here so as to get the first glimpse of the two exceedingly beautiful princesses.

Shao Wanru, wearing a curtain hat, walked into the restaurant with two servant girls. As soon as she entered, a sharp-eyed shop-boy noticed and welcomed her warmly. When he heard that she had

booked the private room upstairs, he became even more attentive and carefully led her upstairs step by step.

The large private room was in the innermost. After the shop-boy led them in, Yujie ordered a few dishes and the light fruit wine and asked him to retreat.

Qing'er helped Shao Wanru remove her curtain hat and opened the window for her. Their field of vision in this room was surprisingly wide. Better still, they could see everything outside early. It was early. The people of the Xu State had not come yet, and Chu Liuyue had not sent his people to pick them up. More carriages came over, and most of these people got out of the carriages before the nearby shops.

Some people entered stores nearby and sat down to wait, and some just strolled around casually when waiting.

After all, there weren't enough seats for everyone to sit down and wait with ease.

There was also a restaurant across the street. Coincidentally, as they opened their window, the people opposite them also opened theirs. After choosing the dishes, Yujie also came and looked out of the window. Then, she recognized the person in the private room across the street — Infanta Yuan'an.

Yujie had met the few personal servant girls of Infanta Yuan'an. At this time, she saw them clearly.

"My Lady, it's Infanta Yuan'an across the street!"

Shao Wanru sat in the chair and nodded indifferently, not caring if it was Infanta Yuan'an or Zhang Qilan who came to watch the fun. It didn't surprise her at all.

"My Lady, do you want me to put down the curtain?" Qing'er turned around to ask.

"No need!" Shao Wanru shook her head and said. Infanta Yuan'an and Zhang Qilan came to join in the fun, and she also had a reason to be here. Today was the day that Chu Liuchen officially returned to the capital city. So, as Princess Chen, she should undoubtedly come.

The people standing before the window on the opposite side also noticed Yujie. Then, Infanta Yuan'an appeared there, looking over with a gentle look and even a suggestion of a smile. Shao Wanru also walked to the window. After greeting each other, they smiled and retreated.

The dishes in the restaurant were good, and the fruit wine had a delicate flavor. Shao Wanru didn't drink wine in the past. But since Chu Liuchen recommended it to her, she would like to taste it. After taking some of this wine, Shao Wanru nodded approvingly.

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door. Yujie was stunned because she had told the shop-boy not to come over if there was nothing important. All the dishes had been served. Who was knocking on the door?

"Go and have a look!" Shao Wanru put down the chopsticks in her hand, gently wiped the corners of her mouth with a handkerchief, and ordered.

As she was told, Yujie walked to the door and opened it. But when seeing the woman outside, she frowned.

"Excuse me, but is Princess Chen here?" The woman looked at Yujie and asked after a polite bow.

"No!" Yujie unceremoniously pulled the door, intending to close it.

To her surprise, the woman gave the door a hard shove and suddenly knelt at the door. "Please let me see Princess Chen. I... I have something to tell her!"

"Let her in!" Yujie wanted to drive her away, but when she heard Shao Wanru's voice behind her, she could only open the door and say coldly, "Come in!"

She detested this woman on sight. What did Marquis Xing's mistress have to do with Princess Chen? Why would she keep pestering her master?

The woman named E'niang stood up, entered the private room, and Yujie closed the door behind her.

At the sight of Shao Wanru, E'niang was very excited, and her lips moved in an attempt to speak. Abruptly, she went down on her knees and said, "Greetings, Fifth Miss!"

After saying that, she dissolved into tears. Then she lowered her head and kowtowed heavily to Shao Wanru three times. When she raised her head, her face was covered with tears.

Shao Wanru's eyes fell on E'niang. She could find her here, which meant E'niang had been keeping an eye on her. She should have guessed that Shao Wanru would come here today, so she deliberately waited around this area.

There was the mark of Prince Chen's Mansion on the carriage. So, E'niang could locate her as long as she paid close attention to it.

However, it was not easy to achieve that, especially when so many people and carriages were coming and going outside.

"No matter what you want, you shouldn't have come to me. This matter of the Marquis Xing's Mansion has nothing to do with me, and I won't stop you, either. If you're competent enough, you can do whatever you want!" Shao Wanru said, her widened eyes serene and ice-cold.

"Fifth Miss, I have to come here for a reason. I..." E'niang reached into the pocket before her bosom and took out something looking like a letter. The yellow envelope indicated that it must be an old letter written by someone long ago. "Fifth Miss, I'm here to deliver the letter, not because Marquis Xing wants me to marry into his mansion."

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"That day, before His Grace, it was inconvenient for me to say anything. Thus, I went to your mansion later. But I heard you were injured, so it became even more difficult for me to enter the Prince Chen's Mansion. This time, Prince Chen was said to have brought the princesses of the Xu State to the capital city. I guessed you would show up, so I stayed here to wait for you."

Shao Wanru didn't take it, and her hand in her sleeve clutched the handkerchief. Though her face remained calm, her palms began sweating.

Her heart was racing uncontrollably.

A letter, just a letter? E'niang called her Fifth Miss as if she were her old servant. Beyond this, Shao Wanru remembered E'niang's message passed to her when E'niang came to her mansion and asked to see her. All of this seemed to remind her of a fact.

However, could it be true? Could she believe the words from Shao Jing's mistress?

Why would E'niang give her the letter?

"Who are you?" After a long while, Shao Wanru calmed her excitement and asked slowly. Her eyes were as indifferent as ever, and she set her elfin face grimly, revealing an air of quiet authority that her peers did not possess.

"Fifth Miss... Fifth Miss, don't you remember me at all? When you were a child, I always held you in my arms. At that time, you were First Miss... you were the only daughter of Infanta Qinghua and the former heir of Duke Xing!" E'niang finished her words and burst into tears.

Her statement shocked Qing'er and Yujie so much that their faces changed dramatically. They exchanged glances, feeling too startled to believe it.

"Is she a servant of the former heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua?" Qing'er had helped Shao Wanru investigate those who were related to the case. It turned out that almost all of them had disappeared. It was said they lost their lives in the chaos caused by war. Could it be possible that the woman before her survived the war?

"Shao Jing protected her, but why would he take E'niang as his mistress? Did it simply because he had taken a fancy to her?"

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"Tell me what happened?" Shao Wanru spoke with a trace of coldness in her voice!

Chapter 1128 The Last Person Her Father Met Before He Left the Capital

"Fifth Miss, I was Infanta Qinghua's servant girl. I left the capital city with her and went to the border. Also, I escorted her back to the Duke Xing's Mansion in the end. Later on, I saw the birth of your younger brother. Fifth Miss... I... I..." Speaking of which, E'niang began wailing miserably.

Yujie subconsciously looked toward her master. Shao Wanru looked calm, but the corners of her mouth were slightly trembling. Seeing this, Yujie panicked, for she had never seen her master lose control like this.

There was only the sad cry of E'niang in the private room. As Shao Wanru had expected, it was about her parents.

"Why... why did you become my Second Uncle's mistress later?" Shao Wanru asked after a long pause. Her voice roughened with every word — this matter must have brought a huge impact on her.

"As Infanta Qinghua's servant girl, I belonged to the first branch. Ever since I came back with her, I had been serving her. Afterward, my master passed away. I wanted to follow her son and serve him, but Madam Jiang couldn't tolerate me and wanted to kill me. His Grace protected me and helped me escape from his mansion. After that, I have been following him."

E'niang sobbed out her experience.

Sometimes, one has to do something despite oneself. Her master had died, and others were suspicious of her. She had no choice but to attach herself to Shao Jing. Thereafter, she began her life as his mistress.

"What's the matter with this letter?" Shao Wanru asked as her eyes fell on the letter in E'niang's hand.

"Infanta Qinghua wrote the letter to you!" E'niang held the letter forward and said with tears in her eyes, "Back then, Infanta Qinghua knew she was dying. In a rare lucid moment, she wrote this letter to you. She said if you were found, I would give it to you, but if not... Then, she told me to forget it!"

"A few days after she handed the letter to me, she died. Then, His Grace took me away. I hid this letter so that even His Grace didn't know about it. As his mistress living outside of the mansion, I seldom visited others. So, I didn't know the Marquis Xing's Mansion had recognized and accepted you. Only when I saw you that day, I heard from His Grace that you were found and moved back."

This time, she acted as if she had been entirely in the dark!

"Then, when I was left outside, why didn't you tell my grandma about that? You should know General Qin, right?" Shao Wanru didn't take the letter. Instead, she looked at E'niang coldly and asked, stressing each word.

Whether in her previous life or this life, no one but Shao Jing and the Jiang family knew her existence in the beginning. Others couldn't possibly know it.

Unexpectedly, the woman before her also knew about it. In this case, how could Shao Wanru believe her?

Even though the woman cried her heart out, she would not buy her words.

There was such a mistress in her previous life, and it should be E'niang. However, the mistress didn't pass on a single word to her. They had no connection at all. Therefore, Shao Wanru was surprised to learn she had been deeply involved with her.

Shao Wanru heard that her mother had gone mad when she was found. At that point, her mother was out of her mind, but the woman in front of her should be normal. Nevertheless, she didn't say anything. She kept everything and didn't tell others that Infanta Qinghua's daughter was still alive.

"Yes, I know him. But at that time, your mother didn't allow me to say it. She appeared a little crazy, but she became perfectly sane occasionally. To guarantee your safety, she told me not to say anything about you. At that time, Old Madam had a very high opinion of Madam Jiang. When she was normal, she was no match for Madam Jiang, not to mention she was out of her mind. Your mother didn't allow me to say it and said you should be fine there."

E'niang kept talking while crying.

"Fifth Miss, I followed your mother's lead and would do everything as she asked me to. When we left, you and your father were fine. Then, your mother was sober one minute and confused the next. Sometimes, she told me that your father was protecting you. After a while, she said it was not safe for you to come back because she couldn't keep you safe!"

“Great! Once again, there was nothing she could do about it. How dare she put all the blame on my deceased mother?” Shao Wanru narrowed her eyes, hiding the touch of killing intent in her eyes. Knowing she could no longer conceal her identity, this woman took the initiative to show up. She acted in bad faith and betrayed her master. Beyond that, she began an affair with Shao Jing long ago. Perhaps, she was related to the death of Shao Wanru’s parents.

But it was not the time to fall out with her. After suppressing the intense killing intent in her heart, Shao Wanru asked coldly, “In that condition, why would you choose to be with my Second Uncle? As my mother’s servant girl, you belonged to her and should always do things for her benefit. How could you be my Second Uncle’s mistress? How could a man sleep with the servant girl serving his sister-in-law?”

“Fifth Miss, I had no choice. At that time, I could hardly protect myself. Only Marquis Xing was willing to protect me for the sake of your father. Madam Jiang was cruel and merciless, so I was forced out of the mansion. Since then, I have been living under His Grace’s wing.”

E’niang wailed. Whatever the question Shao Wanru hurled at her, she could explain it away.

In silence, Shao Wanru raised the corners of her mouth but hid her sneer in the next second. E’niang gave her a flawless explanation, but it was too perfect to be true in her eyes.

In the end, such a loyal servant girl had to be Shao Jing’s mistress. Madam Jiang was responsible for all the evils, while E’niang was still a true and faithful servant girl.

Aristocratic families appreciated loyal servants the most. In this case, Shao Wanru should stand on her side and trample on Madam Jiang.

Making this mistress a secondary legal wife of Marquis Xing would be the most humiliating thing for Madam Jiang.

E’niang appeared at the right time. Unlike Madam Jiang, she had a better relationship with Shao Wanru. Moreover, Shao Wanru’s grandma might even promote her for her daughter’s sake. In this way, she could become the secondary legal wife of Marquis Xing. After all, Rui’an Great Elder Princess supported her. If E’niang managed to become her nominal daughter, her status would be instantly raised.

So what if she was a mistress? As long as she had a high enough status, she could surmount all obstacles.

In a twinkling, Shao Wanru had figured out why E’niang appeared here. Shao Wanru had to admit this, no matter how reluctant she felt. E’niang seized the right moment and made an excellent breakthrough point. Shao Wanru might have agreed with her if she hadn’t been reborn.

There were so many helpless choices. She had to accept her fate.

Shao Wanru took the letter from E’niang’s hands, and her hand became so heavy that she could hardly hold the letter. After composing herself, she began reading it carefully.

The letter was time-worn but remained intact. It must have been kept secretly without anyone touching it. But so what? E’niang was watching her mother write it, so she knew perfectly well what was written in the letter. Even worse, she might get her master to write this letter. After all, Infanta Qinghua was muddleheaded at that time.

Her mother must have written this letter in person. However, its content might not be what she wanted to say.

Even though Shao Wanru was very aware of it, she still felt like crying. Her mother was the only daughter of Rui'an Great Elder Princess. No one had expected such a proud lady to end up like this. It was the Marquis Xing's Mansion that caused her mother's tragic ending. One day, Shao Wanru would rake up the past and avenge her parents. Only then would her mother and father rest in peace in their graves.

"What's in this letter?"

"I don't know. I don't dare to look at it, nor do I dare to let anyone see it. Infanta Qinghua's last words are in the letter!" E'niang wiped away her tears and said.

Shao Wanru slowly tore the letter open, and her eyes fell on the words on it. She saw her mother's grace handwriting, but these characters weren't arranged neatly together. Sometimes, a few words would get out of the writing lines of characters, making the whole letter look incongruous. Anyway, the letter wasn't written in a normal way.

The letter's opening part read, "Zhuzhuo, my dear daughter." It was indeed written for Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru's heart jolted as if something sharp had pierced her heart. This was a letter from a mother to her daughter. In it, Infanta Qinghua told Shao Wanru to eat more and grow up happily. Also, she asked her to live well with her father. One day, she said, the family would be reunited.

At that time, her mother should have known that her father had died, but according to her delirious words, she thought her husband was still alive.

After that, she mentioned her servant girl, E'niang. Shao Wanru was asked to take care of her if she returned to the Marquis Xing's Mansion when she grew up. Her mother praised E'niang, saying that she was loyal to her master. If not for E'niang's help along the way, she would not have been able to enter the capital successfully. E'niang was a poor woman who had suffered a lot. She followed her wholeheartedly only to repay her master's kindness...

In a word, her mother spent most part of the letter talking about her and a small part talking about E'niang. She didn't say anything about Rui'an Great Elder Princess. As for the other people in the Marquis Xing's Mansion, she didn't mention them at all. She even forgot about Shao Wanru's younger brother, the baby in her belly. It seemed she wrote this letter with a strong sense of purpose.

After reading the letter, Shao Wanru folded it and looked at E'niang again. "I heard my parents went to another place and found someone before they left the capital city. Do you know about this matter?"

E'niang was stunned and replied hurriedly, "I don't know about this. Your father went there alone, and I stayed with your mother. At first, he didn't plan to go to the border. Somehow, he decided to go to the border later on. Someone must have said something to him, but I don't know the specific details since I was just a servant girl."

"How could you not know about it? At that time, my father took my mother with him." Shao Wanru asked meaningfully.

"Let me think about it. It's been so long. I'm old and have forgotten some things!" E'niang wiped the corners of her eyes, thought for a moment, and said, "Someone seemed to have sent a letter in the first place. After seeing it, your father left with your mother. They went to a courtyard and didn't leave until the evening. But I really don't know whom your father met or what they talked about!"

Shao Wanru looked E'niang up and down carefully. This matter was no concern of them. It should be true. Someone had asked her father to change his route. Before leaving the capital city, her father went to see someone. Who was this person? Who was the last person his father saw before he left the capital city?

Shao Wanru had a lot of speculations in her heart, but she couldn't figure out who this person was!

"In that case, do you want to follow me or return to the Marquis Xing's Mansion in the future?" Shao Wanru's face softened a little. After pondering for a moment, she put away the letter and asked.

"I... I..." E'niang appeared very hesitant. After wiping her tears, she said, "If I didn't have a daughter, I would certainly... go with you, but with my daughter..."

Speaking of this, E'niang lost control and cried out loud. Her meaning was apparent. With a daughter, she would undoubtedly live with Shao Jing. It would be best if she could marry into the Marquis Xing's Mansion!

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Chapter 1129 Feeling Deeply Wronged! A Man Robbed the Woman.

In the private room, nobody else made a sound, and they could only hear E'niang sobbing and crying. Shao Wanru watched her, her watery eyes quite serene.

E'niang had been crying bitterly. Finally, she sensed that the private room was strangely quiet. Panicked, she looked up at Shao Wanru and pleaded in a sad voice, "Fifth Miss..."

"I know about your request. You can go back. Thank you for taking my mother's letter to me!" Shao Wanru said.

"Get up first!" Yujie reached out to help E'niang up.

"No, I..." E'niang still wanted to say something, but Yujie and Qing'er stood on each side of her and forced her to move to the door.

"You are Marquis Xing's mistress. If you try to stir up trouble, my master will have to go to Marquis Xing!" When Yujie pushed E'niang out of the door, her low voice rang in E'niang's ears.

Her threat immediately dispelled E'niang's idea of making a scene at the door. As E'niang looked at the tightly closed door, a thousand thoughts came to her mind. Eventually, she wiped away her tears and stood at the door of the private room, neither crying nor making trouble. It seemed as if she were just an ordinary servant waiting for her master's call at the door.

Some masters who brought many servants would leave one guarding outside the door. Thus, it was not strange for her to stand there like this. This time, to approach Shao Wanru, E'niang chose good-quality

but not gorgeous clothes. Some of the capable servants of aristocratic families were also dressed this way.

She couldn't leave like this. Meanwhile, she couldn't make Princess Chen feel annoyed.

"My Lady, she's still outside the door!" Yujie stood at the door and listened for a while, but she didn't hear E'niang walk away. Knowing that she was still there, she showed a trace of disgust on her face. She loathed E'niang.

Perhaps, the first impression was the strongest. Even though Yujie learned she had suffered many hardships, she always had a feeling that E'niang was not trustworthy. Fortunately, her master didn't accept E'niang. No matter what, this woman didn't look like a good person.

As a servant girl, she became the mistress of her master's brother-in-law. There would be many remarks unpleasant to the ear. Besides, she would ruin her master's reputation.

"Let her stay there!" Shao Wanru slightly pursed her cherry lips and said with a trace of sharpness across her eyes.

"How about I drive her away? She is standing at our door. Others might think she is a servant of our mansion!" Qing'er suggested in a rage. She didn't like E'niang either.

She couldn't bear to see E'niang's coquettish look.

"Don't worry about her!" Shao Wanru shook her head and said, "Well, I don't want to think about if she is honest. She doesn't intend to stop and wants to attract others' attention to force me to agree with her. You know what, I hope that some people would suspect her and investigate Shao Jing's case!"

E'niang was said to be her mother's most loyal servant girl. She had been protecting her master closely. Even in her mother's last letter, she appreciated her loyalty. As the daughter, Shao Wanru should try her best to support such a servant girl. Moreover, E'niang's rival was Madam Jiang. In any case, Shao Wanru was supposed to help E'niang.

However, Shao Wanru insisted on not doing this favor and wondered how E'niang and Shao Jing would deal with it!

She would never believe what E'niang had said. She used some of the facts but didn't tell the whole story. Actually, Shao Wanru had found something and made some guesses in her heart after her rebirth. Besides, with the information from Yan Xi, she confirmed some causes and effects.

At this time, she would not easily believe whatever E'niang said. She was more willing to accept the information she had learned by herself and the facts that she had witnessed in her previous life.

She was weak and useless in her previous life, so E'niang didn't go to her. Nevertheless, E'niang eventually married into the Marquis Xing's Mansion, which enraged Shao Yanru, who was in the Palace. But so what? E'niang still managed to marry Marquis Xing and became Madam Jiang's vigorous opponent.

In this life, Shao Wanru achieved her current high status by advancing gradually and entrenching herself at every step, plus the help of Chu Liuchen. Therefore, E'niang cast her eyes on her!

There was one thing that she couldn't figure out. In her previous life, she didn't seem to hear that a new Miss had moved into the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Even before she died, only the same few Misses were in the mansion. Then, how could this illegitimate daughter appear all of a sudden?

In her last life, E'niang had successfully married into the Marquis Xing's Mansion when Madam Jiang was still in power. It could be seen that this woman was not easy to deal with. So, since she had entered the Marquis Xing's Mansion, how could her daughter not move into the mansion with her? Moreover, she was just an illegitimate daughter. Madam Jiang wouldn't recognize an illegitimate son but would accept an illegitimate daughter. In particular, the mother of this illegitimate daughter married into the mansion open and aboveboard.

Shao Wanru was deeply concerned about this matter in her mind. "Is there something wrong with this illegitimate daughter?"

"In the previous life, they didn't have such an illegitimate daughter. Many changes have taken place in this life, so they gave birth to a daughter. Is that so? Was it the idea of E'niang or Shao Jing?"

There were thousands of speculations in her heart, and the truth was beginning to emerge. However, when she thought about it carefully, she couldn't approach and find out the truth.

While she was lost in thought, a burst of noise suddenly came from downstairs. Yujie looked out of the window and said hurriedly, "My Lady, Prince Yue has left the city gate!"

Putting away all her thoughts, Shao Wanru walked to the window and looked out. As expected, she saw two teams of people with horses coming out of the city. In a great hurry, the people on both sides made way for them. Chu Liuyue, tall and handsome, was on the horse at the forefront.

When they arrived at the city gate, the horses stood still, and the two rows of guards behind them also pulled the reins and stopped on the spot. Some people in the crowd on both sides couldn't help cheering.

Women were screaming with excitement. "Prince Yue!" "Prince Yue!" "He is Prince Yue, His Royal Highness!"

The descendants of the Chu royal family were all good-looking, and Chu Liuyue had an air of dignity around him. When he stood at the city gate, countless women fell for him instantly.

Apart from these Young Madams from aristocratic families, some ordinary girls also gazed excitedly at Prince Yue, riding on the horse, with pure adoration.

Prince Yue was handsome and likely to be the future crown prince of the East Palace. A man with such a high status and outstanding appearance was indeed attractive.

The city gate was opened wide, and people came from the opposite side.

A gorgeous carriage was at the front of the procession. Through the half-closed gauze curtain, a man in black clothes could be vaguely seen leaning lazily inside. There were cloud and water patterns with dragon claws partly hidden and partly visible on his thick black clothes. He wore the official imperial robe for princes, which was the same as Chu Liuyue's. But somehow, people felt he looked more composed and distinguished than Chu Liuyue in the robe.

A breeze slightly lifted the gauze curtain, revealing his exceedingly handsome face. Immediately, he attracted everyone's attention.

Chu Liuchen rarely appeared in public like this. Few civilians in the capital city had ever seen Prince Chen, who was said to be sick and weak. In the past, they had only heard that Prince Chen was in poor health and could hardly go outside. It was rumored that Prince Chen was dying, so was this man Prince Chen for real?

He looked healthy and fit!

"Is he Prince Chen?"

"It's Prince Chen!"

"He is Prince Chen!" His appearance caused a shocking commotion among the crowd — Prince Chen even overshadowed the two princesses behind them. Everyone seemed to have forgotten that they originally came here to see the beautiful princesses from the Xu State. Screaming citizens vied to get closer to Prince Chen, only to take a look at him.

Everyone seeing him would nod inwardly with admiration. Prince Chen looked fine with a healthy and hearty look, and his imposing manner was even more overwhelming than that of Prince Yue, the First Prince. But there were always rumors saying that he was dying. Why?

Hearsay about the royal family was indeed not unreliable.

People said Prince Chen had rushed back to the Palace to celebrate the Empress Dowager's birthday in time. Prince Chen had traveled thousands of miles and finally entered the city on her birthday. Not to mention anything else, it was impossible to make it without a strong body. It seemed that Prince Chen was perfectly healthy!

Against all expectations, everyone was most interested in Prince Chen and could hardly move their eyes away from him.

Princess Yuyan was so outraged in the carriage behind that her face turned livid. Before entering the capital city today, she was determined to overpower the whole capital city with her peerless beauty. Thus, Princess Yuyan woke up early in the morning and dressed up to show off. In particular, she knew Prince Yue would come to pick them up.

To prevent Princess Yutao from stealing her thunder, she even sent someone to check Princess Yutao's clothes early. Knowing that Princess Yutao didn't make much effort to fluff up her feathers, she breathed a sigh of relief.

To her dismay, she didn't accomplish the purpose desired. Sure enough, Princess Yutao didn't outshine her, but Chu Liuchen stole the show. Princess Yuyan felt deeply wronged in her heart. As a woman, she was not as beautiful as Chu Liuchen, who was a man. She had never admitted it, but now she had to accept the truth: Chu Liuchen had an enchanting face, which could bewitch both men and women.

The two sides met at the gate of the city. Chu Liuyue neatly jumped out of the horse, but Chu Liuchen didn't come out of his carriage. He asked Qin Huaiyong and Chu Qing to ensure a smooth transfer of the documents from both sides. Also, he called the messengers from the Xu State over. These people

completed all the procedures. During the process, Chu Liuchen still didn't walk out of the carriage or leave. He just waited aside.

His beautiful eyes lifted, and he happened to see Shao Wanru standing at the window. He slightly raised the corners of his mouth.

Of course, Shao Wanru also saw Chu Liuchen. His carriage facing the window was parked in a perfect position. When the gauze curtain was raised a little, their eyes met silently.

Chu Liuchen opened his mouth and seemed to have said something to Shao Wanru. In response, Shao Wanru smiled at him and nodded.

Infanta Yuan'an, in the private room opposite, saw Shao Wanru smile. Then she looked down at the gate of the city. A great crowd had gathered there, so she couldn't see the person Shao Wanru was smiling at.

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"Could it be Prince Chen?" Inexplicably, Infanta Yuan'an didn't think so. "It couldn't be Prince Yue, right?" She thoughtfully shifted her eyes to a place outside the crowd. That place happened to be on her side but was not right under her window. From her position, she could see that place clearly. Zhang Qilan and Luo Xiaowan were standing together. Several servant girls surrounded them to prevent the crowd from disturbing them.

Zhang Qilan raised her head and looked at the window opposite Infanta Yuan'an, Shao Wanru was standing there, with no trace of a smile on her face. After watching Shao Wanru for a while, she transferred her gaze to Prince Yue in the crowd. Zhang Qilan seemed to be a little angry. Coincidentally, Prince Yue looked up, but no one knew whom he was looking at. Seeing that, Zhang Qilan got so obviously provoked that she turned around and left immediately. Luo Xiaowan hurriedly chased after her.

A knowing smile appeared on her lips. Infanta Yuan'an knew her previous words worked...

Chapter 1130 Being Swift and Decisive

The handover ceremony didn't last long. After the two sides met and exchanged friendly words, they returned to the city together.

Everyone stepped aside and watched the carriage pass before them, and their eyes landed on the two carriages behind. The two princesses of the Xu State were sitting inside. As the light gauze gently fluttered in the air, the faces of Princess Yutao and Princess Yuyan were faintly discernible behind the gauze, which made them appear more charming in the eyes of the crowd!

"Will the two princesses marry into our country together?" Someone asked confusedly because it was said only one princess would get married.

"No way, I heard there would only be one!" Another person replied. He had also heard of it.

"Who are they going to marry? Have you inquired about it?" A busybody lowered his voice and asked. They didn't care about how many princesses would marry into their state. Instead, they were eager to

know who would be the husband. After all, the few princes had their legal wives. Their marriages were settled even though they hadn't yet arranged the weddings.

"It can't be Prince Xin, right?" Someone asked.

Except for Prince Xin, none of the other princes appeared to be suitable candidates.

"It may not be Prince Xin. The two princesses are of noble status. It may be the other princes. At present, only Prince Chen got married. The other princes haven't yet married after all!" Someone asked, feeling all those unmarried princes might marry the princesses.

"Both the future legal wives of Prince Yue and Prince Zhou have extraordinary status. So, I guess they can't cancel the engagement at will!" Someone said disapprovingly.

The two princesses passed by, leaving many people talking about them along the way. They were all wondering which families the two princesses would marry into. It was hard to tell which families were suitable for the two princesses. Of course, some people said that the Xu State sent the two princesses to be the Emperor's consorts.

Well, it made sense.

The crowd had guessed almost all the possible candidates except for Chu Qing, who was right in the team of carriages.

As Chu Qing listened to them on the way, his face became increasingly gloomy. Although he was unwilling to marry Princess Yuyan, these people apparently took no notice of him. He was also the descendant of the deceased emperor, but how could no one think of him? Even when he moved right before them, they regarded him as an ordinary man.

All of this made Chu Qing furious. He lowered his head with a trace of fierceness across his eyes. One day, he would triumph over all his rivals and make his name thunderous to everyone.

After the envoys of the Xu State entered the city, the crowd dispersed, and those who came here to watch the fun continued to do their things. Peace was restored at the city gate. Many guests in private rooms came out and got on their horses or carriages.

Shao Wanru was not in a hurry to go back. At this time, she did not want to walk squeezed up against others. Since she was out of the mansion, she would like to wander around and have fun. These days, she had been locked up in the mansion for a long time. Now that she had such a good chance to hang out, how could she go back right after a glimpse of the bustling scene?

"My Lady, the woman is still there!" Yujie walked to the door, stole a glance outside, and whispered,

"Just let her be!" Shao Wanru said, remaining perfectly calm.

"My Lady, she has been standing there all the time, and many guests from a few private rooms had seen her. When they left, they looked at our room again and again!" A moment ago, Qing'er gently pressed the door, and the door opened a crack. This way, she could see the scene outside more clearly. "My Lady, what is she up to? She wants you to help her enter the Marquis Xing's Mansion, but how dare she force you to do that by threatening?"

"Let her come in!" Shao Wanru said lightly.

"Yes, I'll go and get her!" Yujie answered. In no time, she reached the door and vigorously pulled the door open. E'niang turned around. Looking at her, she said, "Come in and let's talk. If there's nothing else, you'd better not disturb our master!"

"I... I need a favor from Her Highness!" E'niang lowered her head and said.

"Come in!" Yujie said coldly and turned to walk inside. E'niang hesitated for a moment and followed Yujie in.

"Your Highness..." Upon seeing Shao Wanru, E'niang wanted to pay the highest respect by kowtowing again, but Yujie pulled her up and stopped her.

"If you have anything to say, say it. Otherwise, I would go back!" Shao Wanru stood up and said. Qing'er picked up the cloak on the screen nearby and put it on her master. Then, she took the curtain hat on the other side and was about to wear it for Shao Wanru. It looked as if they would leave right away.

"My Lady, please, help me marry into the Marquis Xing's Mansion. As long as I earn a place in the mansion with your support, I will help you wholeheartedly and do what you want me to do!" E'niang looked at Shao Wanru with a pleading look, and teardrops rolled down her face. "Your Highness, I wish to express my gratitude to your mother. Without her, I wouldn't have survived!"

"Gratitude? Do you mean you want to follow me? Or do you want me to do something for you? E'niang, there is nothing I can do for you at present. If you can marry into the Marquis Xing's Mansion, then do it. I won't intervene," said Shao Wanru.

"Your Highness, your mother saved me. If you help me out, I'm more than willing to repay you as soon as my daughter gets married," E'niang said, looking at Shao Wanru with excitement.

"Let bygones be bygones. As for my mother... there's no need to mention her again. Although you were my mother's servant, you have nothing to do with me now. If you want me to do something, forget it. I have little to do with the Marquis Xing's Mansion," Shao Wanru calmly reminded her again.

"Your Highness, I... let me kowtow to you again!" E'niang said. After that, she pushed Yujie away, knelt with a thud, and kowtowed three more times to Shao Wanru. Then she wiped away her tears, stood up, and called Shao Wanru with her previous title, "Fifth Miss, I'm leaving!"

"Go ahead!" Shao Wanru nodded and said.

There was no reason for E'niang to pester her, so she left while dabbing her eyes with a handkerchief.

Forcefully, she wiped away all her tears. But when she left the private room, she faced the door and bowed toward Shao Wanru again. "Many thanks, Your Highness!"

Her voice was not low, and everyone inside the room could hear her clearly. Yujie's face changed greatly. "Master, let me go and have a look!"

E'niang deliberately expressed her thanks to Shao Wanru before so many people. Yujie thought she must have prepared some dirty tricks up her sleeve. Although many people had left, some were still staying at this restaurant.

There were only a few princesses in the capital city, and no one was the same age as her master. By saying "Your Highness," E'niang showed others that Princess Chen was in this private room.

"It doesn't matter. Just let her go!" Shao Wanru reached out to stop Yujie, shaking her head.

She inclined her head and listened carefully. When she heard E'niang leaving, her eyes turned deep. "Is she determined to involve me in all this?"

Others couldn't see that she had refused E'niang, and they only saw E'niang bow respectfully to her. Shao Jing wanted to take advantage of this woman, and so did she.

As long as those wicked things in the past could be exposed, it was okay to drag her into this. Shao Wanru felt irreconcilable hatred for Shao Jing, who had plotted against her parents. Now, Shao Jing didn't seem to have much to do with her. Since E'niang badly wanted to rely on her, she might as well agree to her request.

When E'niang came over, she also provided Shao Wanru with some clues without noticing it. In Shao Wanru's eyes, E'niang was very suspicious!

"Let's go and see Madame Dong now!" Shao Wanru stopped thinking about E'niang and stood up. The other thing she planned to do today was to visit Madame Dong. They had blazed a bright path for the Butterfly Clothing Shop, and the news that she would take over the shop had been spread out. Only the last procedure of paperwork was left.

At first, Shao Wanru didn't care much about the last procedure because she could wait for Madame Dong to handle it properly. To her surprise, the matter was stuck there!

Madame Dong had sent a message about it. Since Shao Wanru was free today, she wanted to go and check it out.

When they arrived at the Butterfly Clothing Shop, Madame Dong welcomed Shao Wanru into the accountant's office. In it, she took out an official document from behind the desk, handed it to her, and said, "My Lady, this process stopped here!"

Shao Wanru took the official document and looked at it. There was a red seal that belonged to the Ministry of Justice. She couldn't help frowning. Since this matter was related to the Ministry of Justice, she couldn't ignore it. Even though she was Princess Chen, she couldn't underestimate this matter, no matter how trivial it was.

The owner of Butterfly Clothing Shop had always been Shao Wanru. But she was young back then. When she registered it, she used Madame Dong's name, but that was all. Both Madame Dong and she understood what was going on. When Shao Wanru went to the bank to borrow money, Shao Wanru used her name, and Wen Xichi was the guarantor!

Anyone investigating the case from these aspects could easily find out that Shao Wanru was the actual owner of Butterfly Clothing Shop. However, when it only came to the registration, it was reasonable to conclude that Madame Dong was the owner.

“My Lady, an escaped criminal was said to have worked in our shop. Before that case is thoroughly investigated, the shop’s ownership can’t be changed!” Madame Dong said with shame, “My Lady, it’s all my fault. I implicated you. Now you can’t even smoothly put the shop under your name!”

Needless to say, someone must have played a secret trick to mess this matter up on purpose. Wei Dahai, who had been coveting the shop, was the most likely suspect.

“Is there such a person?” Shao Wanru asked after she finished reading the document.

“Yes, there is. He worked here for a few months and left. It was unknown what happened to him later or how he got into trouble. Now he implicates the Butterfly Clothing Shop. My Lady, you can’t get involved before the case is cleared. Otherwise, others will think the Prince Chen’s Mansion wants to intervene in it!”

Madame Dong nodded and said. She didn’t expect that an ordinary shop-boy would have something to do with the case of the Ministry of Justice. But it was true. If the shop were handed over to Princess Chen at this time, it would bring her trouble. Princess Chen was in the teeth of the storm, so she couldn’t afford to cause any problems.

Shao Wanru thought for a moment and asked, “Can I have an appointment with Wei Dahai?”

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Madame Dong was shocked and asked excitedly, “Are you... are you... going to talk about the shop with him?”

“Yes, let’s do it tomorrow!” Shao Wanru said with piercing eyes. She didn’t want to postpone the matter of Butterfly Clothing Shop any longer. Although Wei Dahai was very important, she couldn’t allow him to get involved with the business of the Butterfly Clothing Shop. The Prince Chen’s Mansion was at the eye of the storm, so she had to decisively sort out this matter lest Wei Dahai set her up!

Shao Wanru stood steadily before the desk and wrote a letter. “Madame Dong, send this letter to the Third Young Master Wen in the Mansion of the Prime Minister. Tell him that I want him to be a witness!”

Wen Xichi was a witness to the previous incident!