

Medical Princess 1201

Chapter 1201 Are You Trying to Rebel?

Shao Jing looked sad. Looking at Madam Jiang's reluctant face, he said sadly to Chu Liuchen with red eyes, "Your Highness, Madam Jiang is my wife, and now Ru'er... I can't bear to divorce her. It's my fault that she ended up like this. I hope you can understand."

Chu Liuchen didn't say anything. His eyes fell on Shao Jing and Madam Jiang. After a long while, he suddenly asked Madam Jiang, "Madam Jiang, was what you said before true? Did Marquis Xing really kill the Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua in order to compete for his title?"

Madam Jiang trembled. At this time, she had no intention of fighting to the death. She was so flustered that her face turned pale, and she couldn't help stepping back behind Shao Jing. Prince Chen in front of her was giving her too great pressure that she couldn't even speak properly for a while. "Your... Your Highness, I was... talking nonsense just now."

She still had a son, who might inherit Marquis Xing's Mansion. She couldn't ruin all of this.

Shao Jing breathed a sigh of relief. He was afraid that if Madam Jiang said that again, he would not be able to defend himself. Fortunately, Madam Jiang was still rational and did not keep messing around.

"Your Highness, look... she just couldn't bear the sadness for a while, so she suddenly lost her mind. She'll be fine after resting for a few days. It's all my fault for having you and Princess Chen startled." Shao Jing smiled bitterly and reached out to gently pull Madam Jiang.

Madam Jiang didn't struggle this time. She lowered her head to hide her panic-stricken face. She was also scared now.

"This kind of thing can't be said at will. Since Madam Jiang thinks so, let's go to the Ministry of Justice to file a case. The case of the former Heir of Duke Xing is very suspicious!" Chu Liuchen said slowly, with a little unknown meaning in his eyes. He slightly smiled, but there were still no smiles in his eyes.

"Your Highness, Madam Jiang said those words just because her disease was flaring up. It can't be taken seriously. I hope you can forgive her," Shao Jing pleaded in a very humble manner.

"Marquis Xing, it's too late to say that. I've sent my men to inform the Ministry of Justice just now." A faint smile appeared on Chu Liuchen's face.

Xiao Xuanzi said to Shao Jing with a chuckle, "Your Grace, His Highness has sent our men there just now. They may arrive soon. You'd better prepare yourself in case the officials of the Ministry of Justice ask about it!"

Shao Jing staggered and almost fell. His face turned livid and pale. Even though he had been an official for so many years, he had never expected that Prince Chen, who was a sick man, would be so difficult to deal with. "It's just a trivial matter. Why is he taking it to the Ministry of Justice for real? Are those officials that idle to deal with such a trivial matter?"

"Your Highness, the Ministry of Justice is a fair and dignified place. Anyway, we shouldn't disturb the Ministry of Justice for the sake of my wife and me!" Shao Jing still tried to struggle.

"The officials of the Ministry of Justice are here." Chu Liuchen ignored him, looking at two rows of people coming in. Wen Xichi from the Ministry of Justice happened to be one of them.

"Xiao Xuanzi, ask the guys to prepare the horses. You will stay here and talk to Lord Wen of the Ministry of Justice. My Lady and I are going back to the mansion!"

"Yes, Your Highness." Xiao Xuanzi instructed a guard to prepare the horses, and he went forward to greet the officials.

When Madam Jiang said those words, a lot of people heard her. At present, even if she wanted to deny it, she couldn't. Xiao Xuanzi had been waiting outside the gate for a long time and had watched the whole thing. It was indeed best to have him stay and explain this matter.

In such a mess, no one cared who sent the news of Shao Yanru's death to Madam Jiang.

When the carriage of Marquis Xing's Mansion came out, Shao Wanru had already taken her seat. When Chu Liuchen got on the carriage, the coachman waved his whip. The carriage left, leaving a large group of people around Marquis Xing's Mansion. No one was willing to leave after what had happened. They continued to keep an eye on the situation.

The matter of the Marquis Xing's Mansion was really interesting. At present, it seemed that Madam Jiang was not really crazy. No one could tell who was telling the truth between her and Shao Jing.

The crowd separated, and the officials of the Ministry of Justice came over.

Wen Xichi looked businesslike. After cupping one hand in the other before his chest to Shao Jing, he asked someone to take Madam Jiang back to take her statement.

"Third Young Master Wen, Madam Jiang was really talking nonsense just now. She was sick and didn't even know what she was talking about!" Shao Jing helplessly stopped in front of Wen Xichi and didn't allow him to take Madam Jiang away.

"Marquis Xing, it's His Highness's order. He said that someone killed his father-in-law. Also, many people heard your wife say that. The Ministry of Justice has to do official business according to official principles," Wen Xichi said slowly.

How could Shao Jing let Madam Jiang go to the Hall of the Ministry of Justice? He got anxious and said, "But Madam Jiang has high status, so she can't go there!"

Wen Xichi remained unmoved and said, "Marquis Xing, His Highness has made the command. Since he said so, the officials of the Ministry of Justice will do as he says. Unless you can ask for more powerful help, we can only do as His Highness says."

Two officials of the Ministry of Justice came up to take Madam Jiang away. She was scared and reached out to pull Shao Jing's sleeve. She no longer had the courage to fight to the death as before.

"Third Young Master Wen..." Marquis Xing still wanted to say something, but Wen Xichi had already waved his hand. Someone came over and pulled Madam Jiang back.

Madam Jiang was still holding Shao Jing's hand. After he was dragged for a few steps, Madam Jiang's hand finally fell.

"Your Grace... we have been husband and wife for many years. We're in the same boat. Your Grace, don't forget what you promised me!" Madam Jiang burst into tears and reached out to grab Shao Jing, but she had been dragged away.

Seeing that Wen Xichi showed no mercy to him, Shao Jing got angry. He reached out to pull out a sword from the waist of a guard beside him, stretched it forward, and said harshly, "Wen Xichi, no one can take away Madam Jiang at will. That will never happen, not when I'm still alive!"

He pointed the sword straight at Wen Xichi's chest.

"He's actually fighting with an official of the Ministry of Justice." Everyone gasped and became even more unwilling to leave. "What's going on now? Why is it so intense?"

Wen Xichi looked at the horizontal sword in front of him and then at Shao Jing. He looked extremely calm and said expressionlessly, "Are you trying to rebel, Marquis Xing?"

His words were so harsh that Shao Jing couldn't bear it. The sword in his hand shook twice and fell to the ground.

"Don't worry, Marquis Xing. If there's no problem with this matter, we'll definitely send your wife back. But now she has to go to the Ministry of Justice to make a statement. Since His Highness has pressed charges against Madam Jiang because of this matter, I may have to ask you to go there later. I'll go back now."

Wen Xichi cupped his hands to Shao Jing, turned around, and left with his subordinates.

Shao Jing winked at Madam Jiang, who didn't dare to struggle anymore and could only leave with the officials of the Ministry of Justice.

When Madam Jiang said those words before, they were having a big fight at that time. At first, no one took what she said seriously. But now, after calming down and thinking about it carefully, they looked at Shao Jing with some doubts. If what she said was true, the Marquis Xing's Mansion would probably get into big trouble.

This was especially true for Shao Jing's branch. This matter would not only be about a couple fighting fiercely.

When Shao Jing returned to the mansion, he felt that his feet were floating. Standing in the mansion, he only felt that everything in front of him was dark. Only by supporting himself with a tree could he stand firm.

How could things become like this? It was just a small scheme to let Madam Jiang die in Shao Wanru's hands. How could it be involved in what had happened back then?

That matter had been deeply buried in his heart. He had never mentioned it to Madam Jiang. If the matter of killing his brother was exposed, he would be doomed.

When he sneaked to the border that year, he didn't tell Madam Jiang because he was on guard against her. They had been husband and wife for so many years, so Madam Jiang must have had some speculations. But those speculations remained only guesses. Shao Jing had never thought that Madam Jiang would suddenly try to perish with him in front of so many people.

In order to hide what had happened at that time, he even secretly tried his best to prevent Yan Xi from entering the capital city. He was afraid that when Yan Xi entered the capital city, his father would also send people over. After that, his being at the border at that time would be exposed, which would arouse the suspicion of Rui'an Great Elder Princess.

"Madam Jiang, it's all Madam Jiang's fault..."

Gritting his teeth, he calmed down. He had to find a way to prevent Madam Jiang from destroying him.

A servant girl came over in a hurry. When she saw Shao Jing standing there with his eyes slightly closed, she hurried forward and said, "Your Grace, Old Madam wants to see you!"

Shao Jing opened his eyes and said, "Tell her that I'll be there in a minute!"

"Yes, Your Grace." The servant girl did not dare to say anything else and turned around to report his words.

Shao Jing closed his eyes again. He then turned around and went to Shao Hua'an's study. When he arrived at the study, he asked the servant to guard the door before striding in.

"Father!" Shao Hua'an, who was reading a book, hurriedly stood up and bowed when he saw Shao Jing coming in.

"No need for the courtesy. Take your seat!" Shao Jing sat down on one side and waved to the servant who served Shao Hua'an, indicating that he should leave.

After the servant left, Shao Jing held his head and said, "Your mother made trouble at the gate just now and tried to fight me to the death. She also said I killed your uncle and Infanta Qinghua."

"What?" Shao Hua'an didn't understand and said in astonishment, "Wasn't Mother in the backyard? How did she manage to make trouble at the gate? And what nonsense did she say?"

"I don't know how your mother sneaked out of Marquis Xing's Mansion and went to the front gate to make trouble. Prince Chen was here today. When he heard her talking nonsense that I had hurt your Eldest Uncle, he called the officials of the Ministry of Justice over!" Shao Jing lowered his head and said listlessly, "Your mother is trying to kill us!"

"Father... what... what should we do?" Shao Hua'an was shocked. This time, he finally heard it clearly. "She said that Father hurt Eldest Uncle? How could she say that casually? And it even alarmed the Ministry of Justice."

"Go to the Ministry of Justice later and ask about your mother. Tell her not to make trouble anymore. You know what happened to Ru'er. She thinks that she can't have a mistress's daughter take away what Ru'er was supposed to have, but I... but I..." Shao Jing pinched the space between his eyebrows and said with a headache, "I don't know who provoked her to say that. How could she leave you alone... Your mother is really crazy!"

Chapter 1202 The Mother and Son's Conspiracy

"Father, what should we do now?" Shao Hua'an asked anxiously.

"Your mother has made such a scene... I don't know what to do for a while... If it goes on like this, the security of our mansion will be in trouble, and your sister's matter..." Shao Jing sighed and was very annoyed. "Your mother should have just stayed in the yard. Why did she suddenly come out and say such things to me?"

"Father, did you go to see Mother before?" Shao Hua'an had an idea.

"Your Fifth Sister went to see her and said something to her," Shao Jing said.

"Fifth Sister must have said something to make Mother at a loss." Shao Hua'an's eyes flashed slightly.

"Even if she had told your mother the news of your sister's death, your mother shouldn't have said that I killed your Eldest Uncle," Shao Jing said with a frown.

In any case, it was Madam Jiang who said this, and Shao Wanru couldn't take the blame. Moreover, Madam Jiang didn't have a good relationship with Shao Wanru. It was impossible for her to listen to Shao Wanru's words and deliberately frame Shao Jing.

There was silence in the room. After a long while, Shao Hua'an raised his head and said with some struggle in his eyes, "Father, shall I go to see Mother?"

"It's best for you to go and see her. I made such a scene with her before. If I go at this time and something happens to your mother again, it will make me appear suspicious."

Shao Jing looked at Shao Hua'an with a kind look and said, "Everything I have will be yours. My title of nobility and everything else I have will be yours only. I'm so old, and you're my only son. It's impossible for me to have another son in the future!"

Shao Hua'an fell silent again with a trace of deepness across his eyes. He suddenly clenched his fists and lowered his head without saying anything in response to what Shao Jing said. He was speechless for a moment.

Shao Jing whispered again in a deep voice, "I know... it must have been hard on you. But if we don't do this... we can only let them investigate it. You know what the officers of the Ministry of Justice can do. If Prince Chen keeps using this as an excuse, it will be difficult for the Marquis Xing's Mansion to get away... If something happens to me, you won't get my title of nobility, and your sister's matter won't be settled."

Shao Hua'an shook his head and said with difficulty, "Father... but..."

"Hua'an, I know what you want to say, but it's all your mother's fault. If she had stayed in the mansion, nothing would have happened," Shao Jing said. He reached out to rub his eyebrows again and continued, "I don't want things to end up this way either."

"Are you sure, Father? Didn't you say that you wanted to marry that E'niang and make her a secondary legal wife?" Shao Hua'an raised his head and glared at Shao Jing angrily. It was unknown where his anger came from.

He didn't ask about the affairs of the mansion, but it didn't mean that he didn't know anything.

A man could only have one secondary legal wife. Since Madam Jiang was his secondary legal wife, who had been degraded, Shao Jing couldn't marry another secondary legal wife. If he had to marry another woman, he could only make her his legitimate wife. However, E'niang wasn't noble enough to be his legitimate wife no matter what.

His original legitimate wife was now his secondary legal wife, and his original mistress was now his legitimate wife. If Shao Jing really makes this happen, he would lose his official title, and even his title of nobility in the Marquis Xing's Mansion might be removed.

"Didn't you know that?" Shao Jing looked at Shao Hua'an calmly and said, "For the sake of your sister, we can only do this."

What he said seemed to reveal the unbearable scene in Shao Hua'an's heart. He threw all the teacups beside him to the ground with hatred. The teacups made a sound of breaking, making the room particularly quiet and oppressive.

Shao Jing was not angry at his son's rebellious behavior. He stood up, patted Shao Hua'an's hand, and said, "Hua'an, think about it. Make your decision quickly. I'm going to see your grandma now. She must have been frightened!" Then, he strode away. When he reached the door, he turned his head and reminded him, "Hurry up. It's not good to be late!"

After that, he went out. When he walked out of the door, she heard a bang in the room, as if something had fallen down.

The servants were so scared that they didn't dare to move. Why did the Eldest Young Master, who used to be gentle and elegant, lose his temper when the Marquis had just gone out?

Shao Jing also heard the noise, but he didn't stop. No one could let him stop, not even Madam Jiang and Shao Hua'an.

Old Madam had already gotten up and asked her servants to check the door several times. Seeing Shao Jing coming over, Nanny Yu hurried in to report and then stood outside the door.

The mother and son talked inside the room, and Nanny Yu outside the door lowered her head. It seemed that she was watching the movement for them outside, but in fact, her heart had not calmed down yet.

She had guessed what Old Madam and Marquis Xing were up to, but she didn't dare to remind Princess Chen.

In fact, Nanny Yu didn't want to see the conflict between Princess Chen and Old Madam develop to this point. As early as the first time they met, Nanny Yu had thought that Princess Chen had a good character.

However, Madam Jiang didn't like Princess Chen. She had plotted against her again and again, and even the Third Madam had taken advantage of that. The First Miss, who looked gentle, had been scheming in secret and acted viciously. She was even more vicious than Madam Jiang.

Nanny Yu didn't believe that Old Madam didn't notice all of this. Even though the First Miss had been humble and obedient in front of Old Madam again and again, Old Madam couldn't be deceived to the extent that she knew nothing.

But Old Madam really trusted Madam Jiang and the First Miss that she pressured Princess Chen again and again.

Nanny Yu was actually an outsider and also an insider. She carefully hid her thoughts and helped Old Madam do things. In fact, she always felt that Old Madam was wrong, ridiculously wrong.

After Princess Chen returned to the mansion, Old Madam should have been very kind to her. She was a girl who had lost her parents and had been missing, so shouldn't her grandmother take good care of her? Moreover, she had saved Old Madam's life. Nanny Yu thought that it was really heartless of Old Madam to do what she was doing.

This also reminded Nanny Yu of something secretly. Old Madam trusted her very much at the moment, but maybe she would die in Old Madam's hands in the future. Old Madam didn't look like she cared about the past.

Nanny Yu had been keeping an eye on Princess Chen. The more she contacted her, the more flustered and scared she became. Princess Chen was obviously not some weak Miss. If someone targeted her, she would not cry in vain but stretch out her sharp claws and give her opponent a hard slap.

She was indeed a ruthless girl.

Old Madam and Marquis Xing had a good discussion about what had happened today, but now there was such a big mistake, which even placed the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion into the teeth of the storm.

Old Madam and Marquis Xing had figured out what to do next cautiously. They thought that they had planned it out, but they didn't expect that it was within Princess Chen's expectations.

At the thought that she had become so powerful at such a young age, Nanny Yu thought that if she kept working for Old Madam, she would either be pushed out by Old Madam to take the blame or be killed without leaving a trace. Princess Chen had clearly threatened her before.

She struggled inwardly and looked up at the slightly closed door. "Old Madam is now my master. I'm unwilling to betray her, but is Princess Chen in the wrong? She's not at fault at all. It's Old Madam and the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion who should be blamed.

"Even if Princess Chen wants to destroy the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion, so what?"

Thinking of this, Nanny Yu trembled and hurriedly lowered her head again. "That's impossible. The Marquis Xing's Mansion will belong to the young inheritor in the future. He is Princess Chen's younger brother. Princess Chen wouldn't be so cruel.

"Then, what should I do? Should I still help Old Madam?" Nanny Yu stood at the door with her eyes full of darkness. She was in a dilemma.

In terms of reason and feelings, she was more inclined to support Princess Chen, but she couldn't bear to betray her current master.

Nanny Yu moved forward a little. She could not hear what they were talking about inside from the distance before. After taking a few steps closer, she vaguely heard Old Madam's and Marquis Xing's voices. Nanny Yu's face turned slightly pale. She had never been so close to them before. Every time they did not want to be disturbed, she would stand outside and guard, and she would stay far away from the door.

But now, she had overstepped the boundary.

She looked around and found that no one noticed that she was too close to the door. When Old Madam and Marquis Xing were discussing something inside, no one dared to look over, let alone take the initiative to get closer to them. Of course, no one could find that Nanny Yu was much closer to the door this time than before.

"Second Brother, will there be trouble?" Old Madam's trembling voice came from inside.

Hearing the news from outside, Old Madam almost fainted. If it was really confirmed, the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion would be doomed.

"Mother, it's Madam Jiang's fault now." Shao Jing's voice was calm.

"Madam Jiang is so useless. Instead of talking nonsense at the gate, she might as well die soon so as not to get us harmed." Old Madam cursed with hatred. She really hoped that Madam Jiang would die soon. At this time, she hated Madam Jiang so much that she completely forgot that her previously most trusted daughter-in-law was Madam Jiang.

"Mother... I'm afraid we'll have to trouble Nanny Yu with this," Shao Jing said in a low voice.

"What do you mean?" Old Madam rolled her eyes and asked him, glancing at the door. Nanny Yu was standing outside the door now, but Old Madam was not afraid that she would hear their conversation. Nanny Yu had always been well-behaved and could not get close to the door. Old Madam had deliberately tested it. Nanny Yu could not hear them clearly from where she was standing.

"Ask Nanny Yu and other servants to prove that Princess Chen has visited Madam Jiang," Shao Jing said.

"What's the use of doing that now? So what if she has gone to see Madam Jiang? Does she have the power to make Madam Jiang talk nonsense? Everyone knows that they don't get along well with each other!" Old Madam said impatiently. The most important thing at the moment was to deal with Madam Jiang. She would deal with Shao Wanru later.

Shao Jing clicked his tongue, slammed the corner of the table, and said, "Mother, that's not what I mean. I'll just ask those people to prove that Madam Jiang became so crazy and talked nonsense because Princess Chen provoked her and told her about Ru'er's death, which drove her crazy. That's why she said such lunatic words."

Chapter 1203 She's Asked to Retire

"Then... then what about after that..." Old Madam was at a loss. Her mouth looked even more crooked. One of her eyes looked big and the other small.

Shao Jing was upset at the moment, so he didn't notice these details.

After thinking for a while, he said, "After that, Madam Jiang knows that Ru'er is dead, and I want to marry a secondary legal wife. She can't stand the blow and has made such a big scene. It's because she hates me that she dares to say anything. Later, after being persuaded, she comes to her senses and commits suicide out of shame."

Old Madam's hands trembled. She had always been cruel, but Madam Jiang was her beloved daughter-in-law, so she couldn't bear it for a while.

Her fingers twitched twice, and then she asked cautiously, "Not everyone can enter the prison of the Ministry of Justice at will."

When Wang Shengxue was in trouble before, they could do nothing to help him.

"Mother, don't worry. I have my own way," Shao Jing said. At this time, he could only ask Prince Cheng for help. At such a critical moment, he had to ask Prince Cheng for help no matter what.

He would beg Prince Cheng to take action at all costs.

Shao Jing lowered his voice and said, "Mother, as long as we act properly, there will be no problem later."

"But... but after all, Madam Jiang is your wife!" Old Madam said in a trembling voice. She had vaguely known Shao Jing's plan before, but it was different when he brought it up clearly now.

Since Shao Jing wanted to get a secondary legal wife and marry E'niang, Old Madam understood what he meant. She just needed to turn a blind eye to it. Anyway, she was quite dissatisfied with Madam Jiang.

Things were different now. Shao Jing had clearly stated this matter to her and asked her to make a decision.

"Mother, if you continue to be so soft-hearted, the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion will be gone. Will you dare to face my father in the nether world? Will you dare to tell him about this?" Shao Jing said indifferently.

He didn't believe in superstition, but now he said such a convincing reason to Old Madam because he clearly knew that Old Madam would buy it.

With a pale face, Old Madam tilted her eyes and thought for a while. Then, she nodded and said, "Okay. Be careful!"

"Mother, don't worry. I'll be careful," Shao Jing replied.

Old Madam still had some scruples. "Your reputation may not be good, and it will be inconvenient for E'niang to marry you immediately."

"Mother, this is not a big deal compared with the affairs of Marquis Xing's Mansion. So what if my reputation is slightly ruined? As long as I'm alive, I still have hope. When Ru'er comes back later and is favored, everything else won't matter," Shao Jing said indifferently.

"What if Ru'er and Hua'an know it?" Old Madam still had scruples.

"They are so smart, so they naturally know about it. Hua'an will visit Madam Jiang with Nanny Yu later. I've asked him to explain the matter to Madam Jiang. Only in this way can Madam Jiang take things too hard," Shao Jing said calmly.

Old Madam's heart beat wildly, and her eyes were dull. Was this equivalent to Shao Hua'an forcing his biological mother to die?

Thinking about the result if they didn't do so, Old Madam gritted her teeth and made up her mind. "Okay!"

Outside the door, Nanny Yu trembled all over when she heard this. She carefully moved to the place where she had stood before, only to feel that there was a cold sweat on her back.

She had witnessed the relationship between Madam Jiang and Old Madam. Old Madam had always doted on Madam Jiang and disliked Infanta Qinghua since she married into the family.

"She can mercilessly abandon her favorite daughter-in-law, and what about me?"

"I'm just an insignificant old maid. Even if she's on good terms with me, I can't compare with Madam Jiang, can I? Not only Old Madam but also Marquis Xing, First Miss, and First Young Master are trying to kill Madam Jiang.

"Although Madam Jiang is vicious and deserves to die, how could they treat her like this? At least she is harmless to them, and she's so nice to her children.

"How could they be so cruel?"

Nanny Yu didn't get close to the door and didn't hear what the two people said next. She just stood at the door and lowered her head in panic. Princess Chen frightened her, but at the same time, she could see that Princess Chen protected her people. The people around her were all fine, and there was no news of beating or scolding the servants in the Piaoyun Courtyard.

Compared with the masters of Marquis Xing's Mansion, Princess Chen was too kind and affectionate.

Nanny Yu sadly found that she had served Old Madam for so many years, but she didn't know when she would be made to take the blame. She gritted her teeth and made up her mind.

"They can be so cruel to their blood relative. As a servant, I must be nothing to them..."

When Shao Jing went out, he looked at Nanny Yu and saw her standing at a distance from the door. He walked up to her with a gentle look.

"Your Grace!" Nanny Yu bowed.

"You may rise, Nanny Yu. I have to trouble you with one thing," Shao Jing said.

Nanny Yu lowered her head and said respectfully, "Please go ahead, Your Grace!"

"Since the First Young Master is going to visit Madam Jiang, you will go with him. You should persuade Madam Jiang not to talk nonsense together. The future of the First Young Master depends on her words." Shao Jing reminded, "Ask her if Princess Chen has said something to her before that made her so agitated all of a sudden."

He was putting a part of the blame on Shao Wanru so that she could take the blame for him.

Nanny Yu understood what Shao Jing meant. "Don't worry, Your Grace. I'll do as I'm told."

"You've been by my mother's side for a long time since I was young. It's been so many years." Shao Jing sighed. "When this matter is settled, I'll give you some money to live a peaceful life. I can't keep you as a servant all the time."

Shao Jing's voice became more and more amiable. The greatest glory for a loyal servant was such treatment.

Hearing what he said, Nanny Yu felt a chill run down her spine. If it weren't for her strong self-control, she wouldn't have been able to hold on and would have trembled.

"Give me some money to live a peaceful life? I'm afraid that I'll be killed by then."

She had a trace of hesitation earlier, and it was gone by now.

"Thank you, Your Grace. I have been serving Old Madam for so many years. She is in poor health now. How can I leave like this? I hope you can grant my wish and allow me to keep serving Old Madam." Nanny Yu looked excited.

Shao Jing looked at Nanny Yu. Seeing the sincerity in her eyes, he nodded and said, "Okay, your wish is granted. You are getting old, so it's best for you to retire and live a peaceful life."

Nanny Yu lowered her head and said, "I don't get tired. I can serve Old Madam for a few more years."

"Alright then. Get dressed and go to the Ministry of Justice with the First Young Master." Shao Jing was relieved and nodded with satisfaction. After giving this order, he turned around and left.

After he left, Nanny Yu breathed a sigh of relief. Just now, she had felt Marquis Xing's scrutiny. If she had answered in a slightly inappropriate way, she would have died here today.

Since she was going out, of course, she had to make some preparations. She went in and told Old Madam about it. Old Madam nodded.

Old Madam's mouth and eyes were crooked, but Nanny Yu turned around and left as if she didn't see it.

When she went out of the main room of Old Madam, she went to the wing room where she lived. She had served Old Madam for a long time and had a young servant girl to serve her.

Nanny Yu wrote a note, sealed it, and asked the young servant girl to send it to Princess Chen. She said that it was for Princess Chen. The young girl didn't take it seriously. Nanny Yu was favored by Old Madam, so of course, she wrote it on Old Madam's instructions. After taking the note, the girl trotted out.

Nanny Yu specially told her to sneak away from the back gate, saying that the front gate was in chaos and she was afraid that someone would see her and cause new trouble.

The servant girl was so obedient that she didn't even ask.

Nanny Yu tidied up her clothes and went to the place where the carriage was parked to wait. Not long after, she saw the First Young Master's wheelchair coming over. She hurried forward to salute him and saw his gentle and calm face with fear.

The servants carried the wheelchair to a carriage. Nanny Yu sat in the small carriage at the back. The two carriages went out of the Marquis Xing's Mansion one after the other and headed for the Ministry of Justice.

In fact, Madam Jiang had not been sent to the prison of the Ministry of Justice yet. She was just taking a statement, and her statement had not been officially confirmed by the Ministry of Justice. As for other things, they had not been settled yet.

Madam Jiang's identity was not ordinary, and she was not really imprisoned. She was just locked up in a temporary room. When the First Young Master and the others arrived, Madam Jiang was still making a statement. Hearing that the First Young Master of Marquis Xing's Mansion came to visit his mother, the official of the Ministry of Justice who took the statement didn't make things difficult for them and let them go in to see Madam Jiang first.

In fact, Madam Jiang just kept saying that she was confused and talked nonsense back then. The official couldn't get any other information out of her.

Nanny Yu and the servants wheeled the wheelchair into the room. It was a very simple room with a table in the middle and a chair in the back. Madam Jiang was sitting on a stool in front of the table. Her hair was slightly tidied up, which made her look no longer like a crazy woman.

Seeing Shao Hua'an come in, she was very excited and suddenly stood up. "Hua'an."

"Mother!" Shao Hua'an stood up with the help of his servants and bowed to Madam Jiang.

"Sit down first. Why are you still bowing? Shao Jing is really useless. How could he take care of you like this?" Madam Jiang felt distressed and came over to press his arm to let him sit down.

Shao Hua'an insisted on standing, bowed respectfully to Madam Jiang, and then sat down again. He comforted Madam Jiang and said, "Mother, I'm fine. I've almost recovered!"

"That's nonsense. Shao Jing is really useless." Madam Jiang scolded, "He doesn't care about his son's affairs, but treats a mistress as a treasure. And he even has a daughter with that mistress. Is Shao Jing out of his mind..."

As a son, Shao Hua'an really couldn't say anything when his mother scolded his father. He didn't know what to say, so he just lowered his head and waited for Madam Jiang to stop scolding Shao Jing. Then, he persuaded his mother. "Mother, please don't blame Father. He has run out of his options."

Madam Jiang hated Shao Jing so much and cursed loudly, "He has run out of his options? Ru'er is dead, your leg is broken, and he still wants to marry a bitch. It's all his fault. Why isn't he the one who got into trouble? Why doesn't he go to hell?"

Chapter 1204 The Death of Madam Jiang

"Mother, there's nothing Father can do about it. He doesn't have much power. He was afraid that you would be sad and irritated by the death of my sister, so he asked the servants to block the news. As for what happened to me, it's really not a big deal," Shao Hua'an said gently.

From Nanny Yu's point of view, he looked exactly the same as Marquis Xing, which made her inexplicably scared.

"Since it's not a big deal, why can't he protect you?" Madam Jiang said angrily.

Shao Hua'an reached out to touch his head and said, "Mother, how did you suddenly know this news? Did Fifth Sister tell you?"

"Shao Wanru told me. She told me that Ru'er was dead. Why is Ru'er dead but not her? Ru'er is obviously more outstanding and better than her." Speaking of Shao Wanru, Madam Jiang burst into tears.

"Mother, don't cry. Did anyone see Fifth Sister come to see you?" Shao Hua'an comforted her.

"How would I know if anyone saw her? Someone must have brought her to me. Could she secretly come here to provoke me?" Madam Jiang said, annoyed.

"Madam, it's me who led Princess Chen to you." Nanny Yu came out from behind Shao Hua'an.

Only then did Madam Jiang notice Nanny Yu. She snorted and said, "Why did you bring her to me? Did you want to see her irritate and humiliate me?"

As soon as she thought of the scene at that time, Madam Jiang wanted to tear Shao Wanru apart. That bitch, whom she had always despised, actually looked down on her in an arrogant way.

When Shao Wanru first came to the capital city, she was still such an inconspicuous young girl. Even if Madam Jiang knew her identity, she didn't want to deal with her directly. She just secretly asked others to do it, and she just added fuel to the fire behind the scenes. She thought that an insignificant young girl wasn't worthy of her taking action personally back then.

She didn't expect that bitch to be so cunning that she managed to bully her.

If Madam Jiang had known this would happen, she would have destroyed Shao Wanru at that time. She regretted it very much.

"Princess Chen wanted to see you, Madam," Nanny Yu said, but she didn't mention that it was Old Madam's suggestion to trick Princess Chen into going there with some family heirloom.

"You brought her to me just because she wanted to see me? Do you work for Prince Chen's Mansion or Marquis Xing's Mansion?" Madam Jiang was annoyed and glared at Nanny Yu with hatred. If she were not in prison, she would have slapped Nanny Yu.

"How could this old servant be so careless? She has served Old Madam for so many years in vain. Sure enough, Old Madam is useless, and so is her old maid. They can't even handle such a small thing."

"Yes, Madam, you are right." Nanny Yu did not argue and lowered her head to admit her mistake.

"Mother, it's Fifth Sister's fault that she provoked you, but you shouldn't accuse Father at random. What should we do as your children? You two have quarreled so much, but now we have to clean up the mess." Shao Hua'an reached out to press his forehead and helplessly interrupted Madam Jiang, who had wanted to scold Nanny Yu.

Speaking of this topic, Madam Jiang was quite agitated. With a little madness in her eyes, she said loudly, "Your father is not a good person. Your sister has just passed away, and he's now trying to marry another woman. How... how could he be so cruel? I hate him, I hate him. I hate him so much that it's best if he dies!"

"Mother, Father also has his difficulties." Shao Hua'an sighed.

"What difficulties does he have? He covets that bitch's body and wants to replace me with her. He can just keep dreaming. If anything happens to me, I will definitely drag him down with me," Madam Jiang said fiercely. Her face was distorted, and she was no longer as beautiful as before.

Shao Hua'an's patience was running out. He reached out to rub his eyebrows again and said, "Mother, don't be angry. There's a younger sister. Father is doing this for her. We can't have my younger sister stay homeless. After all, she is Father's child."

Madam Jiang hated such words the most, so she shouted angrily, "Your father's child? How dare he say that? I don't know how many mistresses he has kept. Is he going to marry all of them? In the future, there will be no place for you in the mansion..."

Nanny Yu stood aside without saying a word. She had finished what she had to say, so it was not her business now.

"Mother, don't be like this. It's true that Father has let you down at a certain point, but you can't say that about him. Do you have to drag him down with you because of this? Mother, even if you don't have him, you still have me. I can support you!" Shao Hua'an interrupted her again. He slowly stood up, pulled Madam Jiang to sit down on a stool, and then sat down again.

He wheeled his wheelchair forward, looked at Madam Jiang, and said softly, "Mother, you still have me. Xiran and I can definitely support you together. Father has cheated on you, but you should let it go. If you really die with him because of such a small thing, what will happen to me? I'll lose both my parents and the Marquis Xing's Mansion."

Speaking of this, Shao Hua'an became emotional. His eyes turned red, and he looked straight at Madam Jiang with pleading eyes.

Madam Jiang felt distressed. Her son was also an excellent man. Now that he had fallen into such a situation, she felt sad for a while. With tears falling down, she looked a little sober. "Hua'an... I, I know what to say..."

Even if she and Shao Jing were both dead, she could not let anything happen to Marquis Xing's Mansion. The mansion belonged to her son, and it must belong to him. She understood what her son meant. She would not say those words again. That was her guess, and now it was even more impossible for her to say it casually. At that time, she was so angry that she just wanted to drag Shao Jing down with her.

"Mother, you will be fine. After you finish taking the statement, I will take you back. If you don't like Father, I can take you to live in another courtyard for some days." Shao Hua'an looked calm.

Madam Jiang shook her head and said with hatred, "No, I want to go back to the mansion. As long as I'm here, I won't let that bitch in." It could be seen that she really hated Shao Jing.

"Mother..." Shao Hua'an hesitated for a moment, lowered his voice, and said seriously, "Mother, can you not be so angry? It's not a big deal. Although Father is in the wrong, he won't spoil a concubine and kill his wife. When he marries her, she'll just be his concubine. It won't matter."

Madam Jiang gritted her teeth with hatred and said with a twisted look, "I won't let her in, even if I die."

Shao Hua'an fell silent. After a long while, he comforted Madam Jiang and said, "Mother, don't worry. That won't happen. Stay here. I'll go back first. I'll pick you up when all of this is over."

"I see. You can go back now!" Madam Jiang nodded and calmed down.

"Mother, just tell those people the truth. You can't frame Father because he has a mistress. The Marquis Xing's Mansion can't handle any more trouble," Shao Hua'an said sadly.

Seeing her son like this, Madam Jiang nodded. "Don't worry. I won't talk nonsense."

She still had her son, and she couldn't afford to fight with Shao Jing. She couldn't die like this. She had to go back and stop Shao Jing from marrying another woman.

The news of Madam Jiang's death reached Prince Chen's Mansion in the afternoon.

Shao Wanru calmly listened to Qing'er telling this news.

When she received Nanny Yu's message, she knew that Madam Jiang was going to die at the hands of her son and husband.

She would not pity Madam Jiang but only ridiculed her.

In her last life, the blood of her first branch had helped make the second branch prosperous. Now they were just paying off their debt.

Madam Jiang probably didn't expect that she would end up like this, let alone know that her son would also deal with her.

She went to the Ministry of Justice to make a statement, but she even got herself killed. This would inevitably cause a great disturbance.

"Does his Highness know this news?" Shao Wanru was worried about Chu Liuchen.

"Don't worry, My Lady. His Highness has known it for a long time. When Xiao Xuanzi came to inform me, he asked me to tell you not to worry." Qing'er said with a smile.

Shao Wanru's men all felt glad about Madam Jiang's death. The Madam of Marquis Xing had been secretly plotting against Shao Wanru since she came to the capital.

When Nanny Yu sent the message, Shao Wanru had already informed Chu Liuchen. Thinking that Chu Liuchen had been well-prepared, she nodded. Shao Jing was not the only one involved in the death of

Madam Jiang. There were other people involved. Shao Jing was not that powerful, so it was impossible for him to directly intervene in the affairs of the Ministry of Justice.

There was someone backing him. It should be Prince Cheng.

Chu Liuchen had mentioned the matter between Shao Jing and Prince Cheng to Shao Wanru. Prince Cheng had always been very low-key and usually did not make any trouble. It was as if he really wanted to have a peaceful life. He had been living in the temple all the time. He didn't care about secular things and was unworldly. It was impossible to find fault with him. Now it was a good opportunity.

In Chu Liuchen's study, he leaned lazily against the wide armrest of the chair, knocked on it with his slender fingers, and asked casually, "Have you found the guy?"

"I found him. He was a low-ranking official of the Ministry of Justice. At that time, he entered the room and then left. After that, no one else went in. He said that he went to arrange for Madam Jiang to prepare a statement at that time. After he entered the room, he found that she was dead. She ran into the wall and died with blood all over the ground."

Xiao Xuanzi reported in detail. What he had told Qing'er before was not so detailed.

"Isn't there always someone monitoring the place where the statement was made? Where is that person?" Chu Liuchen asked.

Xiao Xuanzi said, "The man had been monitoring the place. He even heard the conversation between Madam Jiang and First Young Master Shao clearly. After First Young Master Shao left, he was available for the time being, so he went to another room for monitoring. Coincidentally, he saw First Young Master Shao leave. When he left, Madam Jiang was fine. But when he went in again to take the statement, she was already dead.

"No one noticed the person who sneaked in."

"Send your men to intercept this person. Tonight shall be the day of his death! After finding him, send him to Chu Qing. Hasn't he been reluctant to take action? I'll show them..." Chu Liuchen said leisurely. Prince Cheng had given himself away. In this case, Chu Liuchen would not give him the chance to retreat. As for Chu Qing, he was ambitious and had been very cautious. He had been playing tricks secretly. Moreover, he had many backers. He appeared weak, but in fact, he was not weak.

Chapter 1205 Prime Minister Zhang Taking Action

The whole court was shocked that Madam Jiang, the Madam of Marquis Xing, had died in the Ministry of Justice.

Some officials who got the news came to the Ministry of Justice to inquire about this matter one by one. She merely went there to make a statement. How could such a shocking thing happen? No one could believe it.

It was unknown whether someone had intervened in the affairs of the Ministry of Justice or Madam Jiang had really committed suicide.

After collecting the news, the minister of the Ministry of Justice went to the Palace with Wen Xichi, knelt in front of the Emperor, and asked for forgiveness in the Imperial Study.

The Emperor looked at the memorial in front of him with a livid face and was very angry. Such a small matter had caused a great disturbance. After he read the memorial, he threw it down.

"Tell me, what happened? Can't you handle such a small matter well in the Ministry of Justice? How could such a person die?"

"Your Majesty, please don't be angry. Please allow me to report this matter to you." Although the face of the minister of the Ministry of Justice was pale, his words were relatively calm. "When Madam Jiang entered the Ministry of Justice, she had strangulation marks on her neck. She said that Marquis Xing had done that to her. Marquis Xing said that he didn't know. Maybe she did it herself and deliberately wanted to frame him up. Since she managed to do that, I guess she was also capable of doing this."

"Do you mean that Madam Jiang hit ran into the wall to take revenge on the Marquis Xing's Mansion?" the Emperor asked coldly.

The minister of the Ministry of Justice thought for a moment and said, "I think it may be the same as what happened before. She just wanted to make some trouble on purpose, but she didn't expect to get herself killed for real."

"Did she do it also because of Shao Jing?"

"Well..." The minister of the Ministry of Justice hesitated for a moment and said, "The monitor said that Madam Jiang hated Princess Chen very much. He said that her daughter's death had something to do with Princess Chen. Princess Chen had specially told Madam Jiang about Secondary Consort Shao, and the servants of the Marquis Xing's Mansion could testify to that. I think this matter is also related to Princess Chen."

That was what the monitor said. According to Madam Jiang's words, she hated Princess Chen very much. When she suddenly heard the news of her daughter's death, she could bear it. When she calmed down, she might hold a grudge against her niece. It was possible for her to have run into the wall since she was capable of making strangulation marks on her neck.

Wen Xichi kowtowed to the Emperor and said, "Your Majesty, I think it has nothing to do with Princess Chen."

The Emperor raised his eyebrows and asked, "Why?"

Wen Xichi analyzed calmly, "I don't think it has anything to do with Princess Chen because of a few key points. The monitor heard that Madam Jiang hated her and said that Princess Chen deliberately told her about Secondary Consort Shao's death to drive her crazy and do something harmful to the Marquis Xing's Mansion. But it's just a one-sided story. I heard that Princess Chen went to the Marquis Xing's Mansion today on their instructions, not on her own initiative.

"Everyone in the capital city knows that the Marquis Xing's Mansion doesn't treat Princess Chen well, and they don't treat her as a real relative. Even so, Princess Chen went to see them as soon as possible when they were in trouble. As for Madam Jiang, she had been locked up before. Princess Chen doesn't have a good relationship with the Marquis Xing's Mansion, so she couldn't have visited them without a guide."

Wen Xichi analyzed unhurriedly, "The Marquis Xing's Mansion asked her to see them, and it was their men who led her there. After this, they put all the blame on Princess Chen, and their servants proved it. Your Majesty, do you think it's credible?"

In this analysis, Princess Chen seemed to have fallen into someone else's trap. The Emperor's face darkened.

"Princess Chen is plotted against?"

"I don't know if Princess Chen is plotted against, but later Madam Jiang shouted at the door and said that Marquis Xing had killed the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. Prince Chen happened to hear her, so she was sent to the Ministry of Justice. If this matter is really investigated, Marquis Xing will not be exonerated. If what Madam Jiang said is true, I'm afraid that the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion will be implicated."

Wen Xichi made a thorough analysis.

The Emperor's heart skipped a beat and he suddenly asked with a frown, "Did Shao Jing do this to escape from the charge?" If that was the case, not only Shao Jiang, the Heir of Duke Xing, but also Infanta Qinghua had died in Shao Jing's hands.

"I don't know. I only know that if Madam Jiang didn't commit suicide, someone must have deliberately destroyed the evidence. Of course, the one who destroyed the evidence is the most advantageous person for Shao Jing."

Who would benefit the most? Was it Shao Jing?

As soon as Madam Jiang shouted those words at the gate, Shao Jing was immediately involved. Moreover, she was sent to the Ministry of Justice by Prince Chen. The Ministry of Justice would definitely investigate this matter thoroughly, even if it was unlikely to be the case.

This was also the reason why Madam Jiang was taken to the Ministry of Justice to make a statement. Otherwise, with her identity, she wouldn't have been taken away so easily. However, since it was Prince Chen who asked the officials to take Madam Jiang away, no one dared to say anything about it.

In addition to the minister of the Ministry of Justice, there was also Prime Minister Zhang in the Imperial Study. At this time, they were also silent. According to Wen Xichi's words, Shao Jing must have used someone's power to secretly deal with Madam Jiang.

If it was true, it meant that Shao Jing had killed his own brother.

Prime Minister Zhang's eyes fell on Wen Xichi. "How dare he say that? If it were me and Prime Minister Wen, we would not have said it so directly. We would have made it more euphemistically. He's still a young man after all and always has too much ambition." Prime Minister Zhang shook his head secretly.

He felt that Wen Xichi was very aggressive.

The Emperor was silent for a while and then said angrily, "Investigate this matter. Prime Minister Zhang, you'll deal with it!"

Since the Ministry of Justice had made such a big mistake, the Emperor didn't trust the minister's ability, so he asked Prime Minister Zhang to deal with this matter and supervise the minister.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Prime Minister Zhang nodded and accepted the order.

He walked out of the Imperial Study with the minister of the Ministry of Justice and Wen Xichi. When they got outside, the minister of Justice breathed a sigh of relief and wiped the cold sweat on his forehead. What had happened was too shocking.

"Thank you, Prime Minister Zhang!" The minister of the Ministry of Justice cupped his hands to Prime Minister Zhang.

"It's all right. We both work for His Majesty. Please tell me the details about what happened at that time," said Prime Minister Zhang with a gentle smile as he waved his hand.

"At first, Prince Chen sent his men over. Third Young Master Wen happened to be there, so I asked him to go there first. Since having Madam Jiang take a statement was what Prince Chen wanted, we were just carrying out his order. I didn't expect that such a thing would happen!" The minister of the Ministry of Justice felt greatly troubled. Madam Jiang died in the Ministry of Justice, and this matter was really difficult to deal with.

"Then you'll tell me more about it. Let's talk as we walk." Prime Minister Zhang patted Wen Xichi on the shoulder. He and Prime Minister Wen had been working together for many years. Although they had never gotten along on the surface and had different political opinions, they had a good personal relationship. In his eyes, Wen Xichi was like his nephew.

"Yes, sir!" Wen Xichi nodded, but his eyes bypassed Prime Minister Zhang and fell on a corner ahead.

At the corner, Chu Liuchen, dressed in a cyan brocade robe, came over. His handsome face showed a frivolous smile in the sun, and he looked calm, not affected by the death of Madam Jiang at all.

Prime Minister Zhang and the minister of the Ministry of Justice also saw him. When Chu Liuchen came over, they bowed to him. "Greetings, Your Highness."

Chu Liuchen stopped and asked, "Did you come here for what happened to Madam Jiang?"

"Precisely," Prime Minister Zhang replied.

"Is Uncle the Emperor angry?" Chu Liuchen pointed in the direction of the Imperial Study.

"His Majesty is very angry!" Prime Minister Zhang nodded and sighed. "It's really strange. Why did Madam Jiang inexplicably commit suicide?"

"Who knows! Maybe she thought that her death would benefit her son," Chu Liuchen said indifferently. It could be seen that he didn't take Madam Jiang's death to heart.

Prime Minister Zhang's eyes fell on Chu Liuchen's face and looked at him carefully. In fact, they didn't like Prince Chen before. The legitimate son of the deceased emperor was sick and weak, so he couldn't do anything even if he wanted to. So what if he was favored by the Emperor and the Empress Dowager?

But now they had to face up to him. When did Prince Chen come in front of them in such an unstoppable manner? Had they misunderstood something?

Prime Minister Zhang inadvertently met Chu Liuchen's eyes, which were as deep as two dark pools and seemed to be able to extinguish endless light. His heart skipped a beat involuntarily.

"Is there anything else I can do for you, Prime Minister Zhang? You've been staring at me, haven't you?" Chu Liuchen asked with a smile.

Prime Minister Zhang reacted quickly and said with a smile, "Your Highness, you seem to look much better."

"I've almost recovered. How I looked before must be ridiculous," Chu Liuchen said with a faint smile.

Prime Minister Zhang's heart skipped a beat and he hurriedly said, "Not ridiculous at all! It's the blessing of the entire Kingdom of Dongcang for Your Highness to recover. We shall stop disturbing you now, Your Highness!"

"You're too courteous, Prime Minister Zhang!" Chu Liuchen narrowed his eyes and glanced at Wen Xichi, who was silent. He then went to the Imperial Study.

Prime Minister Zhang and the others turned around and walked out. Along the way, Prime Minister Zhang didn't ask Wen Xichi anything, and Wen Xichi didn't take the initiative to mention the matter. The minister of the Ministry of Justice looked at the two of them and found that they both looked thoughtful, so he kept silent. In fact, he was also worried about how things turned out to be like this.

Chu Liuchen entered the Imperial Study and saw the Emperor sitting behind the desk with an angry face. He was still angry.

Chu Liuchen took a step forward with a smile and bowed respectfully to the Emperor. "Greetings, Uncle the Emperor!"

Seeing that it was Chu Liuchen, the Emperor slightly restrained his anger and asked, "Why are you here at this time?"

"I heard that Madam Jiang had an accident, so I specially came to ask what happened. I've caused this trouble. I'm sorry that I got you annoyed!" Chu Liuchen said gently.

"It has nothing to do with you. Shao Jing... Shao Jing..." the Emperor said angrily. Since Shao Jiang went to Marquis Xing's Mansion, the mansion had become more and more troublesome. And now such a thing had happened. "They can't even handle their own affairs well. It's obvious that they are useless."

Chu Liuchen didn't answer. He sat down on a chair, took a sip of the tea served by a young eunuch, and said slowly, "Uncle the Emperor, at the gate of Marquis Xing's Mansion, Madam Jiang said that Marquis Xing had killed the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. I don't know if it's true. If it is, Shao Jing has exceeded his authority."

"Shao Jing has a powerful backer?" The Emperor pressed his hand on the desk and immediately stopped moving.

Chapter 1206 The Junior Official and the Fire

“Shao Jing has a backer, and what happened to Shao Jiang happened more than a decade ago. At that time, my son was still young, and my imperial concubines were not that powerful. The only man who could do that is my younger brother, Prince Cheng. Is Shao Jing Prince Cheng’s man?” The Emperor clenched his fists slowly. “If that is the case, he deserves to die.”

“Uncle the Emperor, don’t get angry. It won’t be good for your health. When I came in just now, I saw Prime Minister Zhang and the minister of the Ministry of Justice going out. Prime Minister Zhang has always been capable, so he should be able to find out the truth soon. I’m here to report another thing today.” Chu Liuchen stood up and bowed again. Then, he took out a memorial from his wide sleeve and presented it.

“I’ve checked it out and found out these things. Please take a look.”

Derong stepped forward, took the memorial from Chu Liuchen, presented it to the Emperor, and opened it.

The Emperor read rapidly, and the more he read, the more serious his face became. After reading the memorial and recollecting it, he asked, “Do you think there is something wrong with it?”

“I think there is something wrong!” Chu Liuchen said, “Uncle, don’t you think so? So many years have passed, but we still can’t find out the truth.”

The Emperor fell silent. A lot of things had happened recently. No matter how hard he tried, he seemed to be unable to find out the truth. He couldn’t find out anything about the current incident and the maple leaf painting sent to the Empress Dowager, as well as what had happened between Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou.

Since so many things had happened, something must be wrong.

“There can only be one coincidence. Since so many strange things happened, this is not a coincidence. My son may have been involved in it. What about Prince Cheng? Since Madam Jiang’s death may have something to do with Prince Cheng, what about what happened before? I’ve suspected that some things are related to the Empress. Now when I think about it, they may also be related to Prince Cheng.”

Thinking of this, he suddenly seemed to find the reason for many things that could not be explained or investigated.

“Prince Cheng is indeed suspicious!

“I found it strange back then. Why did he want to become a monk wholeheartedly? Originally, he didn’t really want to be a monk but just tried to avoid me. So that’s how he managed to prevent me from seeing what he has been doing...”

After such a serious thing happened in the Ministry of Justice, Prime Minister Zhang summoned all the people present at that time and interrogated them. All the people who had contact with Madam Jiang came over, including Wen Xichi.

Many people began to panic. Only the officials of the Ministry of Justice could really understand how terrible it was to be involved in this kind of thing.

Wen Xichi sat calmly in the middle of the crowd. When Prime Minister Zhang asked, he repeated everything without any deviation or subjective thoughts. He answered completely according to what he saw, heard, or wrote down.

Prime Minister Zhang was very satisfied. After hearing Wen Xichi's reply, he asked him to cooperate with the investigation on the side, while the others asked more questions. It was late at night that some relevant personnel were allowed to go home.

They could finally go home, so they went back to their own places. It was late, and one of the junior officials came out with them. Then, he separated from the others, turned a few corners, and walked into a long alley. After he passed that place, he would reach his home.

The alley was very long, and it was dark in the middle of the road. As soon as the junior official came here, he suddenly felt a heavy blow on his head. His vision darkened and he immediately fainted.

A person came from the depths of the dark alley and reached out to lift the junior official. Suddenly, he was also hit on the back of his ear. His body went limp and he fainted silently at the place where the junior official had fainted before.

The junior official was taken away. The one who took him did not pass through the alley. He turned around and came to an ordinary carriage at the entrance of the alley. Then, he disappeared into the night.

Not long after, another man in black came over. When he saw the person lying unconscious on the ground, he went up and woke him up with two slaps.

The person who came later lowered his voice and asked, "Where is he?"

"He was here just now. I knocked him out." The man who came earlier jumped up, reached out to touch the back of his head, and said angrily, "Someone took him away behind us!"

The other man shouted in a grim voice, "Chase after him!" If that junior official fell into the hands of someone with ill intentions, then it would be a great disaster. They originally intended to get rid of this official, yet never had they imagined that someone was right behind them when they carried out their mission. They had failed.

There were not only these two people but also several people around. They didn't know what had happened in the alley, so they didn't get skeptical. When they heard that something had happened in the alley at this time, someone immediately thought of the ordinary carriage.

They didn't see the man who got in the carriage, but when the carriage left, someone saw it.

Prince Cheng looked at the black-clad guard in front of him coldly and asked, "They're going to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion?"

"Yes. I was a little late. Our men failed to see the person who was taken away. They only said that a carriage happened to pass there, stopped at the entrance of the alley, and blocked the road. Then, the carriage left. Our men paid special attention to the carriage because something happened in the alley. Later, when they inquired about it, it is said that the carriage stopped at the back gate of Commandery

Prince Qing's Mansion after a few turns. The people inside entered Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, and then the carriage was parked there."

The black-clad guard explained in detail. It took him a long time to find many flaws along the way, and he was sure that those people were from Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion.

Prince Cheng thought for a moment and asked, "Why is the carriage of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion parked outside the back gate? Where is the coachman?"

"Maybe they're trying to cover up something. In this way, even if someone finds it, they won't think that the carriage belongs to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. When I went over, the coachman was gone," the black-clad guard said.

Those people didn't directly enter Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, and they could deceive others by pretending to pass by Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Only in this way could they avoid suspicion from others. It was just like Prince Cheng staying in the temple could avoid the surveillance of his brother, the Emperor.

Prince Cheng felt that it was reasonable and said with a sneer, "Chu Qing is merely a nobody. How dare he try to take this position? He doesn't even know his place!"

The guard did not dare to answer and could only lower his head.

"Go to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion and set a fire!" Prince Cheng said casually. He really didn't take Chu Qing seriously, but if Chu Qing wanted to intervene, he would definitely teach him a lesson. "When it's on fire, find this person when helping Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion put out the fire."

This junior official was the key. Prince Cheng didn't want Chu Qing to ruin his plan.

Right now, the most important thing was to find that junior official and silence him.

"Your Highness, won't this make a big deal out of it?" the guard asked uneasily. It would not be appropriate to set a fire in the middle of the night while the whole capital could see it.

"It doesn't matter. Chu Qing will be afraid only when we make a big deal out of it. No matter what his purpose is, he must want to find that person and kill him," Prince Cheng said indifferently. Chu Qing had never been powerful enough to be his match, so he looked down on him.

"Yes, Your Highness!" The guard answered and left. Seeing that it was about time, he immediately arranged for his men to go out.

Prince Cheng didn't wait for the result and went to sleep after washing up. It was not a big deal to deal with Chu Qing. So what if Chu Qing's Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was burned?

Prince Cheng thought that he had seen through Chu Qing and thought that Chu Qing was not a big deal at all, but the result shocked him.

Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was on fire. The fire was so big that it burned for a long time. People could see very far in the night and many people were alarmed. Not only the servants of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion but also the people around the mansion were awakened and came over to help put out the fire with water.

Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was newly bestowed by the Emperor. It was inferior compared with other mansions, and it covered a small area. There were also some other mansions around it. This area was not quiet, and there were many people coming and going.

In fact, Chu Qing was not satisfied with this place, but since it was granted by the Emperor, he had to live there. The mansion was not his center of focus anyway, so he could only live there for the time being.

It looked inconspicuous outside the mansion, but in fact, the security measures in the mansion were very good, and there were many secret guards. Even because the place was small, it was more closely monitored.

There was a fire. Some guards went to put out the fire, and some hid in the dark to check on the neighbors who came to help.

There was nothing wrong with most of the neighbors who came over to help put out the fire sincerely. However, some of them quietly rushed into the front yard and backyard of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion and took off their ordinary clothes. These people were all dressed in black. It was obvious that they were not guards of ordinary families.

Someone immediately reported it to Chu Qing, who was furious. He had carefully hidden his strength to make himself look inconspicuous. Now such a thing had happened. Who wanted to hurt him at the moment?

Needless to say, the fire must have been deliberately set by those people. They wanted to find something in his mansion or find someone.

There were many secrets in his mansion, and how could he let others see them? He ordered his men to kill the men in black whenever they saw one. There was no need to show mercy. They could just take those men as bandits and kill them. In the dark night, no one knew who they were.

Since Chu Qing gave this order, his guards immediately took action.

Prince Cheng's men thought that no one would know about what they were doing, so they carefully searched for the junior official of the Ministry of Justice. Unexpectedly, they had been targeted for a long time. Many people screamed in the darkness and immediately died.

The fire was very strong, and there were many people putting out the fire. Everyone was in a hurry to put out the fire, so the screams coming from the depths of the house did not attract any attention at all.

Several guards of Prince Cheng's Mansion died without being discovered. Later, it was the leader of the guards who reacted the fastest. When a sword stabbed him in the dark, he quickly jumped onto the roof and fought with the guards of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion who were hiding.

Several guards jumped out of the dark and appeared in public. Many people, who were putting out the fire, saw them and screamed in fear. One wave after another came. Was someone going to take action against Commandery Prince Qing?

The scene was in chaos.

Jing Zhaoyin's men finally showed up. A large group of soldiers rushed in. Half of them went to put out the fire, and the other half rushed into the house to arrest the guards who were in the middle of a fight. In the fire, blood splashed. There were broken arms and legs, and screams rang out. At this moment, Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was almost like purgatory.

Chapter 1207 Shao Jie'er Is Suspicious

The fire in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was put out, and Chu Qing was only slightly injured, not seriously injured. He had inexplicably suffered such an unexpected disaster. He suppressed his anger and overturned a table with hatred. He glared at the guard in front of him and said, "What the hell happened? Who did this?"

"Your Highness, this is very strange. I don't know what happened either. Those people mixed in with the neighbors who put out the fire. They were wearing ordinary clothes. When they entered the mansion, they took off their clothes and searched the rooms one by one. It seemed that they were looking for something. They were coming for our mansion."

The guard reported carefully.

"They were coming for me?" Chu Qing's face was livid. His secrets could not be revealed. Who suspected him?

When he thought of this, his face darkened. Who discovered his secrets?

The Emperor? It was impossible. If it was the Emperor, he would take action directly and would not investigate Chu Qing's mansion secretly. If it was not the Emperor, it would be Prince Yue, Prince Zhou, Prince Chen, Prince Xin, or Prince Cheng.

Of course, it was also possible that it was Prime Minister Zhang or Prime Minister Wen who were cunning. Chu Qing didn't know what tricks they would play. There was one thing that was certain, that was, someone must be secretly suspecting him, and that was why they would do this.

Chu Qing gnashed his teeth and said, "Go and find out who is related." He had been working hard for so many years, not merely for his title of Commandery Prince Qing. It was not the right time yet, and he would eliminate any possibility of exposure.

"Yes, Your Highness." The guard took the order and left.

It was quiet in the study. Chu Qing thought carefully about what went wrong and which step he had taken to get suspicious.

Since he appeared in front of everyone, he had always been weak. Compared with those people, he was not eye-catching at all. How could anyone try to harm him? Did he expose something?

"You need to investigate whether there is a spy among the newcomers in the mansion!" A middle-aged beautiful woman came out from behind the screen. She had no one serve her, and her face was equally serious.

She had a beautiful face. Even if she looked old, one could tell that she was a rare beauty when she was young. Her hair was tied up with a hairpin, which was not gorgeous. Compared with other women, her hair was too short and looked a little weird. At most, it reached her shoulders.

Chu Qing stood up and said, "Mother!"

Consort Dowager Qing nodded, came over, and sat down with a frown. She looked outstanding at first glance, but after careful observation, one would find that she appeared a bit old. Chu Qing was young, and she was Consort Dowager Qing. She was not supposed to look so old, but in the past few years in the Yuhui Nunnery, she had worked hard and spent countless efforts, which caused her to look older than her peers.

However, since Consort Dowager Qing came out of the Yuhui Nunnery, she had basically refused to meet guests and had been staying in the mansion. It was said that she was too embarrassed to meet people with her short hair, so she refused all the people who invited her.

At first, some people had invited her, but after they repeatedly got rejected by her, no one came to invite her.

Originally, people invited her just for the sake of Chu Qing. They also did it to find out about Chu Qing's background. Since Consort Dowager Qing didn't appreciate it, this matter was left unsettled.

Everyone thought that Consort Dowager Qing, who had lived in the Yuhui Nunnery for a long time, must be a quiet person. In addition, her hair had just grown, which was a bit too short. It was indecent after all, so it was not strange for her to not receive guests.

No one expected that Consort Dowager Qing was unusual. She didn't want to meet guests just because she lived in seclusion and didn't want to arouse others' suspicion, nor did she want others to find out Chu Qing's background.

Sometimes, it was easier for women to find out what men couldn't find out when they chatted.

"Mother, do you think there is a spy among the newcomers in our mansion?" Chu Qing frowned slightly, picked up the cup in front of him, and drank the liquor in one go.

Consort Dowager Qing said coldly, "Most of your former servants have been reviewed, so it's basically impossible for any of them to betray you. You've been safe for so many years. It can be seen that these people are reliable. But recently, there are some new servants in the mansion, and these people are very suspicious."

"Don't worry. I will investigate them one by one." Chu Qing nodded. This matter really needed to be investigated carefully.

Consort Dowager Qing squinted at Chu Qing and said, "The first one that needs to be investigated should be Shao Jie'er."

"Shao Jie'er? I don't think she's a spy." Chu Qing hesitated for a moment. Before Shao Jie'er entered the mansion, he didn't like her very much and even hated her. But after entering Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, Shao Jie'er had always been flattering him. Now there was no proper female master in his mansion, and Consort Dowager Qing didn't manage the trivial things. Shao Jie'er appeared to be very considerate.

There were other women in Chu Qing's mansion, but how could these women compare with Shao Jie'er?

Shao Jie'er's appearance was inferior to that of the four sisters of Marquis Xing's Mansion, but compared with other women, she was still very good-looking. In addition, she carefully flattered Chu Qing and tried her best to please him. Her behavior was also in line with fine etiquette, which made Chu Qing very satisfied and even liked her a little.

This was why Chu Qing was hesitating. He didn't think there was anything wrong with Shao Jie'er.

"Qing, don't forget that Shao Jie'er didn't want to marry you before. Can you guarantee that she loves you wholeheartedly now?" Consort Dowager Qing said unhappily.

Chu Qing waved his hand dismissively and said, "Mother, it was Shao Jing's fault that he deliberately led Shao Jie'er to have a bad impression of me, so she didn't want to marry into my mansion. Now things are different since the misunderstanding has been cleared up. You have witnessed how she entered the mansion. She should have done a good job, right?"

"Qing, if a girl wants to achieve her goal, how can she not compromise? Wasn't I like this back then? I almost made the previous empress resign from her position. If the deceased emperor hadn't died early, I might have become the Empress at that time. But what exactly happened?"

The corners of Consort Dowager's mouth twitched, and she said indifferently, "Shao Jie'er is Shao Jing's daughter, so she is destined not to be on the same side with us. Shao Jing has a close relationship with Prince Cheng, and Shao Yanru used to have an ambiguous relationship with Prince Yue and Prince Zhou, so Marquis Xing's Mansion will never take our side. Shao Jie'er is just a concubine's daughter. If Shao Jing asks her to do something, she will do it."

Her words made Chu Qing fall silent. The corners of his eyes twitched twice, and his eyes darkened. His determination turned into hesitation.

Although he felt that Shao Jie'er was now devoted to him, was considerate of him very much, and even cared more about him than Consort Dowager Qing did, he certainly trusted Consort Dowager most. Thinking of Shao Jie'er's identity and Shao Jing's secret actions, he almost forgot everything about what Shao Jie'er did in the past. He nodded hard and said, "Mother, don't worry. I will investigate Shao Jie'er. It's best if she's clean. If something goes wrong..."

A trace of gloom flashed across Chu Qing's eyes. Shao Jie'er was just the daughter of a concubine abandoned by Marquis Xing's Mansion. It was easy for him to kill her.

Consort Dowager Qing was quite satisfied with Chu Qing's answer. She nodded and looked a little calmer. "You are going to marry Princess Yuyan soon. Even if Shao Jie'er is clean, you can't spoil her too much. Qiuyi is your first consort, and she is also loyal to you."

At the mention of Mo Qiuyi, Chu Qing fell silent again. There was no doubt that Mo Qiuyi was loyal to him. Apart from her, Wei Dahai, who was backing Mo Qiuyi, was also loyal to him. However, as a woman, Mo Qiuyi was not as beautiful as Shao Jie'er at all, nor was she coquettish as Shao Jie'er. In fact, Chu Qing did not like her at all.

This was also the most important reason why he acquiesced in his marriage with Princess Yuyan.

"Qing, Qiuyi is not good-looking, but she is the most suitable one to be your first consort. When you ascend to the throne in the future, you can have all kinds of women. You can choose any beautiful

woman in the world.” Consort Dowager Qing knew what Chu Qing meant at a glance. She smiled and comforted him in a soft voice.

Shao Wanru’s figure inexplicably appeared in Chu Qing’s mind. She was exceedingly beautiful and exquisite. Was she the woman he wanted? Thinking of this, he felt eager. When he ascended to the throne, such a peerless beauty would be his.

“Mother, don’t worry. I know what to do.” Chu Qing nodded.

Consort Dowager Qing was very satisfied. She stood up and left. The study was where Chu Qing worked, so it was inconvenient for her to come here often.

The old maids and servant girls who served Consort Dowager Qing were waiting outside the courtyard. When they saw Consort Dowager Qing coming out, they hurried forward to salute and then left with her.

After taking a few steps, they saw two servant girls coming from ahead. One of them was holding a lantern, and the other was holding a hamper. Shao Jie’er was walking in the front.

They happened to meet each other. Shao Jie’er hurried forward to bow and said, “Greetings, Your Highness!”

Consort Dowager Qing stood still and looked Shao Jie’er up and down with a trace of disgust in her eyes. She didn’t like Shao Jie’er. If it weren’t for her son who favored this woman, she would have taken action a long time ago.

“Shao Jing’s daughter will be a disaster for us if we keep her around.”

“What are you doing here?” Consort Dowager Qing asked coldly.

Shao Jie’er took a step back, pointed to the hamper in the hands of the servant girl behind her, and said, “I’m going to see His Highness and send him a midnight snack.”

“With such a big thing happening in the mansion, Qing’er is not in the mood for a snack at this time. You should go back!” Consort Dowager Qing waved her hand as if she was driving away something dirty.

Shao Jie’er felt very wronged, ashamed, and angry, but she did not dare to say anything.

Since she entered Commandery Prince Qing’s Mansion, this Consort Dowager had disliked her very much. From time to time, Consort Dowager Qing would call her over to torture her, but she dared not say anything even though she was angry.

“Yes, Your Highness!” Shao Jie’er said softly. After bowing to Consort Dowager Qing, she turned around and was about to leave.

Consort Dowager Qing suddenly said, “Wait a minute.”

Shao Jie’er had to stop.

“Come with me. Since such a terrifying thing happened, I got so startled that I can’t sleep for the moment. Come and massage my legs,” Consort Dowager Qing said.

Shao Jie'er clenched her fists hard in anger and suppressed the anger in her heart. There were so many servants in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, but Consort Dowager Qing didn't ask them to serve her but preferred to let her serve her. She was really pissed.

However, she had to hold back her anger. Shao Jie'er knew her status very well. As soon as she entered the mansion, she was beaten by Consort Dowager Qing with an excuse. Since then, Shao Jie'er had known her status in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, and she had tried her best to please Chu Qing.

Chapter 1208 Impeaching Princess Chen

The junior official of the Ministry of Justice disappeared in an alley. At that time, a carriage entered that area, and then it stopped at the back gate of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Also, someone else was seen in the alley.

That night, Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was on fire, and some men in black invaded it. Many people saw that Commandery Prince Qing was injured. Early in the morning, Chu Qing knelt in the hall and cried to the Emperor.

He said that he didn't know who he had offended, and that person had sent so many people to assassinate him. Chu Qing ask the Emperor to uphold justice for him.

The Emperor was furious and asked the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court to investigate the case together. Prime Minister Zhang and Prime Minister Wen were also reprimanded. The officials of the six ministries looked timid like a group of quails, for fear that the Emperor would call their names.

Standing in front of the stairs, Chu Liuyue also frowned. This matter happened so suddenly. He wasn't aware of it before. He couldn't help guessing who did it. He looked sideways at Chu Liuzhou and thought that it might be Chu Liuzhou who had done such a reckless thing.

Then, he looked at Chu Liuchen. He was so ruthless, so it was possible that it was Chu Liuchen who had done it.

As for Chu Liuxin, he probably didn't do it, but it was not absolutely impossible. Consort Ming was not a good person either.

Of course, the most suspicious person was Prince Cheng. Chu Liuyue had found some clues and thought it would likely be Prince Cheng who had done it.

Many people had the same idea. For so many years, no one doubted Prince Cheng. They thought that Prince Cheng was really a man of few desires. But now many people had discovered something and felt Prince Cheng was the most suspicious one.

After all the civil and military officials in the imperial court were scolded, the Emperor ordered the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court to solve the case as soon as possible. After that, he mentioned Madam Jiang, which was not trivial. As the Madam of Marquis Xing, she died inexplicably in the Ministry of Justice. It was hard for the officials of the Ministry of Justice to absolve themselves of the blame.

Starting from the minister of the Ministry of Justice, the Emperor deducted their salaries one by one and asked them to find out the truth in a short time whether Madam Jiang committed suicide out of desperation or someone else did it secretly.

The Emperor did not mention that the Ministry of Justice had lost a junior official.

In fact, everyone thought that it was better to report that Madam Jiang had committed suicide. The duty of the Ministry of Justice had always been maintaining justice. Now a perfectly healthy person went in but was dead, which would cause panic in the capital city.

The high-ranking officials thought that it was good for all of them to conceal the matter about the junior official and report that he couldn't stand the stimulation and committed suicide.

Many people secretly breathed a sigh of relief when the Emperor did not mention the matter of the junior official. They thought that at least the Emperor agreed with them. It was impossible to really hide it from him.

"Your Majesty, although Madam Jiang, the Madam of Marquis Xing, had misbehaved, she didn't deserve to die. She committed suicide because of Princess Chen. Princess Chen can't escape the responsibility. Please punish Princess Chen." Someone stepped out of the official's platform, knelt in front of the Emperor, and presented a memorial to the throne. "I propose impeaching Princess Chen."

As soon as he stood out, another imperial censor immediately came out and took out a memorial. "I also propose impeaching Princess Chen!"

With those two people taking the lead, some others continued to stand out from the platform, presenting memorials.

The eunuch stepped forward, took them one by one, and presented them to the Emperor.

Although these memorials used different phrases, there was only one meaning in them. Princess Chen was vicious. She clearly knew that the death of Secondary Consort Shao would greatly stimulate Madam Jiang, but she still provoked her. As a result, Madam Jiang talked nonsense like crazy and finally died in the Ministry of Justice because she couldn't stand the blow for a while.

What everyone wrote in their memorial carefully avoided Prince Chen, Chu Liuchen. He was now standing on the steps, and no one dared to provoke him. They only mentioned Princess Chen and did not mention that Prince Chen had sent his men to inform the Ministry of Justice, which caused Madam Jiang to be taken away.

"Princess Chen?" The Emperor had a gloomy face.

"Your Excellency, do you mean that what Madam Jiang said before must be false? Is it false that Marquis Xing murdered his brother and sister-in-law? Do you dare to vouch for Marquis Xing?" Chu Liuchen said lazily and walked to the front of the main hall. He had a bright smile on his face, but his eyes were full of mockery.

The main hall instantly fell silent.

Some people knew that Madam Jiang said that Shao Jing killed his brother and sister-in-law, but some people didn't.

Some of the insiders deliberately hid these words, but some didn't take them seriously. The others didn't understand the meaning of Chu Liuchen's words. But whether those people understood it or not, they knew that if they spoke so rashly at this time, it would inevitably make Prince Chen angry. This man was not easy to deal with.

Chu Liuchen raised his eyes and said with a casual smile, "Why is it that you don't know about it?" He slowly glanced at the faces of all the important officials and said, "Don't you know? Since you don't know it, how dare you submit a memorial? Did you do it due to some hearsay or groundless rumors? And yet you're officials."

These words were a blow to everyone, especially those who had submitted memorials.

Although they were not high-ranking officials, since they dared to submit a memorial to the throne to accuse Princess Chen, they knew that it would alert Prince Chen and they were ready to be criticized by him. But they didn't expect Chu Liuchen to make the Emperor suspect that they were not capable of acting as officials.

An official surnamed Shi raised his head angrily. "Your Highness, that's what Madam Jiang said because she wanted to drag Marquis Xing down with her."

"Madam Jiang hated Marquis Xing so much?" Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows and interrupted Lord Shi, making him continue the topic.

"The death of Secondary Consort Shao greatly irritated Madam Jiang. When she heard that Marquis Xing was going to bring a mistress's daughter into the mansion, she was so furious that she wanted to drag Marquis Xing down with her." Lord Shi had to lead the conversation for Chu Liuchen.

"Madam Jiang hated Marquis Xing so much and wished him dead. In order to kill him, she even made up such a story. It can be seen that she hated him to the core. In this case, doesn't Marquis Xing also hate Madam Jiang very much? From this point of view, shouldn't Marquis Xing be more eager to see Madam Jiang die? So... Madam Jiang is indeed dead!"

Chu Liuchen's expression was quite gentle, but his eyes were cold. He fixed his eyes on Lord Shi and said, "Of course, if what she said is true, Madam Jiang deserved to die. Since you have reported it to His Majesty, it can be seen that you should have a deep understanding of it. Lord Shi, tell me, is what she said true or not? If it's true, Marquis Xing won't be exonerated no matter what. What will you do by then?"

Even if what Madam Jiang said was false, her behavior showed that she and Shao Jing were incompatible like water and fire. If Madam Jiang wanted Shao Jing dead, it must be the same the other way around. He must take the initiative to gain the upper hand.

If it was true, then there would be a bigger problem. Shao Jing had killed his brother and sister-in-law and robbed them of their title of nobility. He had committed a serious crime. This matter had been discovered by Madam Jiang and had been leaked out. Shao Jing would definitely not let her go.

In any case, the death of Madam Jiang might have something to do with Shao Jing.

The main hall was completely silent. Lord Shi's face was completely red. He was unable to utter a single word after being reprimanded. He was extremely embarrassed.

Chu Liuchen turned around, bowed to the Emperor, and said, "Uncle the Emperor, please investigate this matter and uphold justice for the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. Madam Jiang's death is deeply suspicious and unusual. After that, Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was set on fire. Is there any connection between these two incidents? Or is it impossible for these two incidents to be connected?"

Was there a connection between these two incidents? Everyone was shocked at first, and then many people's faces changed. If these two incidents were really related, what did it mean?

Did it mean that the Princes couldn't help but want to take action?

The Emperor frowned tightly. In fact, he didn't want to investigate too much into Madam Jiang's matter. It was better to take it as a suicide. Chu Qing's matter couldn't be hidden anymore. It was a big deal. It was very troublesome to handle if Madam Jiang's case continue to stir up.

If it were any other son of his who mentioned this, the Emperor would definitely rebuke him. But since it was Chu Liuchen who mentioned it, the Emperor just frowned and said, "Prince Chen's words make sense. Since the case of Madam Jiang can't be verified at the moment, the Ministry of Justice shall summon Shao Jing over and ask him about it."

This meant that he agreed with Chu Liuchen. Shao Jing must be investigated.

Prime Minister Wen's gaze fell on Chu Liuchen, and his eyes moved slightly. He stood in front of Chu Liuchen and saw it clearly. The Emperor's previous intention was clearly that he didn't want to interfere in Madam Jiang's matter anymore. He wanted to minimize the trouble into a minor one.

Prime Minister Wen had been an official for many years and had a close relationship with the Emperor. He knew the Emperor very well. Since the Emperor had made up his mind, he would not change it. However, because the person in front of him was Prince Chen, the Emperor easily changed his mind and brushed the matter off. Prime Minister Wen wondered if the Emperor treated Prince Chen better than his own son.

"They're the royal family, and he wouldn't adore Prince Chen for no reason. Could it be that..." Prime Minister Wen secretly glanced at Chu Liuchen's face and had some speculation in his heart.

Before he was sure, he would not act rashly.

Prime Minister Zhang glanced at Chu Liuchen, stood up, and said, "Your Majesty, we've basically found out the truth about Madam Jiang. It has nothing to do with Marquis Xing. It's mainly because Madam Jiang took things too hard that she ran into the wall. Princess Chen is not in the wrong in this matter, and Marquis Xing's Mansion didn't tell her what she couldn't say. Even if she said something to provoke Madam Jiang, it should not be a big deal!"

Prime Minister Zhang's words sounded fair. He didn't blame Shao Jing or Shao Wanru. It was all Madam Jiang's fault that she took things too hard. It had nothing to do with anyone else.

Compared with those who proposed impeaching Princess Chen before, his words were much gentler, as if he was really impartial.

"Prime Minister Zhang, you are wrong. This matter is related to the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. Since Madam Jiang mentioned it and then died an unnatural death, this matter has become even more suspicious. If Marquis Xing is really innocent, he is naturally not afraid of investigation. However, the Ministry of Justice may need more guards. If something happens to Marquis Xing again, things will get troublesome. At that time, I may be wronged," said Chu Liuchen lazily with a hint of evilness.

Even though Prime Minister Zhang was sophisticated, he was a little angry at this time. Prince Chen's words really made people hard to prefer.

These words were so tricky that Prime Minister Zhang couldn't answer for a while. He could only turn to the Emperor and let him make a decision. Prime Minister Zhang knew that if he talked more at this time, it might arouse the Emperor's suspicion. "Prince Chen is too difficult to deal with."

Chapter 1209 Commandery Prince Qing's Grievance

Prime Minister Wen walked out of the platform, bowed to the Emperor, and said seriously, "Your Majesty, please thoroughly investigate Marquis Xing!"

"Your Majesty, please thoroughly investigate Marquis Xing!"

"Your Majesty, please thoroughly investigate Marquis Xing!"

One by one, officials came out from the platform and bowed to the Emperor. If what Madam Jiang said was not true, Shao Jing would not be afraid of being investigated. If it was true, the consequences of this matter would be too serious, and he would definitely be severely punished.

"Your Majesty, we do need to find out the truth. I was being stupid," Prime Minister Zhang said with shame on his face. After that, he bowed deeply to Chu Liuchen and said, "Your Highness, I didn't pay attention to it before, so I neglected it."

"Prime Minister Zhang, you're too courteous!" Chu Liuchen smiled slightly and didn't take it seriously.

Chu Liuyue came out of the stairs and said, "Father, we have to investigate Marquis Xing's Mansion and Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. I remember that one of Marquis Xing's daughters has entered Commandery Prince Qing's mansion, and Marquis Xing and Commandery Prince Qing are in-laws!"

His words reminded the officials present. They all looked at Chu Qing with suspicion in their eyes.

Madam Jiang, who was from Marquis Xing's Mansion and was now dead, didn't seem to have a good relationship with the Second Miss who had entered Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. A concubine's daughter couldn't have much affection for a vicious legal mother.

First, Madam Jiang was dead, and then something happened to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Was there any connection between these two incidents? Did Commandery Prince Qing deliberately distract others to help Marquis Xing?

The officials found it possible after thinking about it.

Chu Qing gritted his teeth in anger secretly. He had turned from a victim to a colluding accomplice and had spent so much effort in acting. On the one hand, what Chu Liuyue said meant that Shao Jing was on

Chu Qing's side. On the other hand, it showed that Chu Qing had great ambition and strength. Otherwise, how could he have caused such a big thing?

Was he trying to cover up Madam Jiang's trivial matter with a big issue?

"Your Majesty, I don't have a good relationship with Marquis Xing. After Shao Jie'er entered my mansion, she no longer has any contact with Marquis Xing's Mansion. She is just a concubine's daughter. It's inevitable that she didn't have a close relationship with Madam Jiang in the past. Madam Jiang was vicious and couldn't tolerate others. Due to her strict discipline, Shao Jie'er is very timid and doesn't dare to meet people much."

Chu Qing took a step forward and described Shao Jie'er as a poor daughter of a concubine. He also said that it was true that Shao Jie'er had a bad relationship with Madam Jiang. After entering his Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, she had never been to Marquis Xing's Mansion, so it was impossible for her to have anything to do with Marquis Xing's Mansion.

"Let's find out the truth first!" the Emperor said coldly after being silent for a moment. This matter would take a long run, and he had to investigate it secretly. It was related to the former Heir of Duke Xing. There were some things that others didn't know, but he did. He had thought that Shao Jiang's death was really an accident. If it weren't an accident, he really had to find out and uphold justice for Shao Jiang.

The Emperor stood up and walked toward the inner room. The eunuch shouted, "Adjourn!"

All the officials had their own thoughts. After saying goodbye to each other, they slowly walked out.

Chu Liuchen left late. Not only he, but also Chu Liuyue, Chu Liuzhou, and Chu Qing left late. Even Prince Cheng, who had been silent in the imperial court, walked very slowly.

Chu Liuzhou was the first to make trouble for Prince Cheng. He stopped, turned to Prince Cheng, and asked with a cold smile, "Uncle Cheng, I heard that you have a good relationship with Marquis Xing. Do you think that Marquis Xing is likely to have done such an abominable thing?"

If Prince Cheng really did something in secret, then it was very likely that what had happened to Chu Liuzhou before was Prince Cheng's doing. The more Chu Liuzhou thought about it, the angrier he became. The smile on his face looked very fake.

He had always thought that Prince Cheng was innocent, who was only interested in Buddhism and wanted to become a monk, but it turned out that he might have been wrong. "Mother is right. Prince Cheng is ambitious."

"Prince Zhou, what do you mean by saying that?" Prince Cheng smiled lightly and looked kind.

Chu Liuzhou snorted and said, "Don't you know what I mean? I heard that Marquis Xing would talk to you from time to time, even if you live in a temple outside the city."

"I live outside the city. No matter who comes to see me, I won't refuse. Not only Marquis Xing, but also Prince Zhou, Prince Yue, and Commandery Prince Qing have come to visit me several times. Can this prove anything?" Prince Cheng raised his eyebrows and became unhappy. "If you have any doubts, you

can directly go to tell His Majesty, Prince Zhou. Don't say anything useless to make His Majesty angry. Didn't Her Majesty teach you about this?"

"You..." Hearing Prince Cheng mention the Empress a bit disrespectfully, Chu Liuzhou was so angry that he almost lost his temper. He tried his best to suppress his anger. If something had not happened to his mother, he would not have allowed Prince Cheng to say that.

But now, the messages from his mother told him have to keep a low profile and not make any more trouble.

"Second Brother, that's not right. We go to see Prince Cheng from time to time because he is our elder. It's not a big deal!" Chu Liuyue said with a smile.

His words made Chu Liuzhou even angrier. He hated Chu Liuyue the most. "I'm the eldest legitimate son, but Chu Liuyue has been holding me down and thinks that he can compete with me.

"I'm the legitimate son of the Empress. Chu Liuyue is just a nobody!"

Chu Liuzhou snorted coldly and said nothing more. He turned around and left. He really didn't want to say anything to Chu Liuyue, who he thought was a hypocrite.

"Uncle Cheng, my second brother listened to what people said just now and felt that you were suspicious, so he asked the questions he shouldn't have asked. I hope that you won't blame him!" Chu Liuyue said politely and smiled to apologize on behalf of Chu Liuzhou. Seeing his gentle and elegant look, several officials couldn't help nodding.

Compared with the other princes, Prince Yue was the most polite and the wisest one. Although his face had always been cold, in fact, he was quite nice. If something went wrong, people could negotiate with him, and the matter could be solved easily.

"Prince Yue, you're being too courteous. It's not a big deal!" Prince Cheng said indifferently. When he was about to say something, he saw Chu Liuchen passing by them proudly as if he didn't see them talking at all. His face turned cold and there was no smile on his face.

He flung his wide sleeves onto their robes, and both of them couldn't help but take a step back.

Chu Liuyue clenched his fists so hard that the blue veins on his hands bulged, but he just smiled gently to hide the hatred and anger in his eyes. "Chu Liuchen is just the son of the deceased emperor, who is dead. And yet Father even thinks highly of him and openly said that he can inherit the throne.

"What right does this invalid have? As a prince, I'm not so arrogant, but he is so arrogant.

"Father's partiality was very unreasonable. He treats me so-so, but he treats a sick man like his own son. That makes me wonder if Chu Liuchen is Father's son instead of me!"

Although Prince Cheng was also forced to take a step back, his expression was not stiff at all. His smile was gentler and more flexible than Chu Liuyue's. It was not the kind of stiff smile. His eyes stayed gentle as Chu Liuchen left. "Prince Chen must be impatient with us talking about this kind of thing. He has always been in poor health. He should be very annoyed with such a quarrel!"

The kindness and smile in his eyes made it like he was really forgiving to Chu Liuchen.

"Third Brother doesn't seem to be in good health. It's only been a short time, and he's already not feeling well. He needs to be nursed well." Chu Liuyue nodded.

"Indeed. We should ask the imperial physician in the Palace to treat him again. We can't allow anything wrong to happen to him again." Prince Cheng nodded in agreement.

Chu Qing, who was standing behind them and blocked by them, only felt that the blue veins on his forehead were bulging.

They could talk, but why did they happen to stand in front of him? He didn't have the confidence to speak like Chu Liuchen so he could only wait quietly beside them.

Seeing Chu Liuchen leave, he envied him in his heart. "We are both the sons of the deceased emperor. Why am I living such a miserable life, but Chu Liuchen can be so unbridled? Is it because he has been raised by the Emperor and the Empress Dowager?"

"In this case, why didn't Mother try to send me to the Empress Dowager and the Emperor back then? I believe she could make that happen.

"Was Mother too cautious or injudicious?" He felt inexplicably depressed. "If I could choose at that time, I would have gone to the Palace early to accompany the Empress Dowager. I would not let Chu Liuchen be the only one favored by the Emperor by now."

"Commandery Prince Qing, why haven't you left yet?" Chu Liuyue asked Chu Qing with a smile as if he had just seen him.

"Thinking of what happened last night, I walked a bit slowly at the moment." Chu Qing said with a hypocritical smile and explained hypocritically. After all, he couldn't say that they stood in his way, and he couldn't leave recklessly like Chu Liuchen.

"Commandery Prince Qing, what happened to your mansion yesterday? The fire rose so high that many rooms were burned, weren't they? What were those men in black up to? Did they just want to burn a few rooms in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion?" Chu Liuyue asked in confusion.

"Well... it might be an assassination!" Chu Qing said vaguely. He still didn't know why such a thing happened.

"Were they trying to assassinate you? Why?" Chu Liuyue asked.

Chu Qing's face changed. Chu Liuyue sounded as if he was mocking him. If Chu Qing hadn't done anything, no one would have targeted him. He was just an idle Commandery Prince.

But if he had done something, then what had he done to make people attack him?

Chu Qing keenly looked at Chu Liuyue. "Could it be possible that those men last night worked for Chu Liuyue?"

"I'm just an idle man and usually have nothing to do. I really don't know why someone tried to assassinate me and made such a scene," Chu Qing said vaguely and looked at the two people opposite him calmly. These two people were the most suspicious. Of course, it was not accidental for them to keep him here.

He didn't believe in such coincidences.

Why had no one stopped him in the past?

"Commandery Prince Qing, think about it carefully. Is there anything in your mansion that attracts people's attention? If so, you'd better report it to His Majesty as soon as possible, lest something goes wrong again!" Compared with Chu Liuyue, Prince Cheng really looked like an elder. He gave Chu Qing a few words of advice and then left slowly.

He didn't mean to listen carefully to the conversation between Chu Liuyue and Chu Qing, nor did he pay attention to what was going on between them.

"He's right. Commandery Prince Qing, you'd better listen to Uncle Cheng and go back to your mansion to investigate it carefully!" Chu Liuyue said lightly and did not intend to stay any longer. Chu Qing was now the center of focus. It was not a good thing to be too close to him, because it would easily attract others' attention.

Chapter 1210 Come to Interrogate

Chu Qing was scolded for no reason. In the end, he didn't know what had happened. Finally, he looked at the two people who were leaving slowly and talking with each other with a trace of gloom across his eyes.

Both Chu Liuyue and Prince Cheng rejected him. He was the one who should inherit the throne the most. Why did they look down on him as if he were a beggar?

One day, he would show them who was the noblest one and who would have the last laugh.

When Chu Qing returned to his mansion, the officials of the Ministry of Justice were interrogating some servants in the mansion. The Ministry of Justice had informed him about this before. Seeing that the leader was Wen Xichi, Chu Qing calmed down, walked over with a smile, and said to him with cupped fists, "Greetings, Lord Wen."

"Greetings, Your Highness." Wen Xichi stood up and bowed to him.

"Have you found anything?" Chu Qing asked in a gentle voice. He had little contact with the noble children in the capital city, so it was rare for him to have such an opportunity to get close to one of them.

Wen Xichi pointed to the file for interrogation just now and said, "Those men were likely looking for something. Is there anything spectacular in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion?"

The men in black appeared suddenly and searched the rooms one by one. It was unknown whether they were looking for someone or something. It was also possible that they were looking for Commandery Prince Qing. If they wanted to assassinate him, they had to find him.

Wen Xichi felt that it was not very credible. Since they had made such a big move, they should have some understanding of Chu Qing's whereabouts. It would take a long time to find him by searching the rooms one by one. According to the places that the men in black had checked, many of them were just servants' rooms, but they were far away.

It was very strange. It didn't seem that they were looking for trouble with the master, but more like they were casually looking for something. Something had been hidden by Chu Qing, and it might appear in a remote place.

Did it have anything to do with the missing junior official of the Ministry of Justice?

Chu Qing frowned and said, "My mansion is small, and usually, few people come here. There are only a few people in my mansion. If there is anything spectacular here, those people would have come for it early instead of doing it just now. They weren't after something important, and they didn't seem to be looking for something. I think it seemed to be an assassination!"

It was the best way to clear his name with the excuse of assassination.

Wen Xichi raised his eyebrows and asked, "Your Highness, do you think it's an assassination?" There was a kind of faint meaning in his eyes, making his handsome face look a little mysterious and aloof.

Chu Qing couldn't figure out what Wen Xichi meant. He could only smile and say uncertainly, "In fact, I can't tell. It's true that those people broke into my mansion. Speaking of which, I'm still very confused. Were those men in black after my Mother and Shao Jie'er?"

He would insist that this was an assassination, no matter who those men in black were after.

Wen Xichi was silent for a moment and then said, "May I see Second Miss Shao?"

In fact, Shao Jie'er's identity had not been clear since she entered Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Wen Xichi didn't know how to address her for a while, so he called her as before.

"Are you going to ask Shao Jie'er about this?" Chu Qing frowned. If possible, he didn't want Shao Jie'er to get involved. The imperial court was now dealing with the matter of Madam Jiang, and Shao Jie'er was very likely to be a suspect.

"I have something to ask her. If it's convenient for you, you can listen by my side," Wen Xichi said with a smile.

"Well... okay!" Chu Qing had to agree and waved his hand to ask his servant to summon Shao Jie'er.

After a while, Shao Jie'er came over behind a servant girl. When Wen Xichi looked at Shao Jie'er, who was quietly lowering her head, his eyes flashed with a dark light.

Compared with the girl he had seen in the past, Shao Jie'er was much more well-behaved. When she was in Marquis Xing's Mansion, she had never been so well-behaved.

"Greetings, Lord Wen." Chu Qing asked Shao Jie'er to step forward and salute him.

Shao Jie'er took two steps forward obediently, bowed sideways respectfully, and then stood aside with her head down.

"Second Miss Shao, where were you yesterday?" Wen Xichi asked. The beadle, who was taking notes, hurriedly picked up a writing brush.

"I've been in the mansion all the time and haven't even gone out." Shao Jie'er said in a low voice. She sounded timid as if she didn't even dare to raise her voice.

Chu Qing glanced at her unhappily but didn't take over for her.

When Wen Xichi asked Shao Jie'er, it was inappropriate for Chu Qing to say anything.

"What were you doing when the fire broke out?" Wen Xichi asked.

"When the fire broke out, I didn't know clearly at that time. I was doing some needlework, and I was quite far away from the fire..." Shao Jie'er said hesitantly.

"Didn't you hear anything?" Wen Xichi said seriously.

"I did, but I didn't hear it clearly." Speaking of this, Shao Jie'er looked at Chu Qing timidly and uneasily.

"When did you know that there was an accident?" Wen Xichi asked again.

"Later... Later, when the fire turned big, someone tried to assassinate His Highness... I was so scared that I hid with my servant girl. After that, His Highness sent his men to tell me that everything was fine." Shao Jie'er lowered her head.

"You kept hiding and didn't come out to see what was going on?"

"I have never encountered such a situation at that time... I was so scared... that I hid..." Shao Jie'er shook her head and looked frightened.

"Second Miss Shao, I heard that you are helping Consort Dowager Qing manage the inner court of Commandery Prince Qing. Did you find anything unusual?" Wen Xichi no longer stared at Shao Jie'er to ask about the fire. He changed the subject.

Shao Jie'er suddenly raised her head and said, "Your Excellency, I'm afraid that you're wrong. I'm not in charge of the affairs of the inner court."

"If it's not you, has Commandery Prince Qing been managing it himself?" Wen Xichi asked curiously.

"I..." Shao Jie'er still wanted to say something but was interrupted by Chu Qing with displeasure on his face. "Jie'er is indeed in charge of the inner court, but after all, she has no right to manage it. So please don't spread it out, Lord Wen."

He meant that what Shao Jie'er had just said was an excuse.

"I'm sorry to have mistaken, Your Highness. I thought that you would personally manage the affairs of the inner court. Consort Dowager has been living a peaceful life for many years, so she would not be willing to meddle in such trivial things. I didn't expect that Second Miss Shao's current identity is not the real master of the inner court." Wen Xichi nodded with understanding and bowed to Chu Qing to apologize.

Shao Jie'er's face turned red and then pale.

Her identity was very embarrassing in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion at the moment. Originally, with her status, she could at least be a consort. Chu Qing had also said so at that time. But in fact, after she entered Commandery Prince Qing's Manor, her status had been unknown, and this matter had been set aside.

Shao Jie'er had expressed that she wanted to marry someone, and she kept changing her mind, which made Chu Qing very angry and she did not dare to mention it again. Shao Jing was not willing to meddle in Shao Jie'er's affairs so she did not have a backer. Especially a few days after she entered the mansion, he heard that Consort Dowager had asked the servants to call her Second Miss Shao, as if she were an unmarried girl.

She was addressed as an unmarried girl, but she did things as a married woman, which was a great insult to Marquis Xing's Mansion. However, Shao Jie'er had to endure it and didn't even dare to let others know. She tried her best to please Chu Qing and Consort Dowager Qing. Chu Qing's attitude slowly improved under her flattery, and he also asked the people around him to call her Consort Shao.

But in front of the Consort Dowager, the people of high status around the Consort Dowager still didn't show Shao Jie'er respect and still called her Second Miss Shao. This kind of address was almost a disgrace to her.

But even if it was a disgrace, Shao Jie'er had to endure it.

She used to think that Consort Dowager Qing was a quiet and peaceful person. When she entered Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, she knew that she had just escaped one trouble and gotten into another. Consort Dowager Qing was definitely not the kind of gentle woman who was said to have lived in the Yuhui Nunnery for a long time and had a peaceful temperament. She was more vicious than Madam Jiang.

Shao Jie'er had suffered a lot and had been beaten.

She didn't dare to say a word or interrupt in front of Consort Dowager Qing.

This was also the reason why she looked up in a hurry when she heard Wen Xichi say that she and Consort Dowager Qing were in charge of the inner court together. Consort Dowager was in charge of everything in the inner court. How could she, an insignificant secondary consort who was not officially married, dare to go against her will, let alone compare with her? Consort Dowager Qing was obviously a powerful woman who liked to be in power.

She was in charge of everything in the mansion. It was said that most of the affairs of the outer court were also under her control. In fact, Chu Qing was not in charge of many things.

Shao Jie'er was very afraid of Consort Dowager Qing. She was very afraid that Consort Dowager would get angry. She just carefully flattered Chu Qing and wanted him to protect her.

Recently, her efforts paid off, and Chu Qing spoke for her. Although Consort Dowager Qing still looked down on her, she was not as strict as before. Shao Jie'er thought that she had finally won Chu Qing's heart.

But now, when she heard Chu Qing say that she had no right to manage the inner court, she felt bitter in her heart and her eyes turned red. She hurriedly lowered her head again, for fear that Wen Xichi would see the tears in her eyes.

As the daughter of Duke Xing, she had looked down on many Misses. But now, she had fallen into such a situation. She felt that she would die in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion one day without knowing why.

She had seen Miss Mo, the first consort who was going to marry into the mansion, before. This Miss was not easy to get along with. When she came here last time, she took the opportunity to slap Shao Jie'er twice. Consort Dowager Qing was present, but she did not say anything. Chu Qing merely frowned unhappily. He scolded Shao Jie'er and asked her to apologize to Miss Mo.

The daughter of a beadle even got to bully her. Shao Jie'er was very unwilling and deeply resentful. She clenched her handkerchief tightly as if she were using it to vent her anger. Taking advantage of the time when Chu Qing wasn't paying attention, she looked up and stole a few glances at Wen Xichi, just looking into his eyes. Then, she raised her hand and pointed at a tall tree, which was a little far away from the place they were at.

Chu Qing looked at the officials of the Ministry of Justice and said, "Lord Wen, you're being too courteous. If there's nothing else, let Jie'er go back. After all, there are so many people here."

Wen Xichi nodded and said politely, "My apologies. Second Miss Shao, please go back!"

"Take... Second Miss Shao back now!" Chu Qing ordered the servant girl beside him. The servant girl did not dare to hesitate and left with Shao Jie'er. Except for Wen Xichi, no one noticed that Shao Jie'er had gritted her teeth hard when Chu Qing called her "Second Miss Shao". "He still calls me Second Miss Shao by now." Grief and hatred appeared on her face.