

Medical Princess 1211

Chapter 1211 Seek Help on Her Own

This was a remote corner of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Few people came here in normal times. There was originally a side door in this place. Later, Consort Dowager Qing thought that it might cause possible danger and asked her servants to seal the place, so no one came here again.

The officers of the Ministry of Justice had come to the mansion to investigate today and had gone to a lot of places. They had also checked this place before but found nothing unusual about it.

After the investigation, they sent Wen Xichi over for interrogation.

Chu Qing came to him. Wen Xichi said that he hadn't figured out some things and asked his deputy to perform another investigation. Chu Qing was afraid that there would be misunderstandings, so he helped lead the way in person. Therefore, the place was investigated again. At present, the rest of the people of the Ministry of Justice had followed Chu Qing to other places. After the second investigation, it became quieter here.

Wen Xichi appeared at the door of the courtyard only with a servant. He looked at a tall tree at the door with his hands clasped behind his back. He could also see this tree in the place where he carried out the investigation before. He had walked past it once before. At that time, he felt that the tree was quite tall, so he looked at it a few more times. He didn't expect that Shao Jie'er would ask him to come here.

The door was half-closed. It should have been half-closed after the investigation just now.

Suddenly, the door was pushed open, and a young servant girl looked around. When she saw Wen Xichi, she looked happy. She hurriedly pushed the door open and walked over. She bowed to Wen Xichi and said, "Greetings, Third Young Master Wen!"

Wen Xichi took a look and recognized that it was the servant girl of Shao Jie'er, Liuxiang. She was the servant girl from the Marquis Xing's Mansion who went with Shao Jie'er when she got married, and not the servant girl who accompanied Shao Jie'er over.

"Where is your Young Madam now?" Wen Xichi asked calmly.

Liuxiang looked around carefully and said in a low voice, "Our Young Madam is in there. After you, Third Young Master Wen!"

Wen Xichi stepped into this deserted courtyard. It could be seen that no one lived here. He had checked it before.

At present, Shao Jie'er was standing in this deserted courtyard. When she saw Wen Xichi coming over, she suddenly lifted her skirt and took a few steps forward. Then, she knelt heavily and said, "Please save me, Third Young Master Wen!"

Wen Xichi stood still, looked at Shao Jie'er, and asked, "What do you mean by that, Second Miss Shao?"

"Please save me. If... if I stay any longer, I will die." Shao Jie'er suddenly burst into tears. She had previously thought that she could be together with Chu Qing, but just now she made up her mind due to what Chu Qing had said. She looked at Wen Xichi pleadingly.

"Second Miss Shao, you are now the consort of Commandery Prince Qing. If there is nothing else, I'd better leave," Wen Xichi said coldly and turned to leave.

Shao Jie'er didn't expect Wen Xichi to leave without hesitation. She got very anxious and said hurriedly, "Third Young Master Wen, I know where that man from yesterday is."

Wen Xichi stopped and asked, "You know that?"

"Yes, I do. As long as you can take me out of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, I will tell you where he is!" Shao Jie'er said.

Wen Xichi glanced at Shao Jie'er in silence, as if trying to judge whether she was telling the truth.

"I did see it. A man was sent to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. He's here. He is now... now..." Shao Jie'er stopped there and just looked at Wen Xichi pleadingly. "Please save me, Third Young Master Wen. As long as you take me out, I will tell you everything I know."

"You saw it?" Wen Xichi raised his eyebrows.

Shao Jie'er was afraid that Wen Xichi would not believe her, so she said anxiously, "Yes, I saw it. I really saw it. I'm telling the truth."

Wen Xichi took a deep look at her and said slowly in a low voice, "No matter why you want to leave Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, I can't take you out. Although you have no status in the mansion for the time being, you will still be a consort. So many things have happened in this place. If you run away as a consort now, it will bring trouble to the Ministry of Justice, so I can't take you out!"

"I'll die if I stay here any longer. Consort Dowager... Consort Dowager Qing is a vicious woman. Mo Qiuyi, who is going to marry into the mansion, is also a vicious woman. They will kill me." Hearing that Wen Xichi couldn't help her, Shao Jie'er cried.

Because of panic, her words were incoherent.

Wen Xichi suddenly had an idea.

"Does Consort Dowager Qing not treat you well? Or does the Consort of Commandery Prince Qing, who is about to marry into the mansion, not treat you well? It's not strange that she would dislike you because of your identity. Since you're a concubine, can't you stand such grievance?" Wen Xichi said slowly. It was obvious that he didn't take what Shao Jie'er said seriously as if she was joking.

Shao Jie'er shook her head violently, and her face turned red as if she had been greatly wronged. She said, "It's not like that. That woman is in cahoots with Consort Dowager Qing. They come here from time to time and sometimes come very late. When they're here, they will discuss something. Consort Dowager Qing keeps it a secret. They... they must be hiding something."

Shao Jie'er remembered that when she went to see Consort Dowager Qing once, she saw the people who served the Consort Dowager guarding the courtyard from a distance. There were guards every five steps. She knew that she couldn't get close to the courtyard, so she paid special attention to it. Then, she saw Mo Qiuyi leave, and Consort Dowager Qing even sent her out.

Shao Jie'er didn't expect that the daughter of an insignificant official could be sent out by Consort Dowager Qing, who had always considered herself superior. She had an intuition that there was something wrong with it. For fear of being discovered, she hid behind a rockery and didn't move at all. After Mo Qiuyi left, it took Shao Jie'er a long time to sneak back. The more she thought about it, the more she felt that something was wrong. Obviously, there was some secret behind it. Mo Qiuyi's identity was not simple.

"They're in cahoots?"

"Yes. Consort Dowager Qing is very polite to Miss Mo. She doesn't seem to... don't seem to be a daughter-in-law... who is going to marry into the mansion..." Shao Jie'er said repeatedly. She looked up at Wen Xichi and said anxiously, "Third Young Master Wen, please save me. For the sake of our friendship since we were young, don't let me stay here anymore. They... they will kill me."

"Do you want to leave?" Wen Xichi asked with unclear eyes.

"Yes, I want to leave. I can do anything as long as I can leave here." Shao Jie'er nodded and said anxiously, "If Consort Dowager Qing knows that I met you in private, I will definitely die."

Wen Xichi thought for a moment and suggested, "If you want to leave, just send a message to Marquis Xing. He is your father. It must be better for him to speak for you in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion!"

"No... no, it won't work. Father won't care about me, let alone at this time," Shao Jie'er said in despair. She cried so hard, but she didn't dare to make a noise. She could only hold her chin hard and choked with sobs.

If Marquis Xing's Mansion could help her, she would have come to them a long time ago. If it were in the past, without her asking for Marquis Xing's Mansion's help, Consort Dowager Qing would not have dared to treat her like this. But now, things were different. Marquis Xing's Mansion had declined, and she had no one to rely on. She could only ask Wen Xichi for help and make a deal with him using her information about what had happened yesterday.

She believed in Wen Xichi's character. Even if he couldn't help her, he wouldn't rat her out. That was why she dared to take a risk.

If it were someone else sent by the Ministry of Justice today, Shao Jie'er would not dare to do such a bold thing. This matter was related to her life, so she had to be careful.

"No one cares about my life and death now. Either Old Madam or Father cares about me. I heard that he has a beautiful bastard daughter and is going to bring her into the mansion. She's beautiful and will be the legitimate daughter, so she can be sent to any place she wants. Why would he care about a concubine's daughter like me who has been sent out?"

Shao Jie'er cried so hard that she fell to the ground.

Shao Jie'er only heard from Chu Qing about what had happened to Shao Jing. Her father made a big fuss for a mistress's daughter and was determined to make that girl his legitimate daughter, while she, who was originally his daughter in the mansion, ended up like this. Thinking of that, Shao Jie'er was full of resentment.

"Although I'm a concubine's daughter, and I won't gain power, that girl is just a mistress's daughter. How could she be doing better than me? How could she?"

"What about your aunt? You can ask her for help." Wen Xichi suggested to her again.

"What can my aunt do? Even if she is smarter than other concubines, she still has to please Madam Jiang all the time. Now that Madam Jiang is dead, what can she do? Father doesn't take her seriously. Even if she is dead now, Father won't take a second look at her!" Shao Jie'er said.

Thinking of her aunt, she couldn't stop crying. Her aunt had advised her not to listen to Shao Yanru and not to marry into Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Commandery Prince Qing didn't look like a good person, especially when he was unwilling to marry her later. However, at that time, she thought that Commandery Prince Qing was a good match for her and wanted to marry him.

Later, she had a second opinion because of Prince Cheng. Now when she thought about it, it was not her but her father who had a second opinion. "I was originally a victim, but now I'm regarded as a slutty woman. I'm just going with the flow. Why should I be blamed for everything?"

Everyone in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion looked down on her because of what had happened before.

"In fact... you still have a choice..." Wen Xichi said hesitantly.

"Please tell me, Third Young Master Wen." On hearing Wen Xichi's words, Shao Jie'er knew that he had a solution. She was overjoyed, wiped away her tears, and kowtowed hard to Wen Xichi three more times. "Please instruct me. I... am at the end of my rope now!"

She had thought about it for a long time but couldn't find anyone to help her. She didn't expect Wen Xichi to help her figure it out in such a short time. How could she not be happy?

Wen Xichi fell silent and looked at Shao Jie'er with indifferent eyes, which made her feel scared. After a long while, she heard him say, "Princess Chen can help you!"

"Princess Chen?" Shao Jie'er thought that she had misheard.

"Princess Chen is Fifth Miss Shao. With her identity and status, she can take you away from here on the premise that you listen to her completely. Of course, it's your business how to talk her into this!" Wen Xichi said slowly with indifference in his eyes, but his every word shocked Shao Jie'er. "Shao Wanru can help me?"

Chapter 1212 It's Up to You!

"A letter from Shao Jie'er?" Shao Wanru said with a frown and her long eyelashes fluttering twice, looking a little confused. Seeing that, Chu Liuchen couldn't help smiling. He reached out to hold her hand and continued walking forward. They had just finished lunch, and they only took Yujie and Xiao Xuanzi with them. Qing'er came to report at this time.

"My Lady, it's a letter from Miss Jie'er. Lord Wen sent it over on her behalf, saying that it's best if you can help her. Shao Jie'er knows something about what happened yesterday," Qing'er said.

“Shao Jie’er knows something about what happened yesterday?” Shao Wanru raised her eyebrows slightly. She was a little surprised, but she thought it was expected.

After thinking about it, she didn’t know what to say. She thought that Shao Jie’er deserved what she was suffering and didn’t sympathize with her.

Chu Liuchen gently pulled her fingers and said softly, “If you don’t want to help, then don’t.”

“The case of the official of the Ministry of Justice... should be revealed!” Shao Wanru said with her long eyelashes fluttering a few times. At present, it was a good opportunity. She had to take Shao Jing down. She had informed the Third Madam before that the Marquis Xing’s Mansion was bound to split in two days. It would be very beneficial for her if Shao Jie’er got involved at this time.

“You don’t need to worry about it. I’ll reveal the case!” Chu Liuchen said indifferently. His long and narrow eyes blinked twice with an evil aura, and he slightly smiled. “The Marquis Xing’s Mansion had gotten their hands dirty, and many people have been involved in its matter.”

Shao Wanru bit her lip and said, “Let’s... see what she said first!”

She had set up some tactics with the inner court. If Chu Liuchen intervened, it would be discovered. It was better for her to do it. Moreover, she was more willing to avenge the grudges in her two lives by herself.

Hearing her determined words, Chu Liuchen didn’t stop her. In his opinion, as long as Shao Wanru was happy, she could do whatever she wanted. In fact, if there was no hurry, he could solve the matters for Shao Wanru one by one afterward. Now that Shao Wanru couldn’t keep her cool anymore, it didn’t matter. Since she had him around, he couldn’t let anyone hurt his woman.

However, Wen Xichi displeased him a bit. For some reason, he felt that there was some tacit understanding between Wen Xichi and Shao Wanru that he couldn’t see through. He felt very upset as if he had a rare treasure that others would keep thinking about. He was full of displeasure.

Qing’er presented the letter. Shao Wanru took it, opened the envelope, and read the letter. After reading it, she took a deep breath and handed it to Chu Liuchen. He took it and read it casually. After reading it, he asked indifferently, “What do you think?”

Shao Wanru hesitated and said, “If... if I support Shao Jie’er, will it affect you?”

“No. Don’t worry. No matter what you do, I won’t be affected. Since I’ve appeared in public and I’ve recovered from my illness, of course, I won’t let anyone bully you again. If you want to do something, just do it,” Chu Liuchen said gently, reached out to put his hand on Shao Wanru’s shoulder, and held her in his arms.

Her petite body was almost glued to his broad arms as if she had been born for him. His gentle care made Shao Wanru almost cry.

Shao Wanru found that as long as she was with Chu Liuchen, she would easily feel that she was just a fragile woman and no longer a vicious avenger. He made her feel warm.

Biting her lip, she looked at Chu Liuchen without avoiding his eyes. Seeing his deep eyes below his long eyelashes, she could see a trace of tenderness. “Your Highness...”

She kept blinking and got rid of the tears in her eyes. In this life, with him, she would no longer be immersed in hatred.

“What’s wrong?” Chu Liuchen asked softly.

Shao Wanru stopped talking and just leaned over. This time, she got close to him. After a pause, his hand on her shoulder slipped down and held her slender waist tightly. “Zhuzhuo, don’t worry. Everything will be fine whenever it is!” Chu Liuchen said in a gentle voice with irresistible power.

It could be heard that he was decisive and calm. He was not just saying it. He meant it and would make it happen.

She closed her eyes as she grew calm without any hesitation. Although her eyes were slightly red, she smiled. She nodded hard and said, “I... I know.”

How could she not know that this man had feelings for her for a long time? She was very touched.

“Zhuzhuo, how long will it be before your birthday? It’s not good to keep me waiting like this!” When Chu Liuchen said this, Shao Wanru suddenly pushed him away and gave him a coquettish look. How could he say something like that at this time?

Her face turned red.

“Zhuzhuo, I mean what I said!” Chu Liuchen sighed and said that, looking a little pitiful with his handsome eyes and brows.

Shao Wanru felt that she must be crazy to think that Chu Liuchen was pitiful. “He’s certainly not pitiful to say something like that at this time!”

“I’m going to talk about this letter!” Shao Wanru said with anger. She pulled the letter from Chu Liuchen and walked to the pavilion on the side.

“Okay, okay. Let’s talk about it.” Chu Liuchen said dotingly from behind, which made Shao Wanru blush again.

Subconsciously, she stopped. When Chu Liuchen stepped forward to hold her hand, she pinched him hard.

Chu Liuchen looked at Shao Wanru with a sad face and said with some grievance, “Zhuzhuo, how could you hurt me?”

“Is he really Prince Chen, who plans everything meticulously?” Shao Wanru bit her lip and glared at him with hatred, but she didn’t know that she didn’t look fierce at all at the moment. Her watery eyes were full of shyness and anger, which made Chu Liuchen gentler.

They sat down in the pavilion. Shao Wanru squinted at Chu Liuchen and saw that he was still looking at her with a chuckle, which made her heart beat wildly. So she simply turned around and didn’t look at him.

After she got teased by him, the depression caused by Shao Jie’er just now dissipated a lot.

When she read the letter again, she was no longer as depressed and annoyed as before.

Shao Jie'er didn't hide anything. She started with what had happened last night. She said that she saw a man being thrown into an empty yard in the mansion before he disappeared. She happened to see this scene, and then she saw the fire and some men in black sneaking in. She didn't dare to look anymore and immediately hid.

After that, Consort Dowager Qing ordered servants to check the entire Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. Her place has also been checked several times and finally stopped. The man should have been found, but Shao Jie'er said that she didn't know where he was now.

She asked Shao Wanru for help with this news. She didn't ask for much but merely wanted to stay in Marquis Xing's Mansion for a few days. She would find a way to deal with the rest by herself.

First, she told Shao Wanru what she knew, and then she asked Shao Wanru for help, which showed that she sincerely wanted to ask Shao Wanru for help.

In the past, Shao Jie'er didn't act this way. Holding this letter, Shao Wanru slightly raised her eyebrows. When had Shao Jie'er been so smart? She knew that if she didn't write these things in the first part of the letter, Shao Wanru would never help her.

The two of them had been at daggers drawn, so how could Shao Wanru reach out to her?

At present, she didn't think it was a big deal to give Shao Jie'er a hand. But she also found Wen Xichi very strange. How could he know so much about her character? Did he know that she would help Shao Jie'er because the latter wrote in that way?

Of course, Shao Wanru would help Shao Jie'er not only because Shao Jie'er had written in the letter, but also because helping Shao Jie'er would do her good. She silently smiled. She couldn't figure out why Wen Xichi did what he did since he also wanted to know the truth. But it was not difficult for him to get the news from Shao Jie'er, so why did he get Shao Wanru involved?

Chu Liuchen snorted, took the letter from her hand unhappily, threw it on the stone table, and said lazily, "Is Wen Xichi too idle in the Ministry of Justice? He even meddles in this kind of business!"

"Maybe he's doing it because of Shao Jie'er?" Shao Wanru said, "The younger generation of the two families have known each other since they were young. Shao Jie'er and Wen Xichi are childhood friends!"

"When did Wen Xichi have such a good relationship with his childhood sweetheart?" Chu Liuchen said disapprovingly with his long eyelashes fluttering twice unhappily.

He sounded jealous. Shao Wanru burst into laughter and reached out to pull his sleeve. "Well, it has nothing to do with me. No matter whether Third Young Master Wen is trying to help Shao Jie'er or has other intentions, he can't be doing it because of me. I have no childhood sweetheart relationship with him!"

Her words made Chu Liuchen feel relieved and very happy, but he still showed a reluctant expression on his face. "It's best if you think so. It's hard to guess what Wen Xichi is thinking. You should stay away from him."

Shao Wanru pointed to the letter on the table and asked with a smile, "Okay, I will stay away from him. What about this letter?"

Her gentle and delicate eyes made Chu Liuchen adore her more. He had never been a well-behaved person. Thinking of this, he reached out to pull Shao Wanru into his arms, lowered his head, kissed her delicate cherry lips gently, and then whispered in her ear, "It's up to you!"

Yujie and Xiao Xuanzi looked straight at a corner of the ground in front of them, pretending that they weren't there. The two of them had a smile in their eyes, which showed that they had seen this scene clearly. They found it nice that Prince Chen and Princess Chen were intimate. At least it was lively in this mansion.

Shao Wanru blushed and hurriedly pushed Chu Liuchen away. Her waist was no longer held and she almost fell out. She was startled and exclaimed in a low voice. When she was about to fall to the ground, her waist was pulled heavily by Chu Liuchen and she fell back into his arms again. With Chu Liuchen's joyful laughter, his chest, which was against hers, vibrated slightly, which made Shao Wanru realize that she had been teased more clearly.

"Isn't the crown prince of Southern Palace supposed to be cruel? Why is he acting this way?" Chu Liuchen was completely different from the impression she had in her last life. Her pink and tender cheeks seemed to have been smeared with the best rouge, and her eyes were shining with shyness and annoyance. She stared at the handsome face that appeared in front of her again in a charming manner.

"He's just so naughty! Can't he just be quiet?"

Chapter 1213 The Frightened Master and Servant

Chu Liuchen looked down at Shao Wanru and saw two faint blushes on her fair and tender face. Not only her face but also her ears and neck were slightly flushed. Her cherry lips appeared more and more beautiful and attractive, which made her delicate little face indescribably charming.

His heart could not help beating faster. He lowered his head and kissed the corner of her soft lips again.

Shao Wanru's mind went blank. She felt as if her whole body was on fire. Her whole body was burning. She wanted to escape, but her delicate body was tightly hugged by him. He held her tightly as if he was going to break her slender waist. Her nose was full of his breath, which made her immersed in his heavy breathing.

Shao Wanru was forced to raise her head and let him do whatever he wanted to her.

Finally, Chu Liuchen couldn't stand it anymore. The girl in his arms seemed to be specially made for him, allowing him to do whatever he wanted to her.

He held Shao Wanru in his arms hard to calm his rapid breathing.

The girl in his arms was petite and gentle, and he could feel that her breath was not calm. She was lying in his arms and did not dare to look up until now.

Chu Liuchen couldn't help bursting into laughter, lowered his head, and kissed her hair gently.

His life was perfect only when he had her. Without her, he didn't know what would happen to him.

"It's thanks to God that I have Zhuozhuo!"

Hearing his laughter, Shao Wanru became more and more embarrassed. She lowered her head tightly, as if only in this way could she reduce her embarrassment.

"How could we do this in public? If others see us, how are we going to explain it?"

"Fortunately, we're in Prince Chen's Mansion, which is the only thing I'm glad about now."

She pinched his waist hard. Hearing Chu Liuchen cry out in pain in a low voice, she felt that what she did was inappropriate. She put down her hand and deliberately rubbed his waist.

"What's wrong? Do you feel sorry for me now?" Chu Liuchen said in a gentle voice with a sweet smile.

Shao Wanru blushed even more. She didn't want to speak at all, as if saying anything would be full of embarrassment. "Can't he just remain silent?!"

She pursed her lips tightly, lowered her head, and did not move at all. She simply played dumb.

When Chu Liuchen suddenly withdrew his legs, Shao Wanru was so scared that she cried out in a low voice. She subconsciously reached out to hug Chu Liuchen. "Since you don't want to see anyone, I'll carry you back, Zhuozhuo!"

She could hear Chu Liuchen laughing in a low and hoarse voice, which was different from his usual bright and clear voice. For some reason, she became so shy that she didn't want to see anyone.

She twisted her body and whispered, "Put me down!"

"Why should I put you down?" Chu Liuchen walked back with Shao Wanru in his arms. Xiao Xuanzi and Yujie looked at each other and smiled. They hurriedly followed the two, but they didn't dare to make a sound. They could tell that Princess Chen was angry from embarrassment.

"Put... put me down now. What if someone sees us?" Feeling that he continued to walk, Shao Wanru was really anxious and twisted her body more and more.

As a well-behaved Young Miss from an aristocratic family, she naturally couldn't do such an indecent thing. Even if she had not followed the rules since she was a child, she still felt ashamed at this time.

"This is too out of line."

"I'm holding my princess in my arms. Am I afraid of being seen?" Chu Liuchen said indifferently with a slight smile. The girl in his arms was so light that he took pity on her.

"Someone will see us," Shao Wanru said anxiously. Although Prince Chen's Mansion was very strict in its management, it wasn't guaranteed that there were no spies sent by other mansions.

"So what? No one can stop me." Chu Liuchen said in a gentle but domineering voice.

His momentum comforted Shao Wanru, who was restless. She bit her lip. They had walked a long way. Since he refused to let her go, it was useless for her to struggle. Her strength was not at the same level as that of Chu Liuchen at all. No matter how hard she struggled, it would be in vain and she would only be laughed at.

After figuring this out, Shao Wanru immediately stopped moving.

Sensing that Shao Wanru was docile, Chu Liuchen showed an increasingly gentle smile, hugged the girl in his arms tightly, and relaxed his grip. This was his treasure, his only treasure, and the only woman he pursued. He could do anything for her.

She was his only salvation. She had saved his heart which had been forever immersed in darkness.

Shao Jie'er was waiting for Shao Wanru's news, but in fact, she was not very sure. She told Shao Wanru what she knew first. Shao Jie'er would never do it in the past. "What a stupid move. Since I told her what happened, why would she come to save me? I'm too stupid."

She even suspected that Wen Xichi asked her to write such a letter to get her information. He said that he would give it to Shao Wanru, but in fact, he would read it himself. After all, he also wanted to know the news on it.

However, Shao Jie'er had to do as she was told. At present, she had no way out. Thinking about it carefully, she realized that Shao Wanru was indeed the only person she could turn to. Moreover, she didn't have a good relationship with Shao Wanru. She had listened to Madam Jiang, Shao Yanru, and Old Madam more than once and hurt Shao Wanru. Thinking of this, she inexplicably felt guilty.

Since Wen Xichi said so, she didn't dare to disobey him. After the letter was sent, she had been restless and paced back and forth in the courtyard.

The courtyard she lived in was not far from the vacant one before. Consort Dowager Qing did not want her to be too close to Chu Qing, which was also the main reason why it was convenient for her to go to the vacant courtyard before.

Now she had told Shao Wanru her secret, but there was no news of Shao Wanru for a long time. Shao Jie'er got very anxious. She had walked around in circles. She sent Liuxiang out to see if there was any news from Shao Wanru.

She suddenly thought that if Chu Qing and Consort Dowager Qing knew what she said, they would definitely not spare her and kill her.

It could be said that Shao Wanru got to decide her life and death now, but why hadn't she come to save her yet? Wen Xichi had repeatedly said that Princess Chen would come to save her and told her not to act rashly, but she couldn't calm down no matter what.

Thinking of Shao Wanru, Shao Jie'er felt guilty. She was really afraid that Shao Wanru would leave her alone.

"Lady Consort... Prince Qing is coming!" The door was knocked open heavily. Liuxiang ran in with sweat all over her face, and her face was deadly pale. She had followed Shao Jie'er into Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. She lived in the mansion with great caution and was doing even worse than in Marquis Xing's Mansion.

"Prince... Prince Qing is coming?" Shao Jie'er said in a trembling voice as the teacup in her hand fell to the ground heavily.

"I... I don't know if he's coming for you. Prince Qing brought a few people here... I saw it from a distance, so I... I reported it to you immediately," Liuxiang said in a trembling voice.

Neither the master nor the servant was bold or smart.

Like her master, Liuxiang was also a mean person. They tried their best to curry favor with those who were superior to them and were mean to those who were inferior to them. It was as if they wanted to vent the humiliation that others had imposed on them.

"Then... then what should we do?" Shao Jie'er said with her hands trembling. She was in a panic and her mind went blank. She didn't know how to deal with it at the moment. "Am I exposed? Old Madam has asked Chu Qing to kill me, and I'm about to be killed and thrown into a mass grave."

Thinking of this, she felt terrible. She collapsed in the chair and couldn't stand up.

"Lady Consort, you... you can rest assured. Everything will be fine. Prince Qing likes you very much. Everything will... be fine." Liuxiang comforted her with a pale face. Neither of them believed what she said.

Chu Qing was merely nice to Shao Jie'er now. When Consort Dowager Qing made things difficult for her, Chu Qing would only remain silent and stand behind his mother. He had never even smiled at Shao Jie'er.

"Liu... Liuxiang... What... what should we do?" Shao Jie'er was at a loss, and her eyes turned red with anxiety. She was really afraid that what she did would be exposed. If what she and Wen Xichi did was discovered, she would definitely die.

She didn't want to die like this. She was still young. How could she die at such a young age? She didn't want to die. She suddenly stood up and subconsciously wanted to escape. She did not want to see Chu Qing. "Liuxiang... tell... tell him that I'm sleeping. I'm not feeling well!"

Liuxiang grabbed her and said in a trembling voice, "Lady Consort, it's useless for you to go back now... Prince Qing will be here soon. It... it won't work even if you say that you're not feeling well."

For a while, Shao Jie'er felt that she had been favored. There was once when Chu Qing came over, she said that she was not feeling well and wanted to get his care. However, Chu Qing ignored her and let her serve him, regardless of whether she was uncomfortable or not.

"Then... then what should we do?" Shao Jie'er asked with her hands trembling.

"Lady Consort, His Highness is here. Come and greet His Highness!" A voice came from outside. It was the voice of Chu Qing's servant.

Shao Jie'er and her servant girl in the room were even more panicked. They couldn't avoid Chu Qing even if they wanted to.

At this point, Shao Jie'er threw caution to the wind. She gritted her teeth and gave an order, "Let's go. Follow me to greet Prince Qing!"

"Lady Consort..." Liuxiang cried out in a low voice and her legs trembled.

"If you still want to live, stop your fear, or I will make you take the blame!" Shao Jie'er threatened Liuxiang fiercely.

"I'll be dead if I'm made to take the blame!"

Liuxiang was shocked by her and stopped trembling. Although her face was still pale, she looked much calmer. She even stepped forward to tidy up the clothes for Shao Jie'er and said, "Don't worry, Lady Consort. I won't get our plan ruined!"

The two of them calmed down together and knew that they had to greet Prince Qing no matter what. What would happen next was really beyond their control. Shao Jie'er gritted her teeth hard and walked out slowly with her soft legs. As soon as she reached the door of the room, she saw Chu Qing walking over with his hands clasped behind his back with a gloomy face.

Shao Jie'er felt her legs go weak again. She leaned against the door frame and said in a sweet voice, "Your Highness!"

Then, she bowed sideways. Liuxiang hid behind her and followed her to bow.

Chu Qing glanced at them coldly and strode into the room. He sat down on the chair in the middle and looked at Shao Jie'er, which made the hair on her back stand on end.

Chapter 1214 Fulfilling the Promise

"Greetings, Your Highness." Shao Jie'er suppressed the fear in her heart and stepped forward to bow gracefully. Liuxiang still followed her closely.

Chu Qing's cold gaze fell on Shao Jie'er, which made her nervous and terrified. "What does Chu Qing mean by looking at me like that? Did he discover something?"

"You've been in the mansion for some time, haven't you?" Chu Qing finally spoke.

"I have been in the mansion for several months." Shao Jie'er lowered her head and did not dare to have Chu Qing see the fear in her eyes.

"How have I been to you?" Chu Qing asked.

"Your Highness, you dote on me very much. When I was in Marquis Xing's Mansion, I was always ignored. Only after I came here did I know that I could be doted on," Shao Jie'er said.

Since she sounded sincere, Chu Qing looked less gloomy. He pointed to the stool beside him and said, "Sit down!"

"It wouldn't be appropriate for me to sit beside you, Your Highness. I'd better keep standing to serve you!" Shao Jie'er said cautiously.

"It doesn't matter. Just sit down!" Chu Qing scolded.

Shao Jie'er didn't dare to talk back. She tilted her body and sat down on the stool on one side. Because she was nervous, she just sat down slightly without her hips pressed on the stool. She was entirely stiff, which made her feel more uncomfortable than standing, but she didn't dare to say anything.

Chu Qing's intention was unknown. Until now, she had not figured out what he wanted, so she did not dare to relax at all.

Chu Qing looked at Shao Jie'er and said, "I've long heard that you had a hard time in Marquis Xing's Mansion. It was obviously Shao Yanru who got into trouble at that time, but in the end, you took the blame for her. It can be seen that Shao Jing is not a good person. Since you came to my mansion, I've been tender and protective toward you. Now you're the only right and proper woman in the mansion. Even if Qiuyi marries into the mansion in the future, you'll get a lot of benefits. If you get to be the first one to bring me a son, I don't need to tell you what you will get in the future!"

"Yes... Your Highness!" Shao Jie'er said softly.

If she had heard him say that before marrying into Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, she would have believed him. But now, she could only feel shock instead of joy. What did Chu Qing mean by saying that at this time?

Even Consort Dowager Qing attached so much importance to Mo Qiuyi that she even got her into the mansion regardless of her identity. How could Chu Qing have Shao Jie'er bring him his first son, which would be trouble for Mo Qiuyi?

The reason why Shao Jie'er was so desperate was that she would not have the chance to bear a baby for Chu Qing.

She had once thought that Mo Qiuyi was so valued by Consort Dowager Qing that Chu Qing and Consort Dowager would not say anything even if Mo Qiuyi drugged her and made her infertile in the future.

It was said that she was now the only nominal female master in the mansion. The more she stood out at the moment, the more unlucky she would be in the future. These days in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion had made Shao Jie'er well aware of that.

As soon as Mo Qiuyi married into the mansion, Shao Jie'er would be doomed eternally. That woman might be even more cruel to her than Consort Dowager Qing.

"Terrific." Seeing her like this, Chu Qing's expression softened. He even poured her a glass of water and asked softly, "You have a good relationship with Princess Chen. How come you never told me this?"

"What?" Shao Jie'er looked up subconsciously.

"Princess Chen came to visit you today and said that she wanted to see you. She also said that the Old Madam of Marquis Xing was seriously ill and asked you to go back to see her and stay for a few days," Chu Qing said.

Shao Jie'er took a few deep breaths and felt that she had come back to life. "So he's here not to blame me but because Shao Wanru came over.

"Did Shao Wanru really come over?"

Shao Jie'er was overjoyed. But when she saw Chu Qing frowning slightly, she immediately knew that she was not supposed to look happy. She hurriedly turned her smiling face into a sad one and said, "Is Grandma ill? Is it so serious? She's in poor health, and now all kinds of things have happened in the mansion. If she can't take them..."

Shao Jie'er was good at acting. She wiped her tears with a handkerchief and continued, "Grandma doesn't treat me well, but after all, she is my biological grandma. Your Highness, please allow me to go back and stay there for a few days so that I can serve her!"

After saying that, she burst into tears.

Seeing her anxious look, Chu Qing frowned slightly and looked less gloomy than before. "Old Madam is sick. As her granddaughter, you naturally have to go and see her."

Speaking of this, he paused and looked at Shao Jie'er. "Didn't you have a bad relationship with Princess Chen before? Why did she come here in person for you?"

Everyone knew that Princess Chen was not favored by the people in Marquis Xing's Mansion, especially the second branch and the first branch, who had a bad relationship with her. Although Shao Jie'er was not Madam Jiang's biological daughter, she was from the second branch after all, so she should not have a good relationship with Shao Wanru.

Shao Jie'er pulled her handkerchief and murmured, "Indeed, I didn't get along well with Princess Chen in the past, but... after all, we are sisters from the same mansion. Moreover, Madam Jiang and Big Sister were the ones who treated Fifth Sister the worst. As a concubine's daughter, I couldn't act on my own. I just followed the others. Fifth Sister has always been kind. She should know my difficulties and circumstances."

What she meant was that when Shao Jie'er was in Marquis Xing's Mansion, she hadn't really fallen out with Shao Wanru, nor had she treated Shao Wanru harshly. It was Madam Jiang and Shao Yanru who had plotted against Shao Wanru all the time, which had nothing to do with Shao Jie'er. Even if Shao Jie'er were not close with Shao Wanru back in her times in Marquis Xing's Mansion, Shao Wanru knew that she was helpless as a concubine's daughter.

Chu Qing thought for a moment and asked, "You stayed with Shao Yanru back then, didn't you?"

"I stayed with Big Sister and did something to hurt Fifth Sister for her, but it was not a big deal. Besides, I had no choice at that time. I had to do many things and felt very guilty. Sometimes, I would secretly ask a servant to send a message to Fifth Sister in advance."

Shao Jie'er kept addressing Shao Wanru as Fifth Sister, trying her best to show that they had a good relationship.

Shao Wanru was the only one she could hold on to at the moment. She had to hold on to her with all her might.

"You have a good relationship with Princess Chen, don't you? I've never heard of her from you. Since then, you should visit her more often. Come with me to my mother's place!" Chu Qing was relieved. With a gentle look on his face, he stood up, took Shao Jie'er by the hand, and said, "Let's go. I'll go with you!"

Shao Jie'er was flattered and stood up in surprise. She had never been treated like this since she entered Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion.

She followed Chu Qing uneasily to Consort Dowager Qing's courtyard. As soon as she arrived at the door of the main room, she heard the sound of talking and laughing inside. It was Consort Dowager Qing's voice. It sounded soft as if she was not the aggressive woman she used to be.

A servant girl lifted the curtain high. Chu Qing pulled Shao Jie'er into the room. The two people who were talking turned around and looked at them.

Chu Qing seemed to have just noticed that it was inappropriate for him to hold Shao Jie'er's hand. He put down her hand, stepped forward with a smile, and said, "Princess Chen, Jie'er is here!"

His intimate voice made Shao Jie'er look at him a few more times in disbelief. "Chu Qing is so gentle and elegant right now. Is he really the man I know?"

It was Consort Dowager Qing who was sitting in the hall. It was the first time that Shao Wanru had seen her. Today, she came to fulfill her promise by taking Shao Jie'er away and meeting Commandery Prince Qing by the way.

It was said that when Consort Dowager Qing was in the Palace, she was also the favorite concubine of the deceased emperor, who almost got Empress Dowager out of her position. If it weren't for the fact that the deceased emperor had died early, it was hard to say whether Empress Dowager would have been able to hold the Empress's position firmly.

After such a woman was locked up in the Yuhui Nunnery, she was very quiet. After she was released, she said that she was used to a quiet life and was unwilling to appear in public. She had been resting in the Buddha Hall in the mansion.

At first, everyone sent invitations to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion. After they got refused, again and again, they didn't send any more invitation cards. The mysterious Consort Dowager had always lived in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion and had never shown up in public.

At present, it was the first time that Shao Wanru had seen Consort Dowager Qing.

She looked a little older than the women in the Palace, at least about ten years older. Maybe it was because her days in the Yuhui Nunnery were too tough before.

Different from those Old Madams who liked to wear colorful clothes in other mansions, her clothes looked much simpler and there was no extra and complicated embroidery. She wore a string of Buddha beads on her hand. There was even a faint Buddhist fragrance in the room. Shao Wanru felt that Consort Dowager Qing had just returned from the Buddha Hall.

The Old Madam of Marquis Xing used to like to worship the Buddha and she also had a string of Buddha beads with her. However, Consort Dowager Qing's was obviously different from Old Madam's. At first glance, one could tell that Consort Dowager Qing often held her Buddha beads, unlike the ones used by the Old Madam occasionally.

Although Consort Dowager Qing was old, it could be told from her facial features that she was beautiful when she was young. After all, she was the favorite concubine back then. How could she not be good-looking?

When Shao Wanru came in, Consort Dowager Qing gently invited her to take a seat. After asking her why she came here, Consort Dowager Qing sent a servant to summon Chu Qing and ask him to bring Shao Jie'er here.

Consort Dowager Qing was always so gentle that Shao Wanru felt that the Consort Dowager in front of her was really a gentle and kind person.

Chu Qing was suspicious. Of course, Shao Wanru did not believe that this Consort Dowager was really so gentle and harmless. She could give birth to the posthumous child of the deceased emperor in a place like the Yuhui Nunnery, which showed that she was very determined.

Afraid that the child in her belly would be killed, she became an imperial concubine of the deceased emperor when she had yet to give birth to his baby. After that, she was sent to the Yuhui Nunnery and then gave birth to Chu Qing there. She had been holding back for so many years, and she would never be someone easy to deal with.

There were many mysteries in the Yuhui Nunnery. Living in such a place for so many years meant that Consort Dowager Qing was mysterious. Pushan Nun and Mo Qiuyi were not simple people either.

Shao Wanru also had doubts about Shao Jie'er's attitude. If the Consort Dowager was really kind, how could Shao Jie'er want to escape? If Shao Jie'er had a chance to be with Chu Qing, she would never try to leave Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion so determinedly. She must be trying to do so while she had no way out.

When Shao Jie'er came in, Shao Wanru looked down with a trace of shock in her eyes. She knew that Shao Jie'er would have a hard time, but she didn't expect that Shao Jie'er would look so emaciated and ill-looking that her cheekbones bulged. She didn't look like a woman in her prime.

Chapter 1215 Beaten Up Right After the Return

"Greetings, Your Highness." After entering the room, Shao Jie'er stepped forward to bow to Consort Dowager Qing without looking sideways and then bowed to Shao Wanru beside her.

"Don't need to stand on ceremony, Second Sister. Please take a seat!" Shao Wanru said softly.

Shao Jie'er looked up at Consort Dowager Qing, who was sitting in the middle.

"Princess Chen is so polite to you. Take a seat now, and let's chat." Consort Dowager Qing nodded with a gentle smile. A servant girl brought a stool over, and Shao Jie'er sat down sideways.

"Lady Consort Dowager, since Second Sister is here, she will come back to the mansion with me. Grandma's health is really..." Shao Wanru sighed softly and looked at Consort Dowager Qing.

"Of course, I should let Jie'er go, but how many days will she stay there?" Consort Dowager Qing asked gently.

"Uh... I'm really not sure. It depends on Grandma's condition. If she's doing okay, Second Sister can go back today!" Shao Wanru looked at Shao Jie'er and saw the nervousness in her eyes when she heard what Shao Wanru said.

"Is Old Madam in such poor health?" Consort Dowager Qing asked in surprise.

Shao Wanru said vaguely, "Grandma is doing worse and worse. She has some old problems and is not recovering well. There are many things to deal with in the mansion, and no one can manage the backyard. Grandma is tired and doesn't feel well."

The whole capital city was talking about what had happened in Marquis Xing's Mansion.

At the mention of Marquis Xing's Mansion, Consort Dowager Qing asked curiously, "What happened to your Second Aunt? Why did she die in the Ministry of Justice inexplicably?"

"I... I don't know what's going on. The Ministry of Justice is still investigating it," Shao Wanru said with the smile on her face fading.

"I heard that Madam Jiang was taken there because of you. Is it true?" As if she didn't see the displeasure on Shao Wanru's face, Consort Dowager Qing continued to ask.

Chu Qing was sitting aside and said nothing with a smile on his face.

"The Ministry of Justice is investigating the case of Madam Jiang and my Second Uncle. When we get the result, we will let you know, Lady Consort Dowager," Shao Wanru said indifferently.

Consort Dowager changed the topic and asked, "I heard that your younger brother is the heir of Marquis Xing. Such a big thing happened in Marquis Xing's Mansion, so why didn't he go there?" What she said was still so displeasing.

Shao Wanru shook her head and said with an increasingly displeased look on her tender face, "It's Grandma's decision. I don't know much about it!"

Consort Dowager Qing's questions were too private. Not to mention that Consort Dowager Qing and Shao Wanru had never been in contact with each other before, even if they had been in a relationship before, Consort Dowager Qing shouldn't have said something like that.

"I'm sorry, Princess Chen. My mother lived in the Yuhui Nunnery for so many years that she is used to being straightforward!" Chu Qing explained with a smile.

"It doesn't matter. It's just that these things are the affairs of the elders, and I can't intervene. It's getting late, so I'll take Second Sister back first. If there's nothing else, I'll ask the Marquis Xing's Mansion to send Second Sister back later." Shao Wanru stood up.

Since she had said that and was going to see a patient, Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion naturally couldn't keep her.

Chu Qing asked his servant to prepare a carriage, which followed Shao Wanru to Marquis Xing's Mansion.

When they arrived at Marquis Xing's Mansion, Shao Jie'er got out of the carriage and wanted to wait for Shao Wanru behind her to enter the mansion together. However, she saw Yujie get out of the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion, walk to her, and bow sideways. "Second Miss, My Lady is not feeling well, so she will not go in. My Lady has fulfilled her promise, so we'll leave you to what happens next."

It meant that what would happen next had nothing to do with Shao Wanru.

Although Shao Jie'er wanted to attach herself to Shao Wanru very much, Shao Wanru didn't even get out of the carriage, so they couldn't see each other. She couldn't go to Shao Wanru.

Seeing that Yujie quickly got on the carriage of Prince Chen's Mansion, the coachman raised his whip, turned the horse around, and left, leaving Shao Jie'er alone at the gate.

"Lady Consort..." Liuxiang said.

"Call me Second Miss!" Shao Jie'er interrupted Liuxiang.

"Yes... Second Miss..." Liuxiang hurriedly corrected herself. She was sometimes called Shao Jie'er Second Miss in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion in order to please Consort Dowager Qing, so it was not difficult for her to change the way she addressed Shao Shao Jie'er now.

At the gate, Zhao Xiran got the news and hurried out to welcome Shao Wanru. When she saw that only Shao Jie'er was there, she was stunned.

"Greetings, Sister Zhao!" Shao Jie'er stepped forward and bowed.

Zhao Xiran looked out and asked in shock, "Second Sister, why... why are you here? Where's Fifth Sister?"

When her servants by the gate came to report, they only said that Princess Chen had come, but they didn't say that Shao Jie'er had returned to the mansion. Since Shao Jie'er entered Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, she lost contact with the people in Marquis Xing's Mansion. Zhao Xiran didn't expect that she would come here at this critical moment. From Shao Jie'er's look, she could tell that Shao Jie'er didn't do well in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion.

Shao Jie'er stood up straight and said, "Fifth Sister sent me here and then left!"

Zhao Xiran stamped her feet hard and said anxiously, "How could she leave? Grandma happened to be looking for her!" Now the mansion was in chaos, and her father-in-law was taken away by the people of the Ministry of Justice. Old Madam was so anxious that she asked Zhao Xiran to look for Shao Wanru, but Zhao Xiran was too ashamed to do so. Hearing that Princess Chen had come, she came over in a hurry, only to find that she had left.

It was not easy to explain it to Old Madam.

"How is Grandma?" Shao Jie'er asked.

"Grandma is doing fine. Wait for me. I'll go after Fifth Sister." Zhao Xiran was not in the mood to pay attention to Shao Jie'er. She turned around and was about to order her servants to prepare a carriage to chase after Shao Wanru.

However, Shao Jie'er pulled her sleeve and said, "Sister Zhao, Fifth Sister has her own idea. So what if you go after her now? Can you really get Fifth Sister back?"

"But I have to chase after her. Since Fifth Sister came over, how can she not enter the mansion?" Zhao Xiran was greatly troubled by Old Madam and wanted to chase after Shao Wanru wholeheartedly.

"Don't worry, Sister Zhao. I'll go with you to see Fifth Sister next time. It'll be easier to talk with her if we go together." Shao Jie'er held Zhao Xiran and didn't let her go.

What she said made sense. Zhao Xiran was too embarrassed to go to Prince Chen's Mansion. Hearing what Shao Jie'er said, she breathed a sigh of relief inwardly and nodded repeatedly. "Okay, you will go with me next time. You have no idea how anxious Grandma is. At present, only Fifth Sister can help us out!" Zhao Xiran said, greatly distressed.

No one had expected that things would turn out like this.

After Madam Jiang was taken away, she died. Now, Shao Jing was taken away as well. He was Marquis Xing, who was in charge of the mansion. Old Madam anxiously slapped Zhao Xiran twice and urged her to think of a solution.

But what could she do? Although she was smart, she merely belonged to the inner court. She knew that Old Madam wanted to force her to ask her father for help to deal with this matter, but it was useless. Her father had sent a message to ask her not to intervene in this matter. What Shao Jing might have done might implicate the entire Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Since her father couldn't help her, she had no choice but to turn to Shao Wanru.

Among all the people in the Marquis Xing's Mansion, only Shao Wanru had the status to speak up for Shao Jing.

However, Shao Wanru ignored Zhao Xiran, who was running out of her options. She had no way but to hurry out to welcome Shao Wanru when she heard that she had arrived at the gate of the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Unexpectedly, it was not Shao Wanru but useless Shao Jie'er who had arrived.

At present, Zhao Xiran could only take Shao Jie'er in. They entered the main room. Old Madam had also received the news that Shao Wanru was coming. She got up happily and waited for Shao Wanru to come in. This time, she had to beg Shao Wanru in any case to save Marquis Xing's Mansion and her son. She had even made up her mind to kneel to Shao Wanru.

Unexpectedly, it was Shao Jie'er and Zhao Xiran who entered.

With her face darkening, Old Madam asked, "Where is Princess Chen?"

"Old Madam, Fifth Sister has gone back. She specially sent me here today. I heard that you are in poor health, so I came to see you!" Shao Jie'er took two steps forward and bowed to Old Madam.

Looking at Shao Jie'er's face, Old Madam was furious. She picked up something casually and threw it at Shao Jie'er. "What's the use of you coming here? Fifth Girl is the only one who is useful. It's so infuriating that irrelevant people keep coming to the mansion!"

Old Madam kept thinking about her son being taken to the Ministry of Justice. She had a lot on her mind and disliked everyone. She had beaten Zhao Xiran before, and now it was Shao Jie'er's turn.

Zhao Xiran took another step back calmly to stay away from Old Madam.

Shao Jie'er was hit and in great pain. She looked sideways and saw the wooden fish on the ground. It looked very heavy, which had hurt her back. She felt something unusual rushing into her throat. She knew that it was not good, so she swallowed hard to suppress the urge to throw up as a trace of hatred flashed in her eyes.

She had wanted to deal with Old Madam. Since the old woman wanted to hit her to death, why should she care about her?

Suppressing the hatred in her heart, Shao Jie'er said, "Old Madam, I will accompany Sister Zhao to invite Fifth Sister over later."

"She caused my marriage to become like this. She knows that I've fallen into such a situation, instead of helping me, she even vents her anger on me." Shao Jie'er hated Old Madam so much.

"Then why don't you go do it now? Why are you still dawdling here? If something happens to your father, you won't be able to gain a foothold in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion in the future. When the First Consort marries into the mansion, who will support you?" Old Madam scolded.

Shao Jie'er hated her so much. According to what Old Madam said, it was as if Shao Jing would support Shao Jie'er when he wasn't in trouble. There was a trace of sarcasm in her eyes. She was just a concubine's daughter who was used to exchange for the greatest benefit for Shao Yanru. Everything she had could only be given up by Shao Yanru, and she had to seek benefits for Shao Yanru.

She had never been a part of the so-called kinship.

"How dare Old Madam make it like they're doing me a favor?"

"Grandma, we'll go there in a while. Do you need to take a rest first? When Fifth Sister comes later, you will have enough energy to talk to her," Shao Jie'er said softly. She looked up and looked at Old Madam's tilted face. At first glance, she knew that Old Madam was not in good condition.

However, this made things easier for her.

Old Madam had cheered up before because she was waiting for Shao Wanru. But now Shao Wanru didn't come, so she was indeed listless. Hearing Shao Jie'er's words, she closed her eyes and said to Nanny Yu, "Help me in. I'll have a rest."

Nanny Yu stepped forward to support Old Madam on one side, and Shao Jie'er hurried forward to support Old Madam's other side. They helped Old Madam in, followed by Zhao Xiran.

"Sister Zhao, make some preparation first. We'll go to see Fifth Sister together later," Shao Jie'er said in a low voice.

Old Madam was satisfied with her words and snorted a few times.

"Okay, I'll go now. We'll invite Second Sister over later." Zhao Xiran nodded sensibly and left. When she was outside, she took a deep breath and turned to look at the room with an ambiguous smile.

Chapter 1216 Leaving the Mess to Others

"Nanny Yu, has Grandma taken any medicine?" In the room, Shao Jie'er helped Old Madam lie down and carefully tucked her in.

Nanny Yu nodded and said, "Yes. Old Madam is in poor health and has been taking medicine."

"Has she taken some tonics? Some good medicinal soup is actually better than medicine," Shao Jie'er said with concern.

"Well... Old Madam doesn't like medicinal soup very much!" Nanny Yu said helplessly.

"I have a prescription here. This medicinal soup is good for nourishing. Nanny Yu, please ask the kitchen to make one for Old Madam to have a try. Maybe it will work. Consort Dowager Qing has been using it before, and I think it works great for her." Shao Jie'er took out a prescription for a kind of medicinal soup from her arms and handed it to Nanny Yu.

"If it works, it will be great. Thank you, Second Miss," Nanny Yu said, turned around, and left with the prescription.

Shao Jie'er looked at Old Madam lying on the bed calmly. In a short time, Old Madam had begun to snore softly as if she had fallen asleep.

Maybe Shao Jie'er's eyes were too gloomy, Old Madam moved and opened her eyes. Seeing Shao Jie'er standing still in front of the bed, she moved her throat and scolded, "You're done here. Get out of here!"

She felt bad luck while looking at Shao Jie'er like that.

"Old Madam, do you want me to leave?" Shao Jie'er suddenly smiled. The light from the window fell on her eyes, and there was a deep light in them.

"What a cheap concubine's daughter." Old Madam snorted and closed her eyes. She had always looked down on any concubine's daughters. Now only her son lived in Marquis Xing's Mansion. The concubines' sons and daughters had long been asked to leave.

Suddenly, Shao Jie'er grabbed her neck. Old Madam opened her eyes in pain and saw Shao Jie'er's gloomy smile. She struggled hard, but her throat was tightly pinched. Although Shao Jie'er was not strong, she was much stronger than Old Madam.

"Old Madam, do you think that I, a concubine's daughter, am useless while Shao Yanru, the legitimate daughter, is useful?" Shao Jie'er said with a smile full of hatred and a ferocious look on her beautiful face, "What's so good about her? You all give her everything. When you see her bullying me, you even ask me to apologize. It will always be me who is in the wrong. I am like a piece of mud on Shao Yanru's feet. Old Madam, have you ever thought that you will be killed by some mud one day?"

Shao Jie'er didn't talk loudly, but Old Madam heard every word she said. She struggled hard, breathed quickly, and desperately tried to get rid of Shao Jie'er's hands.

"Old Madam, don't you want to save my father? In fact, there is a way. You should die! If you die, my father will have to come back and mourn for you. Maybe that will solve the problem. What do you think? How about you'll just die to save my father?" Shao Jie'er laughed a little crazily, but she suppressed Old Madam tightly. Old Madam felt more horrified.

She was still clear-minded while she was crazy. Wouldn't such a person be the most terrifying?

Old Madam struggled to roll her eyes. The saliva dripped from the corner of her mouth. She rolled her eyes and fainted.

Shao Jie'er put down her hands and wiped them carefully with a handkerchief. She wiped her hands very slowly and made them clean as if she had never strangled Old Madam just now.

After wiping her hands, she stood at the head of the bed and looked coldly at Old Madam, who was twitching with crooked eyes and mouth. With a slight smile, she turned around and walked out of the inner room.

In the outer room, she asked Liuxiang to pour a cup of tea and sat quietly, waiting for Zhao Xiran to send her servant over.

Sure enough, not long after, an old maid came over to invite her. Shao Jie'er instructed the servant girl guarding the door a few times and then followed the old maid sent by Zhao Xiran.

As soon as she left, Nanny Yu came back in a hurry. When she went to the door and asked the servant girl guarding outside, she knew that Old Madam did not call for her. As soon as Second Miss left, she breathed a sigh of relief.

Nanny Yu wiped the sweat off her forehead and walked to the inner room. As soon as she entered the inner room, she saw Old Madam lying on the bed with saliva dripping from her mouth and rolled eyes. She was so scared that she almost fell to the ground.

When Zhao Xiran and Shao Jie'er arrived at Prince Chen's Mansion, they didn't enter the interior. Instead, they went back.

Princess Chen was not in Prince Chen's Mansion. She had gone to the Palace. They didn't know when she would come back. Since they couldn't see her after entering the mansion, they might as well go back first.

When the carriage returned to the mansion, Zhao Xiran got out and saw an old maid rushing over in front of her. It was the old maid who came with her when she got married.

"Eldest Young Madam, please go and check on Old Madam. She's in danger!"

"What happened?" Zhao Xiran asked in shock.

"I don't know. I just saw Nanny Yu go to the First Young Master, and he got an imperial physician over. Now the First Young Master has gone to the Chuntang Courtyard. Please go and check on Old Madam!" the old maid said.

Shao Jie'er also got out of the carriage. Hearing the words of the old maid, she walked over and asked, "Sister Zhao, what happened?"

"Old Madam is in danger!" Zhao Xiran said with a gloomy face.

"Let's go and check on her!" Shao Jie'er said hurriedly with an anxious look.

When they hurried over, they saw a lot of people sitting in the room. Even their Third Uncle, who rarely showed up, appeared. The Third Madam struggled to come over despite her illness. Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing were also there. Everyone looked upset and gloomy.

Zhao Xiran looked around, found Shao Hua'an sitting in the chair, and hurried over.

Shao Hua'an looked quite gloomy. He glanced at Zhao Xiran and said gloomily, which was rare, "Where have you been? Something happened to Grandma, but you weren't around."

"Grandma asked me and Second Sister to see Fifth Sister." Zhao Xiran felt wronged.

Shao Hua'an knew what she meant and asked in a low voice, "How did it go?"

"We didn't see Fifth Sister. She went to the Palace and I don't know when she will come back." Zhao Xiran lowered her voice and asked, "How is Grandmother? What happened?"

"Grandma may have had a stroke!" Shao Hua'an said impatiently. His biological mother had just died, and such a thing had happened to his grandma today. His father had been taken away by the Ministry of Justice for interrogation. The whole Marquis Xing's Mansion was in chaos.

The imperial physician came out of the room. Ignoring Zhao Xiran, Shao Hua'an pushed her away, took a few steps forward, and asked anxiously, "Doctor, how is my grandma?"

The imperial physician shook his head helplessly and said, "Old Madam has always been in poor health and fainted just now. She really had a stroke this time. She'll keep recuperating from now on. I'm afraid she won't be able to get up."

"My grandma has been fine... How could she end up like this?" Shao Hua'an asked anxiously.

The imperial physician said, "I don't know. She had a stroke on the bed, and none of you knew it. Aren't the servants in your manor supposed to serve her in front of the bed? It's not strange for an old woman, who is in poor health, to have a stroke occasionally. You are too careless."

He thought that Old Madam of Marquis Xing had to have someone to closely take care of her and keep an eye on her. Otherwise, she would easily get in danger. She should not have had such a serious stroke if she had someone serve her closely.

Half of her body suffered from the stroke. How could she move? He was certain that she would have to spend the rest of her time lying in bed.

"Is there any other way?" Shao Hua'an asked.

"No. You'll just take care of her during the rest of her days," the imperial physician said. After that, he left with the medicine chest and went to the wing room to give a prescription.

It was better for Old Madam to take some medicine than not.

"Nanny Yu, what exactly happened?" Third Master Shao looked at Nanny Yu unkindly and said in a sharp voice, "My mother has always been fine before. How could such a thing happen?"

Nanny Yu knelt and said, "Third Master, I don't know. I just went to get a medicinal soup prescription for Old Madam and gave it to the kitchen. I found her like that when I came back. Second Miss gave the prescription to me."

How could Nanny Yu remain composed after such a thing happened to Old Madam?

Third Master Shao's eyes fell on Shao Jie'er as he asked unhappily, "Jie'er, why are you here today? What happened? How did your grandma become like this?"

"Third Uncle, I... I don't know. Grandma was fine when I left!" Shao Jie'er was so scared that she stammered.

Third Master Shao looked at Shao Jie'er suspiciously and asked, "What do you mean by you don't know? Since you were there at that time, how could you know nothing? Did you do something?"

Shao Jie'er was now a consort of Commandery Prince Qing. Who knew if she would do something to hurt Old Madam?

"Third Uncle, what are you talking about? I'm here to see Grandmother today. I heard from Fifth Sister that Grandmother is in poor health. After I came here, Sister Zhao asked me to go to Fifth Sister together. How can you blame me for what happened while I merely stayed in the mansion for such a short time? Third Uncle, if you don't believe me, I'm willing to die to prove my innocence!"

Shao Jie'er got anxious. She cried and was about to run into the pillar on the side.

Liuxiang grabbed her and burst into tears as well. The room became more and more chaotic. Third Madam reached out to touch her forehead and felt that the veins on her forehead were beating rapidly. She pressed her eyes hard to suppress the inexplicable discomfort in her heart and then slowly opened her eyes. "Alright. Enough with this. Let's see what we should do next."

"What should we do? What else can we do? Mother is already like this, but Eldest Brother is still in the Ministry of Justice. What should we do while things are like this?" Third Master Shao had never been responsible. He was the youngest son of Old Madam in the mansion. Although he was disappointed, Old Madam treated him well. Now that he was going to take responsibility, he was in a panic.

Third Madam pressed her chest. She coughed and said in a low voice, "Go to the Ministry of Justice to get the Marquis and have him go back to the mansion first."

"Yes... yes, yes. I need to go get Eldest Brother. I'm going to the Ministry of Justice now to get Eldest Brother!" Third Master Shao's eyes lit up. He dropped the mess in the room and hurried out.

The rest of the people were all dumbfounded. Third Master Shao left without saying a word. To whom was he going to leave the mess?

"Third Aunt, you are not in good health. You should go back first. Third Sister, Fourth Sister, help Third Aunt." Zhao Xiran had to stand up to take charge of the affairs.

Shao Caihuan and Shao Cailing didn't want to stay here for a long time, so they agreed and helped Third Madam leave Chuntang Courtyard.

"Second Sister, you should also go back now!" Zhao Xiran said to Shao Jie'er.

"I'm not leaving, Sister Zhao."

Chapter 1217 Who Did It?

Shao Jie'er cried and said firmly while wiping away her tears, "Although such a thing happened to Grandma after I left, how can I leave now? I have to stay to serve Grandma. I'm not leaving until she gets better."

Zhao Xiran was so angry that she almost blew up. "Does she mean that this only happened after she left? She's blaming me for not taking good care of Old Madam."

She reached out to pull Shao Jie'er and continued to persuade her. "Second Sister..."

Shao Jie'er shook off Zhao Xiran's hand and grabbed the table beside her tightly with the other hand. She grabbed the table so hard that it was pulled over. "If you insist on me going back, I will die here today."

Zhao Xiran was so pissed that she gritted her teeth and didn't want to care about Shao Jie'er anymore. She turned to Shao Hua'an. "Hubby... what do you think of this matter?"

"Let Second Sister stay and take care of Grandma!" Shao Hua'an said with a cold face and glanced at Zhao Xiran with dissatisfaction.

Zhao Xiran could also see the displeasure in Shao Hua'an's eyes, but she didn't mean to take over and serve Old Madam. She thought it was good for Old Madam to end up like this, who would no longer get to point at her and scold her as soon as things went wrong. Her face still hurt a little now.

She had wanted Old Madam to come back because she wanted her to stop her father-in-law from marrying a bitch and taking her into the mansion. Unexpectedly, after Old Madam and Shao Jing talked about it in private, Old Madam seemed to agree to it.

"In fact, not only Old Madam and my father-in-law but also my husband agreed to this, right?"

At the thought of this, Zhao Xiran felt very aggrieved.

"Why do they all know the reason but I don't? It's obvious that they don't treat me as one of them and suspect me." What Madam Jiang had said at that time always came to Zhao Xiran's mind. "Does Shao Hua'an really know that I married him for another purpose and then secretly observe me and fool me like a clown? Or is it just Madam Jiang who thinks so?"

Zhao Xiran had no answer to those questions, so she could only be careful. She really didn't want to intervene in the matter of Old Madam.

Old Madam was in a bad situation now. Zhao Xiran thought that it was better for her to avoid unnecessary trouble.

When Shao Jing came back, Old Madam had already fallen asleep. After she had a stroke, her face and mouth were twisted, and she couldn't even say a complete sentence. However, it could be seen that she was very angry. She pushed Shao Jie'er to the ground, wanted to slap her, and then fell asleep.

She was no longer as clear-minded as before.

Shao Jing sat on the chair in front of the bed with a gloomy face and looked at Old Madam lying on the bed. After a long while, he waved his hand and asked Shao Jie'er to come over.

"Do you want to stay and take care of your grandma?" Shao Jing asked coldly.

Shao Jie'er was still very scared upon seeing Shao Jing. She said in a trembling voice, "Yes... I... I'm worried about Grandma's health..."

Shao Jing looked kind with his round face, but now it somehow made Shao Jie'er feel scared.

"You don't do well in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion, do you?" Shao Jing said coldly. Looking at Shao Jie'er, who was trembling, he felt disgusted. His daughter was so useless that it really made him angry.

If it were Ru'er, he wouldn't need to spend so much effort to support her.

At the thought of Shao Yanru, he felt annoyed again. He had to solve this problem immediately. So what if he was a disloyal man? It was best for Ru'er to become his daughter again.

"Father... I... I don't want to go to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion." Knowing that Shao Jing had seen through her, Shao Jie'er knelt with a thud, crawled to him on her knees, and cried, "Father, they said that they would give me a title of consort, but they haven't officially given it to me yet and asked the people in the mansion to call me Second Miss. I... I am at least your daughter!"

"They call you Second Miss Shao?" Shao Jing said with a trace of anger across his eyes.

"Being bullied by other princes is one thing, but Commandery Prince Qing is nothing. How dare he disgrace me?"

"Yes... they said... they said that I'm just your concubine's daughter, and your legitimate daughter is just the lowest-ranking Secondary Consort, so why... why should I be a high-ranking consort?" Shao Wanru knew that Shao Jing had never cared about her, so she deliberately mentioned Shao Yanru.

Shao Yanru was the Secondary Consort with the lowest status, while Commandery Prince Qing's consort would be more honorable than her, and had a much higher status. Because of Shao Yanru, Shao Jie'er didn't even have a title.

"Chu Qing has gone too far!" Shao Jing was furious and gnashed his teeth hard.

If he were still the powerful duke in the past, he would directly attack Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion and would never give up until Chu Qing apologized.

But at this time, Marquis Xing's Mansion was in chaos, and he had not cleared his name yet. Although it was impossible to find out what had happened at that time, he was suspected. For him, if there was no big change in his future career, it was impossible for him to get promoted.

Unless Prince Cheng, whom Shao Jing placed his bet on, could ascend to the throne, he could be put into an important position.

Compared with Prince Yue and Prince Zhou, Shao Jing had always favored Prince Cheng the most. He was very angry with his daughter's previous behavior. "My bets are on Prince Cheng, so my daughter

can only marry into Prince Cheng's Mansion. As for Prince Yue and Prince Zhou, they are both useless. Otherwise, my daughter would not have ended up like this and even pretended to be dead and left the Palace.

"It's useless for Ru'er to hesitate any longer. This time, I can't have her be so willful as to ruin herself and Marquis Xing's Mansion.

"As long as Prince Cheng can ascend to the throne, everything that had happened before would not be a big deal. Hua'an will get the position of the heir of Marquis Xing again, and Marquis Xing's Mansion will be restored to Duke Xing's Mansion due to my help to the future Emperor.

"Everything will not be a problem as long as I stick with Prince Cheng closely and send my daughter to him."

Shao Jing stood up and said coldly, "Since you don't want to go, stay here and take good care of your grandma." After that, he turned around and strode away.

Shao Jie'er was overjoyed and said in a hurry, "Yes, Father. I will take good care of Grandma."

Since her father had said so, he would definitely send his men to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion to inform them that she would be staying. After that, she would never leave Marquis Xing's Mansion. If Chu Qing insisted on sending his men to pick her up, she would run away. Even if she needed to run away from the capital city, she would never go back to Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion and live with the women there again.

Shao Jie'er stood up with pride in her eyes and looked at Old Madam lying on the bed with a smile. "This damned old woman has always looked down on me. She thinks that I'm not as good as Shao Yanru. She must have never thought that she would be schemed against by me one day.

"I don't need her dead. As long as she lives like this, even if she hates me, it doesn't matter. She can't even talk now. No one will know what she means, and no one will know that I made this happen."

When Nanny Yu entered the room, she saw Shao Jie'er standing in front of Old Madam's bed with a bright smile on her face. In contrast, Old Madam was lying on the bed unconscious. This inexplicably appeared terrifying.

With a clang, Shao Jie'er was alarmed. When she looked up and saw Nanny Yu squatting down to pick up the basin on the ground, she quickly restrained the complacent smile on her face and stepped forward to help Nanny Yu clean up.

She thought that Nanny Yu didn't see anything unusual, but in fact, she didn't see that Nanny Yu was holding the side of the basin tightly with her trembling fingers, and her eyes were full of fear.

There were some things that could be guessed. Nanny Yu had always been a smart person. If she hadn't seen Second Miss's expression, she might not have guessed her intention, but now she knew what happened.

"No wonder Old Madam got so agitated when she saw Second Miss that she even pushed Second Miss down..."

"Although Old Madam doesn't treat Second Miss well and usually doesn't take her seriously, after all, she is her grandmother and has been protecting her since she was a child. If it weren't for Old Madam, Madam Jiang wouldn't have tolerated Second Miss..."

The news that Old Madam had a stroke reached Prince Chen's Mansion in the evening. Shao Wanru and Chu Liuchen came over together.

Hearing that the two of them came over, Shao Jing personally led them to the Chuntang Courtyard of Old Madam. In the night, lanterns had been lit up in the courtyard.

Chu Liuchen walked in the front with a lazy face. Shao Wanru was behind him and followed him slowly. Although they didn't talk, they appeared in harmony.

Shao Jing coughed in a low voice, trying to break the silence.

"Marquis Xing, has the Ministry of Justice finished recording the statement?" Chu Liuchen suddenly asked, squinted at Shao Jing, who was also following him, and then reached out to pull Shao Wanru's sleeve and walked a few steps forward with her. They happened to walk side by side, leaving Shao Jing behind.

Shao Jing didn't want to talk about the Ministry of Justice at all, especially in front of Shao Wanru. He coughed in a low voice and said, "Yes."

"Have they found any clues?" Chu Liuchen said indifferently, "The Ministry of Justice has been less effective recently. Madam Jiang was killed there. Who couldn't tolerate her to that extent? Or is it that someone killed her because they were afraid that she would say something inappropriate?"

Shao Jing was furious. It was obvious that Chu Liuchen was insinuating him, but he didn't dare to argue with Chu Liuchen. Chu Liuchen was a wanton person who always acted according to his will. If Shao Jing really provoked him, no one knew what kind of trouble he would make. No matter what kind of trouble he made, since it happened in Shao Jing's mansion, it would inevitably be his fault in the end.

Shao Jing was angry and full of hatred. He could only grit his teeth to suppress the anger in his heart and said, "Don't worry, Prince. They will find out the truth."

Chu Liuchen smiled and said leisurely, "That would be for the best. Marquis Xing, you also need to be careful. Madam Jiang died during the interrogation. If something bad happens to you when you go there, Shao Yuanhao will become the new marquis. He's still too young!"

Shao Jing clenched his fists hard, and the blue veins on his forehead couldn't help twitching a few times. Finally, he calmed down and said, "What a nice joke, Your Highness. No one dares to take action in the Ministry of Justice. I will be very safe there. Nothing will happen to me."

"You trust the Ministry of Justice too much. If those officials were so competent, your madam wouldn't have had an accident in the Ministry of Justice," Chu Liuchen said disapprovingly.

What he said meant that Madam Jiang had been murdered. Shao Jing's face darkened.

Chapter 1218 Her Relationship With the Two Princes

Shao Wanru and Chu Liuchen didn't stay any longer in Marquis Xing's Mansion. After checking on Old Madam and asking about the imperial physician, they left Marquis Xing's Mansion and went back to Prince Chen's Mansion.

They met the carriage of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion at the gate. Judging from the style of the carriage, it was Chu Qing's carriage.

Shao Wanru slowly put down the curtain in her hand and leaned back silently. After that, she was pulled into the arms of Chu Liuchen by the side.

"What's wrong?" Chu Liuchen asked with a trace of gentleness in his voice. Although Shao Wanru looked calm, he knew that she was upset.

"Old Madam had a stroke. Shao Jie'er made her angry," Shao Wanru said slowly. This was the news that Nanny Yu found an opportunity to send to her.

It was expected and reasonable.

It had been decided when she sent Shao Jie'er to Marquis Xing's Mansion back then.

Chu Liuchen raised his eyebrows and said casually, "So what?"

"Don't you think... it has something to do with me?" Shao Wanru said in a dull voice. She had an indescribable feeling. It was not because of Old Madam's stroke. At the very beginning when Old Madam had a stroke out of anger, Shao Wanru was the cause. She had no affection for Old Madam. She would rather not have such a grandmother.

"The Old Madam of Marquis Xing's Mansion is not only mean but also vicious. She now has the best ending she can have. If I take action, she won't end up so well." Chu Liuchen snorted coldly, pulled Shao Wanru into his arms, and hugged her waist tighter.

If it weren't for the fact that Shao Wanru had always said that she would do it herself, something would have happened to Old Madam long ago. She wouldn't have had the chance to stir up trouble in Marquis Xing's Mansion.

"She is my father's mother!" Shao Wanru said in a low voice that only she could hear.

It was just that her father's mother was not her biological grandmother.

Chu Liuchen had been paying attention to Shao Wanru. When he heard what she said, his eyes were cold and gloomy. "She is partial to her second son and might have even intervened in his killing of her eldest son. Even a vicious tiger will not eat its cubs. A person like her can hardly absolve herself from the blame even if she dies."

Shao Wanru wanted to say something, but she didn't know where to start. Her face was slightly pale. The matter of Old Madam was the last thing she wanted to mention. It was almost what she cared about the most in her two lives.

Leaning in the arms of Chu Liuchen and feeling the temperature of his undulating chest, she gradually calmed down. She closed her eyes slightly, and her long eyelashes fluttered a few times. They were as long as elegant fans, but with a little trance.

He knew very well the feelings of being betrayed by family.

He reached out and patted Shao Wanru gently on her slender back from time to time. The feeling of being spoiled made Shao Wanru gradually calm down.

Maybe at the very beginning, she had yearned for Old Madam's love for her. But with the understanding of Old Madam, she no longer had that wishful thinking.

They were worse than strangers and were even enemies.

Shao Wanru would never show mercy to her enemies. Although Old Madam didn't necessarily know that Shao Jing had killed Shao Wanru's father, she must know something about it. Even so, she still stood up for Shao Jing wholeheartedly and watched Madam Jiang and Shao Jing hurt Shao Wanru and Hao'er without doing anything. Shao Wanru would rather not have such maternal love.

"Although she is my father's biological mother, she has nothing to do with me."

Under her long eyelashes, her watery eyes were dark as if they had attracted all the light. It was filled with a burning hatred that could destroy this fake kinship that she despised.

"Old Madam, Madam Jiang, and Shao Jing will all pay for what they have done."

Shao Wanru had fallen asleep at some point. She was still in a daze when getting out of the carriage. Chu Liuchen got out of the carriage with her in his arms, and the servants on both sides lowered their heads one by one. Since Princess Chen came to the mansion, Prince Chen's style of doing things had changed.

In a pavilion of Prince Chen's Mansion, Prince Cheng frowned tightly and watched Chu Liuchen go in with Shao Wanru in his arms while he thought about something.

Although his pavilion was a little higher than an average one, it was not the highest. It was adjacent to some of the surrounding pavilions, and the reason why he could observe more clearly than he did in other places was that his pavilion was closer to the front.

"Your Highness, Prince Chen really treats my Fifth Sister differently. Have you ever seen Prince Chen be so considerate of a girl?"

A delicate voice came from the side of Prince Cheng. Shao Yanru, who was dressed in a gorgeous light yellow coat, was delicate and charming. The eight-piece long dress set off her slender waist.

Prince Cheng turned to look at her. She deserved to be called the most gorgeous woman. Perhaps she was only second to Princess Chen. Even if he didn't care much about women, he had to admit that Princess Chen was exceedingly beautiful and had more natural purity than Shao Yanru.

Fortunately, he didn't care much about a woman's appearance.

He reached out to hold Shao Yanru in his arms, lowered his head, and looked at her face with deep eyes. He could not see any emotion in them. He could only see that there were fewer wrinkles in her eyebrows.

"Chu Liuchen loves Shao Wanru so much?"

"You can say that. I'm afraid that you don't know that Prince Chen has taken a fancy to my Fifth Sister a long time ago. But at that time, she was still young. I don't know what agreement Rui'an Great Elder Princess had made with him so that he was so devoted to my Fifth Sister." Shao Yanru leaned on Prince Cheng and clung to him tightly.

Prince Cheng took a step back, pushed Shao Yanru away, and sat down on a chair beside her. "This was planned before. They're together because of Rui'an Great Elder Princess?"

Shao Yanru lowered her head and said with a slight blush, "It should be because of her. Of course, it's also because of my Fifth Sister. Prince Chen used to... treat me well. Since my Fifth Sister got back, he... no longer pretends to be nice to me." It seemed that she was really embarrassed to say that Chu Liuchen had once been interested in her.

Prince Cheng glanced at Shao Yanru with unclear eyes and said, "Tell me what happened between you, Prince Zhou, and Prince Yue. Can you order them now?"

Shao Yanru looked slightly pale. She now belonged to Prince Cheng, so she did not dare to think about being with other men. She hurriedly said, "Don't worry, Your Highness. I have nothing to do with them anymore. In fact, I had nothing to do with them before either. It's just that they... treated me well. As an official's daughter, I dare not do anything inappropriate. They may have misunderstood something!"

She couldn't have Prince Cheng find out about the ambiguous relationship between her, Chu Liuyue, and Chu Liuzhou.

Shao Yanru had not taken it seriously before she got in touch with Prince Cheng directly, but now things were different.

Prince Cheng reached out to pull Shao Yanru into his arms and said gently, "I don't care about what happened in the past. You were still young at that time. You're young to me. I will dote on you from now on!"

Shao Yanru looked not as pale as before. She was afraid that Prince Cheng would ask her about her relationship with Chu Liuzhou and Chu Liuyue at the same time. Since Prince Cheng did not ask, it would be the best.

She took the initiative to lean on him. "Don't worry, Your Highness. I will only be your woman from now on and I will only think of you."

"Find a way to send a message to Chu Liuzhou and Chu Liuyue, telling them that the throne will be passed to Chu Liuchen," Prince Cheng said noncommittally. He was annoyed now. He was implicated in Shao Jing's matter. "Shao Jing is also useless. He can't even deal with Madam Jiang, which had my manpower exposed. And now Chu Qing is involved."

"My side is now in chaos. It will be bad if the matter of the junior official gets found out. Although I'll not necessarily be interrogated, it will make my brother more suspicious of me. This is truly troublesome."

"I just want to keep hiding in the dark while getting my business done. When I have no choice but to appear in front of everyone, I'll have to make sure that Chu Liuyue and Chu Liuzhou are all in trouble by then. My brother will run out of his options, and the throne shall be mine."

Shao Yanru clenched her fists and subconsciously pulled the clothes of Prince Cheng. She said, "Your Highness... Prince Zhou, Prince Yue, and I..."

She wanted to say that Chu Liuzhou and Chu Liuyue were not very close to her, but when she saw Prince Cheng's cold eyes, she held back. Just because he didn't care about her relationship with those two didn't mean that he didn't know anything. Her father had said that if she didn't perform well, she would have nothing to do with Prince Cheng when he ascended to the throne in the future.

"Your Highness, don't worry. I will find a way to send the message," Shao Yanru said softly. She took the initiative to stick close to Prince Cheng and pressed her chest against his.

How could Prince Cheng not know what she was up to? She was such a beautiful woman, who was so active and had infinite teasing intentions in her words and deeds. He reached out his hand, which slipped to the front of her clothes. "Go and see them!"

Shao Yanru blushed and almost didn't hear what he said clearly. She said with her watery eyes full of charm, "Your... Your Highness..."

"I won't mind if you go to meet them. They should know that you are still on their side," Prince Cheng said with a smile. He moved his hands slightly, which made Shao Yanru cry out in a sweet voice. She looked at Prince Cheng affectionately with her eyes full of tenderness.

Prince Cheng laughed out loud, carried Shao Yanru to the bed behind the screen, and threw her on the bed.

The clothes on the bed were in a mess.

After a long while, the noise on the couch disappeared. Prince Cheng stood up, tidied up his clothes slightly, and said casually, "I will come to see you later. You will hide here first. No one will think that you are hiding near Prince Chen's Mansion."

"Your Highness..." Shao Yanru looked up at Prince Cheng and saw that he had pushed the door open. She bit her lip and clenched her fists in hatred. She was the legitimate daughter of Marquis Xing, not some prostitute, but Prince Cheng did whatever he wanted to her. "Shao Wanru got me into this. That bitch..."

Prince Cheng went downstairs and washed his hands carefully in the basin that Xile handed over. He washed his hands very carefully as if he was trying to get rid of something particularly dirty. He lowered his head so that his face could not be seen clearly.

"Your Highness, you'd better go back and take a shower!" Looking at the pavilion above, Xile couldn't help reminding Prince Cheng.

Chapter 1219 Consort Dowager Qing Enters the Palace

Chu Qing came back from Marquis Xing's Mansion in a hurry and went straight to the courtyard of Consort Dowager Qing as soon as possible. When he sat down, he picked up the warm water on the table and gulped down half a cup before putting the cup down heavily.

"How did it go?" Consort Dowager Qing asked. There was no one else in the room except for her and her son.

"This bitch refused to come back and said that she needed to accompany the Old Madam of Marquis Xing, who had a stroke," Chu Qing said angrily. He had never expected that Shao Jie'er would stay in Marquis Xing's Mansion so decisively.

Something had happened to the Old Madam of Marquis Xing's Mansion, which made it reasonable for Shao Jie'er to stay there. If he insisted on her coming back, it would be a little too much.

Consort Dowager Qing said with a sneer, "I told you at the beginning that Shao Jie'er was not a good person, but later you were bewitched by her and thought that she was nice. Look, such a thing happened. She must have secretly sent some news. I heard that she was friends with Lord Wen who came to the mansion that day when they were young. They were childhood sweethearts."

Without outsiders around, she became much fiercer instead of indifferent. With her long and narrow eyes, she looked even more vicious than Chu Qing. She didn't look like a woman who would train in peace in the Buddha Hall at all.

"Mother, what's the point of talking about this now?" Chu Qing said impatiently. If he had known that Shao Jie'er might have ruined his plan, he would have killed her back then, so as not to have so many accidents.

Not long after Shao Jie'er left, the officials of the Ministry of Justice came to the mansion again to investigate, which caught Chu Qing off guard. Although he was unhappy, he could do nothing about it. He could only watch the junior officer's body found in his mother's Buddha Hall.

A junior official of the Ministry of Justice was dead.

This official was also related to the death of the Madam of Marquis Xing, Madam Jiang.

Later, the officials of the Ministry of Justice also found that this junior official might have entered the room where Madam Jiang was detained at that time. That was to say, if Madam Jiang didn't commit suicide, she might have been killed by this junior official.

In the end, this official showed up in Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion.

With so many things mixed up, Chu Qing felt greatly troubled and just wanted to find out the truth.

When he found the junior official, it was when the men in black had just left that someone found him. At first, Chu Qing thought the official was one of the men in black. After interrogation, he found that the official knew nothing at all. He was knocked out and sent here on the way back to his place.

After understanding this, the only thing Chu Qing could think of was that he was framed. Someone framed him. He put a lot of effort into interrogating the junior official, who then mentioned Shao Jing's name. Chu Qing learned that Shao Jing had sent someone to tell the junior official to kill Madam Jiang and create the facade that she had run into the wall and died.

Then, the official mentioned someone faintly. Others might not know this person, but Chu Qing did. On the surface, this person worked for Prince Cheng.

That was to say, there was a connection between Prince Cheng and Shao Jing. Prince Cheng even helped Shao Jing deal with Madam Jiang, who was in his way. The relationship between them became even more unusual.

Chu Qing accidentally killed the junior official during the interrogation. He had planned to find a way to take the body away after some time, but he hadn't expected that the officials of the Ministry of Justice would find the junior official. He would've been in great trouble if his mother hadn't put the blame on the assassination at the last moment by saying that the people of the Ministry of Justice were the mysterious assassins in black.

Even so, the entire Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion was now under close surveillance.

Someone must have told the Ministry of Justice about the junior official. Otherwise, it would have been impossible for them to come back again and find him after repeated searching.

Consort Dowager Qing and Chu Qing looked into it again and again and felt that Shao Jie'er was the most suspicious one.

However, Shao Jie'er had returned to Marquis Xing's Mansion. Chu Qing immediately took his men to Marquis Xing's Mansion. Although he claimed that he was going to invite Shao Jie'er back, in fact, he was going to catch her.

Unexpectedly, Shao Jie'er had been well-prepared. Something terrible had happened to Marquis Xing's Mansion. It was said that the Old Madam of Marquis Xing had a stroke, so Shao Jie'er stayed there to take care of her seriously ill grandmother.

At this time, Chu Qing no longer suspected Shao Jie'er but was certain that she was the one who dropped the dime on Wen Xichi.

"Mother, what should we do? Does this bitch know anything else about our mansion? It will be a bad thing if she tells others!" Chu Qing said coldly.

At this time, if he saw Shao Jie'er, he would definitely kill her with a knife.

"I don't think so. I've been keeping a close eye on her and won't let her get close to me. I'll ask her to go back whenever I need to deal with the important things. At most, she knows that I don't like her, and it's impossible for her to know anything else." Consort Dowager Qing shook her head. Under the light, her face looked gloomy, but there was something strange in it from time to time.

Chu Qing thought for a moment and said, "Will the Ministry of Justice believe what you said?" Although Wen Xichi of the Ministry of Justice had left, Chu Qing was still worried. He always felt that this matter would not be settled easily.

Consort Dowager Qing gritted her teeth and said, "I'll go to the Palace to see the Empress Dowager tomorrow." Wen Xichi was really difficult to deal with. It seemed that he was stubborn and would not let go of Commandery Prince Qing's Mansion so easily.

"Mother, are you going to the Palace tomorrow?" Chu Qing exclaimed. He knew that his mother hated entering the Palace the most.

Consort Dowager gritted her teeth and said, "Yes. I have to visit the Empress Dowager after entering the Palace. I heard that she is ill!" When she left the Palace, she had been looked down upon. Therefore, she had made up her mind that she would definitely come back, and when she did, she must ask her servants to carry the carriage through the main entrance into the Palace.

But now was not the time to do so. She would not be obsessed with taking revenge whenever she got the chance to do so. Otherwise, she wouldn't get to give birth to her son back then.

"Mother, please be careful tomorrow," Chu Qing said worriedly.

"Don't worry. We have our men in the Palace," Consort Dowager Qing said with a cold smile. Her sarcasm was obvious.

In the end, Consort Dowager Qing did not enter the Palace the next day, because the Empress Dowager had gone to the Huaguang Temple to worship the Buddha. Shao Wanru went with Empress Dowager.

In addition to the Empress Dowager, the Empress also went there, followed by Shao Wanru, Princess Chen.

There were not many of them, but all of them had extremely noble status, except for Shao Wanru.

When they arrived at Huaguang Temple, Shao Wanru chatted with Empress Dowager and the Empress for a while.

Since what had happened before, the Empress had been much kinder to Shao Wanru. She also smiled when she saw Shao Wanru as if they had always got along well with each other. They flattered Empress Dowager with every word, which made her laugh from time to time. The atmosphere was very harmonious.

After talking for a while, Empress Dowager was a little tired, so she asked the Empress and Shao Wanru to go and enjoy the scenery by themselves. They didn't need to stay with her.

Nanny Wei repeatedly promised to look after Empress Dowager.

The Empress and Shao Wanru came out of the yard. "Princess Chen, you can have a rest if you are tired."

"Thank you, Your Majesty." Shao Wanru saw that the Empress didn't want her to accompany her, so she excused herself with a smile. She didn't want to accompany the Empress. It was best for them to enjoy the scenery separately.

The Empress nodded and watched Shao Wanru leave silently. The smile on her face slowly faded away.

The palace maid who came to serve the Empress said softly, "Your Highness, let's go there to enjoy the scenery. I heard that the purple bamboo of Huaguang Temple looks great. You rarely go out of the Palace, so you should relax."

The Empress turned around and asked in a low voice, "Is Prince Zhou here?"

"Yes!" the palace maid said in an increasingly low voice, which could only be heard by the Empress, who was close to her.

Hearing that her son had come over, the Empress took a deep breath. She had been locked up in her place these days, and it was not easy for her to even meet her son. This time, she had thought of a way to get the Empress Dowager to agree to go out. She had something to discuss with her son and could not let others know.

“Did anyone discover him?”

“Don’t worry, Your Highness. His Highness Prince Zhou is very careful. He just pretends to be an ordinary noble child and didn’t come in with his real identity,” the palace maid said.

The Empress nodded and was quite satisfied with Chu Liuzhou.

Although she had been locked up, her son did a good job. He was much more sensible than before when she helped him whenever he was in trouble.

Shao Wanru didn’t expect to meet Madam Wen and Gu Xishu here.

The banquet held in the Mansion of the Prime Minister was postponed because of what had happened to Madam Jiang.

Marquis Xing’s Mansion and the Mansion of the Prime Minister were on the same side. It would be strange and unreasonable if the latter held a blind date banquet while the former just had one of their people dead and was going to hold a funeral. After thinking about it, Madam Wen changed the date of the blind date banquet so that it would not clash with Madam Jiang’s funeral.

“Who is this?” Madam Wen saw Shao Wanru coming from a distance and asked Gu Xishu, who was supporting her. She found that the one who was coming didn’t look like a member of an ordinary family.

“This girl is so beautiful that my son will definitely like her.”

In order to make her youngest son get married, Madam Wen had taken great pains. However, he didn’t care about it at all. Madam Wen got greatly anxious.

“My son should be willing to marry this woman, right? I’ve never seen such a beautiful Young Madam from an aristocratic family.”

“Aunt Wen, she’s Princess Chen.” Seeing the amazement and desire in Madam Wen’s eyes, Gu Xizhu knew what Madam Wen meant. She gritted her teeth with hatred. “I’m the closest one to Aunt, but why can’t she take me into her consideration?”

“Is this Princess Chen?” Madam Wen stopped. She didn’t know Princess Chen before, so she didn’t care about greeting the woman who was coming. Since she knew her, she had to greet her. When Old Prime Minister Wen returned to the mansion, he privately told her about Prince Chen and asked her to pay more attention to Princess Chen.

Shao Wanru also saw Madam Wen. She had wanted to leave because she didn’t want to see Madam Wen, but since the latter had stopped, it was not convenient for her to leave.

Shao Wanru took a few steps forward and looked gracefully at Madam Wen opposite her.

In her last life, they were mother-in-law and daughter-in-law, but in this life, they seemed to be strangers. There were not many things in the world that could be traced. Shao Wanru could only thank God again for giving her the chance to be reborn.