

Medical Princess 991

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Chapter 991: National Laws Are Above Domestic Disciplines

It was a small case about a successful candidate in the imperial examinations, though Wang Shengxue and Ning Caixian would come to no good end. The Ministry of Justice had handled many homicide cases and this case was not a serious one, so Qiu Yu handled it.

But this trivial case exposed a fiendish plot against Princess Chen hatched by the Marquis Xing's Mansion. That was a big deal.

If Princess Chen were still the Fifth Miss Shao, it would not cause such a sensation. Unfortunately, she had become Princess Chen.

Princess Chen and Prince Chen shared weal and woe.

Chu Liuchen's urgent letter came. Shao Wanru opened it and saw a few vigorous characters. Unlike his usual gentle style, he wrote with harsh, slashing brushstrokes. She even felt his writing a little atrocious. Sure enough, Chu Liuchen was never as gentle and genial as he appeared. Such a refined image of him was an illusion to confuse his enemies. Anyone who believed it would lose!

"Beat them back. I'll always be here for you!"

His words were simple and straight, but they soothed her heart and soul.

His letter of a few words gave her an inner sense of security. He didn't press about the detailed cause of the matter, nor did he have any scruples. Shao Wanru's eyes grew misty as she thought about his overbearing manner when protecting her. Somehow, her lips curved in a gentle and sweet smile.

Though he had been away for just a few days, she missed him badly!

In the past, before he came into her life, Shao Wanru didn't care much about love. It was unknown when she fell in love with him. At this point, her eyes were already blurred with emotional tears.

It was so nice to have him in this turn of life!

Knowing that Shao Wanru missed His Highness, Yujie laughed, covering her mouth with her hand. She rolled her watery eyes and asked, "My Lady, the Ministry of Justice will conduct the public trial today. Shall we go and have a look?"

Only when she talked about something else would Princess Chen stop thinking about Prince Chen all the time.

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"My Lady, many people have gone to present at the trial. Shall we go too?" Qing Yue also wanted to have a look. As Shao Wanru's maids, they were more than happy to watch the public trial of Madam Jiang.

Today Madam Jiang would be put on public trial. It was said that the Ministry of Justice had brought Madam Jiang from Yuhui Nunnery to the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

"She won't go there!" Shao Wanru shook her head, and her smile faded.

"How could she not go? There has been a rumor from the Ministry of Justice that Marquis Xing will come!" Yujie said with surprise.

"Is it because of her noble status as the Madam of Marquis Xing?" Qing Yue thought of something else and frowned. "Could a Madam with a title of nobility refuse to appear in the court for trial?"

Shao Wanru said unhurriedly, "I didn't go, she could certainly choose to do the same thing. Although her status is not as high as mine, she is still a noble Madam. Besides, her daughter has entered the Palace. Even if Shao Wanru is not favored, she is still the Emperor's woman!"

After folding the letter in her hand with great care, she stood up, walked to the bed, and put it in a secret compartment in front of the bed.

"Will she also send over a maid?" Yujie widened her eyes and asked. She went there on behalf of Princess Chen, so who would represent the Madam of Marquis Xing?

"Very likely. She won't admit her defeat without putting up a fight!" Shao Wanru sat back before the table and took a sip from the teacup. As she looked down, her long eyelashes covered the coldness in her eyes. It should be the time for the Duke Xing's Mansion to invite her over.

At present, she was the only one who could break this deadlock. Both Old Madam and Madam Jiang would not give up this chance. Yesterday when they sent someone to invite her, she happened to be in the Palace. So, Shao Wanru supposed that the person would come over again today.

"My Lady, someone from the Marquis Xing's Mansion is coming!" A maid rushed in and reported in the corridor of the courtyard.

"Who is it?" Yujie went to the door, lifted the curtain, and asked.

"It's the same Nanny in-charge surnamed Yu as yesterday. She serves Old Madam of the Marquis Xing's Mansion," The maid reported.

Sure enough, it was Nanny Yu. She was the most decent servant in Marquis Xing's Mansion, and worked for the Old Madam. She seemed to be on the righteous side.

"Let her in!" Shao Wanru said lightly.

"Yes!" The maid left.

"My Lady, why would you let her in? She has no conscience. You saved Old Madam, and she stayed alive because of this. However, she ungratefully plotted against you with Old Madam. It's never good when she comes here at the time. Why don't you go to the Palace and avoid them?"

Yujie said grumpily. She has bad feelings toward Nanny Yu.

"I could stay away from this once, but I can't do it the second time. If I enter the Palace this time, she will wait here. I can't stay in the Palace all my life, so I have to meet her, sooner or later." Shao Wanru looked up, eyes under her long eyelashes showing a hint of sarcasm. How could Old Madam let her "avoid" them at such a critical period?

Since she couldn't get away from them, she chose to face this matter. Anyway, she had decided not to see Old Madam in the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

She was not in a hurry to deal with the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

"Qing'er, how is Madame Dong?"

"I have spread the news secretly, saying that a supervisor of the Prince Yue's Mansion did this, but they shifted the blame onto the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion. I also found out the identity of the person who stirred up trouble behind the scenes that day!" Qing'er, who had been silent all the time, answered.

That day, she went after the passer-by who hinted that the woman made trouble before Madame Dong's Butterfly Clothing Shop was sent by the Ruiping Great Elder Princess' Mansion. As expected, the onlooker turned out to be a supervisor from the Prince Yue's Mansion.

After that, Shao Wanru asked her to secretly reveal the matter to Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion.

She deliberately emphasized the supervisor's identity.

People from many places gathered that day. Some were from the Prince Yue's Mansion, while some were from the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion. It was a good thing for the two sides to confront each other.

"That's good. Tell Madame Dong to deal with this matter carefully for the time being. It hasn't over yet," Shao Wanru said meaningfully.

"I understood. I will pay close attention to Madame Dong's shop. If anything happens, I will report it to you immediately!" Qing'er nodded. She had sent someone to keep an eye on Madame Dong's place so that she could know the reaction of the Prince Yue's Mansion and the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion.

The two mansions were not easy to deal with. Even if they sent some secret guards there, they would be exposed soon. It was better to watch the Butterfly Clothing Shop, which could show a sign of disturbance if anything happened.

The Butterfly Clothing Shop had been brought into the public eye. But just because of the fight between the Prince Yue's Mansion and the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion, the situation became safer for it.

When two tigers fight, one will get injured.

The Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion certainly couldn't compare with the Prince Yue's Mansion, but Infanta Yuan'an was going to marry Chu Liuzhou, so this matter would inevitably involve Prince Zhou.

It was Princess Chen who set in motion this train of events. Thinking of this, Qing'er admired her even more. "Prince Chen and my master are well suited to each other. Both are exceedingly gorgeous and extremely intelligent. How can that Infanta Yuan'an compare with my master?"

As soon as Nanny Yu came in, she bowed to Shao Wanru respectfully. Then she looked up and said with a smile, "Your Highness, you haven't come back for many days. Old Madam misses you very much and wants to chat with you about our mansion's own business. Princess Chen, would you like to go back when you're free?"

"What does she want to share with me? Wouldn't she blame me for what my grandma had done?" Shao Wanru said vaguely and glanced at Nanny Yu with a trace of coldness in her eyes. Her questions sounded polite in her soft voice, but Nanny Yu noticed something intimidating on second thoughts.

Not long ago, because of Rui'an Great Elder Princess, the Marquis Xing's Mansion suffered greatly from the inside to the outside. The cause of their suffering was that Old Madam asked Princess Chen to go back to the mansion, and now it seemed that something similar would happen again!

Nanny Yu secretly complained in her heart, "Old Madam has never treated Fifth Miss nicely as her granddaughter. How could she make Fifth Miss treat her with respect as her grandmother?"

"Moreover, Fifth Miss was not the same as before. As Princess Chen, she won't allow herself to be ordered about by Old Madam. There are rumors saying that Old Madam has been unkind to Fifth Miss. So, Old Madam has lost the right to order her in the name of filial piety. Besides, there are Rui'an Great Elder Princess and Prince Chen supporting Fifth Miss."

Nanny Yu felt that the Marquis Xing's Mansion couldn't afford to offend any of them. Before Prince Chen left, he even broke the hand of Second Young Master Qu, who was the grandson of Ruiping Great Elder Princess! It was said that he did it for Fifth Miss. For that alone, Nanny Yu felt that Old Madam should flatter Fifth Miss.

"Well, it's not an important thing. She wants to clear up the misunderstanding between you and the Madam. Old Madam will punish her immediately and give you justice if the Madam is proved to be wrong." Nanny Yu explained with a smile.

"Give me justice? Oh, I've heard too much like that from your mansion, but I never expect it to happen. Now the case is in the charge of the Ministry of Justice. No matter how mighty Old Madam is, she can't rob the right of the Ministry of Justice! We have to wait for the verdict from the Ministry of Justice before talking about other things." Shao Wanru said indifferently.

How could Old Madam believe that her ways of running the inner court could apply to everything? Once again, she was looking forward to cracking this hard issue through some hypocritical shows of the family cordiality and keeping this matter within the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Never would she allow any outsiders to know those inside stories, which would humiliate the whole Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Since they were a family, there would be no tough nut to crack. Even if anyone did something wrong, she could just use a little punishment to show fairness and mollify the victims. Old Madam of the Marquis Xing's Mansion had done a lot of things like this, and now she came up with the same set of tricks.

Nanny Yu's smile froze on her lips. Though she felt awkward, she had to go on. "Your Highness, you are the granddaughter of Old Madam. Of course, you are closer to her than the Madam. Old Madam won't make things difficult for you for a daughter-in-law, right?"

No matter how powerful Old Madam was, she wouldn't dare to go against the national law and take people away from the Ministry of Justice.

"Nanny Yu, I don't want to pressure you. Go and tell Old Madam that I'm not well recently, so I won't go back. If there is anything, wait for the verdict of the Ministry of Justice. We must respect the facts. The national law should be above our domestic disciplines." Shao Wanru sneered with steely eyes.

It was not that she was afraid to see Old Madam, but that she felt it disgusting to be part of Madam Dowager's shameful actions. As early as when she returned to the Marquis Xing's Mansion, she knew that Old Madam was not one of the good ones. It was obvious that she felt no affection for her, her so-called granddaughter.

In previous days, she was incapable of resisting Old Madam, but now it was almost the time to fight back. Rui'an Great Elder Princess stirred up trouble and confirmed that Old Madam was unkind to the descendants of the Marquis Xing's Mansion. On this premise, even if Old Madam went to the Palace to lodge a complaint against her before the Empress and the Empress Dowager, Shao Wanru had reliable evidence to justify herself.

"Your Highness, it's not good if you don't go back," Nanny Yu awkwardly insisted. Her eyes fell on Shao Wanru's tender face, which was as delicate as tip-top porcelain, and she had that fine pink color in her cheeks. How could she be in poor health?

"Nanny Yu, go back and report to her. It's getting late. I still need to take medicine, so I won't see you off!"

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Chapter 992: What's the Bait?

"Your Highness..." Nanny Yu still wanted to say something, but Shao Wanru stood up with the support of Qu Le. She turned around and walked inside, leaving Nanny Yu on the spot.

"Nanny Yu, please! Let me see you off!" Yujie stepped forward with a smile, held out her hand, and said politely.

However, for Nanny Yu, the polite invitation of a maid was no match for Princess Chen's curt refusal.

"Yujie, is Her Highness not going back to the Marquis Xing's Mansion?" Nanny Yu asked with a bitter smile. She felt reluctant to leave. If she returned without accomplishing the task, it would be hard for her to explain everything to Old Madam.

Old Madam was pretty sure that Princess Chen would return, thinking that if Nanny Yu met Princess Chen, she could persuade her to go back. Before Nanny Yu came here this time, Old Madam specifically told her to meet Princess Chen in person. Even if Princess Chen was in the Palace again, she had to wait.

Finally, she got the chance to see Princess Chen, but she was refused, which was more embarrassing than not seeing her.

"Of course, Her Highness will go back to the mansion. Anyway, she is a descendant of the Marquis Xing's Mansion, and no one else can replace her," Yujie said politely.

Her words sounded polite and considerate, but when given a second thought, they were nothing but emotionless formalities. Of course, Nanny Yu could understand. Since the Marquis Xing's Mansion had never been kind to Princess Chen, it was reasonable for her to respond with indifference. But Nanny Yu's master was Old Madam, so she had to think for Old Madam.

"Although Old Madam is not very close to Her Highness, she is her biological granddaughter after all. How can Old Madam allow others to frame her? Old Madam will not spare her if it's indeed the Madam's fault," said Nanny Yu.

"Don't worry, Nanny Yu. I will pass these words to Princess Chen," Yujie answered with a smile and directly exposed Nanny Yu's intention.

Hearing this, Nanny Yu felt very ashamed. She was there when Old Madam met Princess Chen for the first time. Deep down, she knew Old Madam was wrong. However, as a maid, how could she dare to persuade the domineering Old Madam? Now that she knew it was useless to say anything more, she could only go back to the mansion.

After getting out of the carriage in the mansion, she went straight to see Old Madam.

Old Madam was sitting on the couch by the window. Beside her were Madam Jiang, who was the Madam of Marquis Xing, and Zhao Xiran, who was the First Young Madam. As Old Madam heard that Nanny Yu came back alone, her face darkened. Then she ordered Nanny Yu to come in.

Hardly when she entered the door, Old Madam asked with a cold face, "Doesn't she come back with you?"

Nanny Yu lowered her head and said, "Old Madam, Her Highness is not feeling very well."

"Not feeling so well? She didn't want to come back, did she? How dare she be so unfilial? Doesn't she know it is a violation of filial piety? I'm going to the Palace and let the Empress punish her for that!" Old Madam slammed her hand heavily on the table, boiling with rage.

"Old Madam..." Seeing that things might go worse, Nanny Yu hurriedly tried to calm her down.

"Mother, don't be angry. We must take the long view and think about it carefully before taking any action!" Madam Jiang interrupted Nanny Yu.

Madam Jiang was too thin to fit in her old clothes, which looked very loose on her. Since they could not provide a perfect fit anymore, Madam Jiang lost her previous graceful bearing.

Her eyes also lost their customary noble sparkle and filled with gloom. Anyone who met her gaze would feel like being targeted by a poisonous snake. Her gaze chilled Nanny Yu to the bone. She could not help but step back and keep a safe distance from Madam Jiang.

"The long view? How can we do that? She doesn't even want to be in the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Well, fine, since she refuses us, we might as well remove the whole first branch from the family genealogy, and shut out the branch that will remain unfilial even after I die." Old Madam became increasingly angry about Shao Wanru. "They're all so ungrateful! Don't they know who give them their wealthy life?"

She said so not only because of Shao Wanru but also because of Shao Yuanhao, who had lived in the Rui'an Great Elder Princess's Mansion for three years. In the beginning, sometimes, he would come

back, but later, he would never return except that he had something to deal with at home. Her grandson seemed to be raised for Rui'an Great Elder Princess. Even though Old Madam had other grandchildren, she could not help blaming Rui'an Great Elder Princess for appearing between her and her grandchildren.

"Mother, these things were indeed... I'm sorry, I didn't think it through..." Madam Jiang lowered her head, wiped the corners of her eyes with a handkerchief, and shed a few drops of tears with a grievance.

There was no one else but trusted subordinates in the room. When they saw Madam Jiang like this, they all lowered their heads for fear of hearing any terrible secrets.

Zhao Xiran, head bowed, sat in the chair with slightly twitching eye corners. She didn't want to hear such words because they sounded like the beginning of a dreadful and secretive speech. This kind of thing had nothing to do with what she was looking for, so she didn't want to know it at all. But now that she was here, she had to brace herself and bear it.

Madam Jiang was going to tell Old Madam everything that she had done.

"Mother, you know what happened at that time. It was unclear whether she was an authentic descendant or not. No outsider was allowed to get mixed up in my Eldest Brother's branch. I didn't know whether she was such an outsider or not, so I asked Wang Shengxue to sound out her background. However, I didn't expect that the couple had evil intentions... Later, I was so pissed off that I demoted Ning Xueqing to a concubine staying with Wang Shengxue," Madam Jiang continued.

These half-truths from her mouth sounded reasonable.

Old Madam's face darkened, and she stopped talking.

The room fell into silence. Zhao Xiran even stopped stirring the handkerchief in her hand, just looking silently and blankly at her hand, as if she didn't even exist there.

Madam Jiang should be responsible for what she had done. It was none of her business. So, what if she heard all of it? She was not there back then, so she didn't have to take the blame for Madam Jiang and make Princess Chen her enemy.

Princess Chen was not easy to deal with. They had once had a conflict that Zhao Xiran regretted doing. It brought her nothing beneficial and even estranged her from Princess Chen.

Zhao Xiran, eyes fixed on her nose tips above her tight lips, sat silently, with her head down.

"What should we do now? According to Fifth Girl's character, she will never let it go. She may not do that even if I ask her to come back." After a long while, Old Madam said in a low voice.

It was not that she might not come back, but she would not go back at all. Old Madam said that only to save herself from embarrassment.

"Madam, Rui'an Great Elder Princess had come to make trouble and put all the blame on Old Madam, accusing her of being harsh to juniors. Now there are rumors like that going around the capital, and even the Empress Dowager and the Empress have already known about it. Even if Old Madam goes to the Palace, there may not be anyone supporting her!"

With great caution, Nanny Yu carefully spoke for Old Madam who couldn't show any sign of weakness before them, but what Nanny Yu said was the truth. After Rui'an Great Elder Princess made a terrible scene with them, this matter became tricky.

Since Old Madam had a bad reputation for being unkind to juniors, it was useless for her to go to sue Princess Chen in the Palace. Then, the violation of filial piety was no longer suitable to be applied to Princess Chen.

Moreover, there was Rui'an Great Elder Princess, who couldn't stand any more actions against Princess Chen.

She should be watching Old Madam quietly. So long as Old Madam crossed the line, she would fight back more fiercely than before.

"Mother, Fifth Girl is now Princess Chen. She didn't grow up by your side, so she is not as obedient to you as your other grandchildren. But now you must beg her for help. Frankly, it doesn't matter what happens to me. I just don't want to ruin the reputation of the Marquis Xing's Mansion because we can't stand more misfortune," Madam Jiang said, wiping the corners of her eyes again.

It seemed that Madam Jiang was willing to make so many accommodations for the sake of their overall interests. She had indeed put her whole heart into the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Thinking of the cruel reality that the Marquis Xing's Mansion was no longer the prosperous Duke Xing's Mansion, Old Madam felt like crying with emotion.

Madam Jiang said what Old Madam felt at the bottom of her heart. Indeed, the granddaughter, who had not grown up with her, must be unfilial and did not have any family affection for her. If she had known this, she would not have recognized Shao Wanru as her granddaughter at the beginning. Anyway, she was an ungrateful wretch to go against the Marquis Xing's Mansion. It was better for her to take good care of these grandchildren raised up in her mansion.

However, it was too late to say that.

"So what? She has become Princess Chen enjoying the high status and no longer needs to obey our orders," Old Madam said sadly.

"Mother, there is actually a way!" Madam Jiang said in a low voice. Then she stood up, walked to Old Madam, and knelt heavily.

"What is it? Tell me!" Old Madam gritted her teeth. She wanted to try any methods that were at hand. So long as Shao Wanru was willing to come back, Old Madam was still confident that she would make compromises. No matter what Shao Wanru wanted, she would agree. Old Madam had only one request for Shao Wanru that she couldn't ruin the reputation of the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Madam Jiang had expected Old Madam's reaction. Anyway, Old Madam would give up on her now. Madam Jiang gritted her teeth secretly with hatred. "This damn bitch knew something I did before, but she just played dumb and watched me plot against Shao Wanru. Since she has never stopped me, she must have approved of me doing those things. I know she doesn't like Shao Wanru at all!"

"But at this moment, she pretends to be innocent and caring. She's so annoying."

“Mother, return the title of nobility to the first branch!” said Madam Jiang.

“Are you crazy? Do you know what you are talking about?” Old Madam couldn’t help standing up and glaring at Madam Jiang.

Zhao Xiran also raised her head in astonishment. Although she didn’t altogether agree with them, she held the same opinion as Old Madam in this aspect. The title of nobility should belong to her husband. They had repeatedly demonstrated this benefit to her when asking her to get married into the Marquis Xing’s Mansion, hadn’t they?

“Mother, I’m conscious of this. Princess Chen won’t return if you don’t use the title of nobility. Even if you’re sick, she won’t go back here to see you!” Madam Jiang covered her face with a handkerchief and cried. “I have no choice. If Princess Chen doesn’t come back, I can’t persuade her. What... What should I do?”

“Even so, you can’t say that. Yuanhao is too young to know the importance of the title of nobility. How can we give it to him? Besides, he lives in Rui’an Great Elder Princess’s Mansion now, which must have alienated him from us. Compared with the time when he was little, he is now much less respectful to his blood relatives in the Marquis Xing’s Mansion!”

Old Madam said in a low, strained voice, “Tell her I’m sick and invite her over!”

Madam Jiang’s words reminded her. After pondering for a while, she added, “Give her a hint about the title of nobility. Just say that we have to discuss it.”

Old Madam believed that Shao Wanru would return for the title and filial piety!

“Mother, what if they’re not enough?”

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Chapter 993: Rui’an Great Elder Princess, an Anchor to Shao Wanru

Madam Jiang questioned closely, with her eyes flashing.

“How could the two conditions not be enough? Get up and get ready. It’s all because of you. How could you be so malicious as the Madam of Marquis Xing? I wouldn’t have let my second son marry you if I had known you well. I thought you were a decent woman and have never expected you to be a troublemaker!” Old Madam, with a shameful rage, pointed at Madam Jiang and scolded her angrily.

Madam Jiang didn’t dare to say anything more and stood up with the help of an old maid nearby.

“Mother...”

“Go, go away immediately! I’ll be angry when I see you!” Madam Jiang said grumpily. She turned around and walked inside, leaving Madam Jiang there.

Madam Jiang’s eyes turned cold and gloomy. She looked at Old Madam’s receding figure with hatred, gritting her teeth.

“Mother, go back and have a rest. Let’s wait for grandmother’s response.” Zhao Xiran also stood up. Old Madam could leave, but she couldn’t. So, she could only come over and hold Madam Jiang’s arm gently.

“Good-for-nothing as well.” Madam Jiang shoved Zhao Xiran out of the way and scolded her angrily. Her son was filial before he got married, but he must have forgotten his mother’s miserable situation because he had a wife now. Since Madam Jiang returned to the mansion, he had just visited her once in passing when he came back home. After that, he seemed to be so busy that Madam Jiang had never seen him again. It must be Zhao Xiran who incited her son to stay away from her.

Zhao Xiran, caught off guard, was almost pushed to the ground. Fortunately, the smart maid beside her flung out an arm and stopped her from falling.

However, Madam Jiang, holding an old maid’s hand for support, left without casting a glance at her.

Behind her and for a long time, Zhao Xiran looked at her back thoughtfully and did not speak. The situation of the Madam Jiang was a little strange. It seemed that she had to let her husband investigate her. Madam Jiang could do whatever troublesome things she wanted, so long as she didn’t bring trouble to the Marquis Xing’s Mansion.

From this point of view, Zhao Xiran and Old Madam were on the same side.

“They’re all so useless. I wouldn’t have let my son marry her if I had known she was such a worthless daughter-in-law. What’s the point of marrying her? She can’t help me deal with that woman nor could help Hua’an inherit the title of nobility.” As soon as she returned to her room, Madam Jiang showed her fierce face and sat down heavily on the chair.

She was familiar with some people in her yard, but there were many newcomers. Madam Jiang learned Zhao Xiran changed some of her servants in the yard, so she felt quite displeased.

Since only she and the old maid staying with her in the Yuhui Nunnery were in the room, she acted recklessly.

This old maid was not the one who served her in the Yuhui Nunnery at the beginning, but now Madam Jiang wouldn’t care about such trivial matters.

“Madam, don’t worry. You can take care of the matters in your courtyard in the future. The most important thing now is how to deal with Princess Chen!” The old maid comforted her in a low voice. She stood by the window and looked out. When she made sure no one outside noticed them, she breathed a sigh of relief.

“What’s so good about that woman? How could she marry Prince Chen? My daughter is the most outstanding and beautiful one. Were these people blind?” Madam Jiang slammed her hand on the table and said with hatred.

Her daughter was born to be the Empress. But though she married the old Emperor, she lived a frustrated life in the deep Palace. How could Madam Jiang be content with her current situation?

She raised her daughter with great care. How could Shao Wanru, an ignorant girl who had grown up outside their mansion, be compared with her daughter?

“Madam, if Prince Chen dies, Princess Chen will be nothing!” The old maid’s voice became even lower.

Madam Jiang laughed, somehow more and more loudly, and was even bent double with laughter. "Yes... yes... that's a sick man. He'll die, and so will the little bitch die without even knowing why. That will be great... Absolutely great..."

Madam Jiang seemed to see Shao Wanru being tortured to death without no one to rely on. She laughed uproariously with a hint of madness.

"Madam, Madam, please lower your voice!" The old maid was anxious. She knocked on the window to make some noise and said, "We're in the Marquis Xing's Mansion, not the Yuhui Nunnery. Madam, please be careful. Otherwise, you won't have a chance!"

Her words reminded Madam Jiang, and she immediately stopped her crazy laughter. Her face, radiant with joy just now, immediately became gloomy again. "Is that sick man going to die?"

"As long as you do as I say, he will!" The old maid nodded.

"That's good. This goddamned girl is bold enough to fight against me... Let's see if she's lucky enough to stay alive!" said Madam Jiang with a sneer.

"Madam, listen to me..." The old maid whispered into her ear. Her voice was so soft that only Madam Jiang, who leaned over, could hear it. While listening attentively, she nodded again and again...

Once again, the Marquis Xing's Mansion sent Nanny Yu to the Prince Chen's Mansion. When Nanny Yu entered Prince Chen's Mansion again, she saw Rui'an Great Elder Princess instead of Shao Wanru.

When Nanny Yu saw Rui'an Great Elder Princess sitting on the principal seat, her heart almost jumped into her mouth.

Even Old Madam was scared to see Rui'an Great Elder Princess, and she was just a servant.

Old Madam and Rui'an Great Elder Princess had been vying against each other for many years, and it was usually Old Madam who had the advantage. But now, if they competed each other again, Rui'an Great Elder Princess would be the one to gain the upper hand.

Therefore, Nanny Yu came forward respectfully to salute.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess looked at her carelessly and asked, "Old Madam is ill?"

For a moment, Nanny Yu was at loss what to say. She swallowed hard and said, "Your Highness, yes, our Old Madam is not feeling well..."

"What a coincidence! Princess Chen doesn't feel well either. There is an imperial physician here to check her up. How about taking him to the Marquis Xing's Mansion to examine her? Don't blame Princess Chen for not being considerate to her elders. See? Now she is ill, but she also has to care for her grandmother!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess interrupted Nanny Yu.

Her speech silenced Nanny Yu again.

Old Madam just pretended to be sick. How could she let the imperial physician see her?

"It's not necessary to bother the imperial physician. Old Madam is not seriously ill. She fell back into her old illness because of her bad mood recently. She has already taken medicine. It's just that she insists on

talking to Princess Chen. Elderly people sometimes are as stubborn as children. She must see Princess Chen, so I must come here and invite Princess Chen over!" Nanny Yu said in fidgets.

"But Princess Chen is also sick, and she is seriously ill. I'm afraid she can't go back. I have to stay here to take good care of her, lest she doesn't cherish herself and run around. If she gets sicker, it will be troublesome." Rui'an Great Elder Princess said lazily. She picked up the teacup on the table and gently wiped away the tea foam with the lid.

"Your Highness, may we trouble Princess Chen, just for once? Old Madam..." Nanny Yu was so anxious that sweat appeared on her forehead.

"Pa!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess put the cup down heavily with a thump, making the table shake slightly. "How dare you say 'for once'? Old Madam doesn't want to let go of Princess Chen even when she is ill. What does she want Princess Chen to do? Forgive the Madam of Marquis Xing and all her wrongdoings?"

"I..." Nanny Yu was speechless.

"Go back and tell Old Madam. Don't get so many fancy ideas into her head. Since this matter involves state law, it's beyond the reach of the Marquis Xing's Mansion. So, please tell her to stay away. It's not as easy as she thinks!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess mocked mercilessly.

"Your Highness, Old Madam indeed has something important to tell Princess Chen. It's about the noble title of Marquis Xing's Mansion." Nanny Yu gritted her teeth and had to take out her last trump card. After all, when Rui'an Great Elder Princess was here, she couldn't invite Princess Chen over even in the name of Old Madam.

"The noble title of Marquis Xing's Mansion?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess seemed to be interested in it.

"Yes, it's the title of nobility. Old Madam wants to ask Princess Chen's opinion, so she specially invites her." Though in cold sweats, Nanny Yu forced herself to respond calmly.

"To whom does Old Madam want to pass this title?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess raised her eyebrows and asked.

Nanny Yu paused for a moment. It was a tricky one to answer. She couldn't say that Old Madam chose Shao Yuanhao, could she? She could see through Old Madam's mind about this. She preferred the First Young Master, never the little Young Master. Otherwise, she wouldn't have stood by and watched the Madam of Marquis Xing raise the little Young Master for years.

Old Madam had been a permissive grandma, which perfectly illustrated her intention.

Of course, Nanny Yu could not say this to Rui'an Great Elder Princess, so she just said, "I don't know about this. It's all up to Old Madam!"

"Old Madam wants to ask Princess Chen for advice, and Princess Chen has to listen to me. In this way, does it mean I can decide who can get your mansion's title of nobility? That's great. I happen to have nothing to do now, so I have time to discuss the inheritance of the noble title with Old Madam in your mansion!"

Rui'an Great Elder Princess said and was about to get up.

Nanny Yu was so scared that she broke out in cold sweats on her forehead. If she brought such a powerful tyrant to Old Madam, she would spit blood out of anger.

"Your Highness..."

"Let's go!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess stood up and was about to go out with her servants.

"Your Highness..." Nanny Yu trotted to catch up with her and screwed up her courage to say, "Your Highness, please stay."

"Don't you want me to go?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess stopped and asked coldly.

"No... No, I don't dare. But Old Madam is ill and can't stand being angry. If something bad happens to her, I can't bear the responsibility. Please stay here, Your Highness." Nanny Yu knelt with a thump. She really didn't dare to invite Rui'an Great Elder Princess back at the time.

Old Madam's condition had gone from bad to worse. Even though she was her trusted servant, she could not bear the terrible consequences if anything bad happened to her. When talking hurriedly to Rui'an Great Elder Princess, Nanny Yu watched Nanny Gao standing nearby with a pleading look.

"Anything bad? I'd really love to see it!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess said with indifference.

Nanny Gao got the message asking for help from Nanny Yu's eyes, so she came up and persuaded with a smile, "Your Highness, Princess Chen is still ill, and there are no other elders in the mansion to take care of her. If you leave, there will be no one to take charge of the affairs here!"

Rui'an Great Elder Princess, her eyes flickering a little, seemed to be touched by her words. Then, she turned to look at Nanny Yu who was still kneeling on the ground. "I heard that the Madam of your mansion has come back from the Yuhui Nunnery. Let her come here!"

Medical Princess

Chapter 994: Complicated and Dangerous Relationships

Now that Rui'an Great Elder Princess was in a very agitated state, how could she dare to get the Madam of Marquis Xing here? Nanny Yu forced a smile and replied, "She is sick too. Her joints were hurt when she lived in the damp Yuhui Nunnery, so I guess it'll be inconvenient for her to go around."

"How could the Yuhui Nunnery be so humid? Princess Chen has been living in the Yuhui Nunnery for three years, but I've never heard that her joints were injured. It seems that the Madam in your mansion is really decent and must have been nursed in luxury," Rui'an Great Elder Princess sneered, turned back to sit back into the chair, and waved her hand.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess narrowed her eyes and said coldly, "Cut the nonsense. The Ministry of Justice will check the case. Well, I don't care what your Madam plans to do. But if she does anything to confine Princess Chen, don't blame me for being merciless."

"I don't dare. I don't dare!" Hearing this, Nanny Yu, too flustered to say anything, could only keep apologizing.

"Just leave!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess waved her hand. She disliked more and more people of Marquis Xing's Mansion, from masters to servants, except for her grandson and granddaughter. Practically, they had little connection with Marquis Xing's Mansion.

Nanny Yu was finally set free, so she did not dare to say anything more. She kowtowed three times to Rui'an Great Elder Princess, stood up, and walked out. She had to tell Old Madam that even if she said something about the title of nobility, it was useless, and instead, it would attract Rui'an Great Elder Princess over.

If Rui'an Great Elder Princess came to visit them in the mansion, it would not be a good thing. This matter had to be reported to Old Madam right away.

Shao Wanru came out of the inner room. After bowing to Rui'an Great Elder Princess, she sat beside her. Then she reached out to touch the teacup on the table and ordered, "Bring another cup of tea for my grandma!"

The maid accepted the order and left.

Seeing her granddaughter being so thoughtful, Rui'an Great Elder Princess no longer appeared severe. Now, she was all about smiles because she liked Shao Wanru with her whole heart. "Zhuozhuo, don't bother. I'm your dear grandma. You don't have to be so polite."

"I'm not being polite. It's my love for you. After all, I can't watch you have a cold drink. It's not good for your health!" Shao Wanru looked up slightly, seemingly to be a little displeased.

When seeing her act like a spoiled child, Rui'an Great Elder Princess was even happier. It was the best for her when Shao Wanru never stood on ceremony before her. The past three years were the most relaxing time of her life in the last ten years.

She felt very satisfied with the accompany of her granddaughter and grandson!

"Zhuozhuo, tell me, what do you think? Do you want the noble title of Marquis Xing's Mansion? The title was much better when the mansion was still the Duke Xing's Mansion. Now they couldn't even keep it. Your grandma and Second Uncle are useless!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess said discontentedly.

Great Elder Princess felt that the title of nobility belonged to her little grandson, but it was grabbed by the second branch.

Shao Wanru gently swayed the sleeves of Great Elder Princess with a cunning smile, like an adorable little girl. "Grandma, how is Hao'er's study going?"

"He is smart and has learned very well. His teacher has repeatedly praised that Hao'er learns better than those who are several years older than him. He is intelligent enough. Although he entered the school a little late, it didn't hinder his progress. If he studies hard, he will have a bright future."

Speaking of her grandson, Rui'an Great Elder Princess grinned from ear to ear. Her usual domineering manner was gone as she talked about her little grandson with the sincerest compliments.

"Do you think Hao'er can attend the imperial examination?" Shao Wanru asked with a sweet smile.

She and Hao'er had no other beloved people with the relation of blood relationship, but at least Great Elder Princess was there for them. With Great Elder Princess and Hao'er, she could enjoy the happiness of a family union. In this turn of life, she would protect them well and wouldn't let them fall into a miserable and helpless state like in the previous turn of life.

She had never taken those people from the Marquis Xing's Mansion to heart. After all, they shall pay for what they had done.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess looked serious. In confusion, she asked, "Zhuzhuo, do you mean to let Hao'er take the imperial examination? It... must be too exhausting!"

Great Elder Princess was reluctant to let her brilliant grandson live such a challenging and tiring life.

"Then do you want the noble title of Marquis Xing's Mansion? What if it is gone in the future?" Shao Wanru asked softly.

"How could it be? The title of nobility can never be lost!" Great Elder Princess was startled. Her words clearly showed the meaning in her mind. "We can't let those people benefit from it, can we?"

She wanted to get this title for her little grandson. Besides, she felt a little unwilling to accept it. For the noble title, she had fought against Old Madam for half their lifetime. At this time, she could not rest assured. Why should she give it to others? The title was originally her son-in-law's. Now that her son-in-law was gone, of course, she would get it for her little grandson.

In any case, his grandson was the most qualified one for the title.

"Grandma..." Shao Wanru paused and looked around Great Elder Princess. Great Elder Princess understood and waved her hand to let all the others withdraw. Even Nanny Gao retreated with Yujie and the others. They stood outside the door to guard the place.

Great Elder Princess and Shao Wanru were going to talk about private matters. Even though they were their trusted subordinates, there were some things that they were not supposed to hear.

After everyone left, Shao Wanru whispered, "Grandma, do you think what's going on in our mansion looks like the... Do they look alike?"

She did not say the word out. She just reached out and gently wrote the word "Emperor" in Great Elder Princess's hand.

She stared at Great Elder Princess with extreme caution.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess felt the strokes in her hand. She was slightly stunned at first, and then her face changed drastically as she figured out the word. She held Shao Wanru's hand tightly and didn't allow her to move anymore, as if only in this way could she stop her from mentioning this topic. This topic was taboo, and no one knew what the Emperor was thinking about.

Shao Wanru leaned against Rui'an Great Elder Princess and said in a low voice, "Don't worry, grandma. Let's talk about it. No one will hear what we say!"

They talked in such a low voice that even people in the room might not hear them.

Shao Wanru spoke so cautiously that she even asked her trusted subordinates out. It seemed that she was not just fond of flaunting her superiority. Great Elder Princess nodded in her heart, thinking that her granddaughter was quite sensible. The fewer people who knew about this kind of thing, the better. Otherwise, it would be bad for them and the others.

Was what happened in Marquis Xing's Mansion the same as what happened to the Emperor? Rui'an Great Elder Princess had never thought about it. In the past, she had never thought of it seriously like this and even subconsciously avoided this idea. But now, she pondered over it. The more she thought about it, the more flustered she became, and the more similar she thought the two situations were. Cold sweat broke out on her hand holding Shao Wanru's, and her palm became sticky.

The noble title of Duke Xing's Mansion originally belonged to the first branch, but now it belonged to the second branch. After Great Elder Princess's son-in-law died, the title didn't pass on to Hao'er. It was because when they received the news of her son-in-law's death, Hao'er was not born. Therefore, the title belonged to Shao Jing, the second branch of Duke Xing's Mansion.

After the death of the old Duke Xing, the title was naturally passed on to Shao Jing. Since then, it had nothing to do with Hao'er. Now, if Hao'er wanted to take back the position of the heir of a duke from Shao Jing, it was equivalent to let Hao'er take over the title from his uncle. This kind of thing was very similar to Chu Liuchen's situation.

When the former Emperor died, Chu Liuchen was still a little baby, so the throne was passed to the current Emperor. The decision on who would be the crown prince was still pending, and several princes were fighting to be the crown prince. Chu Liuchen could be considered as the third prince, so he was also qualified. No one could deny the fact that he was the son of the former Emperor. He was very sick before, so others would not mention him because everyone thought he would not live long.

But now, he had gradually recovered, and it was inevitable that he would be caught up in the fight for the throne. It would be troublesome if someone said Chu Liuchen wanted to take the throne from his uncle.

Originally, the matter of the noble title of Marquis Xing's Mansion had nothing to do with Chu Liuchen, but the two mansions were connected when Chu Liuchen married Shao Wanru. If Shao Yuanhao became the heir of a duke, would there be anyone taking advantage of this matter to slander Chu Liuchen? They might say that Chu Liuchen did this deliberately to show others that he had the intention to get the throne. Therefore, who would get the title could no longer be a small matter.

At that time, Chu Liuchen would be in trouble, and Shao Yuanhao would be implicated. Once Shao Yuanhao got involved in the fight for the throne, even Great Elder Princess couldn't ensure his safety, not to mention that he was still a little child.

Thinking of this, how could Rui'an Great Elder Princess feel at ease? She was so scared that her whole body came out in a cold sweat. "How could I never think about it?"

"Zhuzhuo, what should we do?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess, who was born into the royal family, fully knew the danger of vying for the throne. Any mishap could lead to a catastrophe. Compared with the title of nobility, she cared more about the safety of her grandson.

"Grandma, don't be panic. We need to avoid this matter for the time being. I'm not asking you to give it up. You can do the same things as what you've done before. Just remember not to arouse people's suspicion. That will be the best way!" Shao Wanru took Great Elder Princess's hand, gently wiping the sweat from her palm with a handkerchief, and said softly.

Her calm composure soothed Great Elder Princess's fluttering heart. Looking at her granddaughter's black hair, she sighed softly. "I'm old. I have more scruples and less courage!"

Great Elder Princess had been a well-known cool and proud lady of no scruples in the capital. She dared to turn down anyone without caring about their feelings. With her grandchildren as her weakness, she could not do whatever she wanted like before.

However, she was most willing to give up something for such weakness.

"Thank you, grandma!" Shao Wanru wiped up the sweats from Great Elder Princess's palm and leaned her face against it. Her watery eyes were full of gratitude. She could feel her grandma's concern and love.

Her granddaughter was so sweet and intimate with her. Great Elder Princess, feeling her heart melt, reached out to hold Shao Wanru in her arms, patted her soft body gently, and whispered in her ear, "Zhuozhuo, tell me, do you want to..."

She didn't finish her words and just held up one finger.

Prince Chen was already a prince, so there was only one place above for him to achieve his ambitions.

Medical Princess

Chapter 995: Two Invitations Come Together

Shao Wanru, not surprised by Rui'an Great Elder Princess's question, responded calmly, "Grandma, it's good that Prince Chen is recovering, but others will be more and more afraid of him. If he doesn't go up, he will be trampled on in the end!"

Her meaning was clear, so how could her grandma not understand?

Rui'an Great Elder Princess got tensed and then slowly relaxed. She had been holding Shao Wanru tightly in her arms and had no intention of letting go of her. After a long while, Shao Wanru heard that her breathing became steady. She finally accepted these words.

She accepted it quickly.

"Zhuozhuo, don't worry. I know!"

If it was Zhuozhuo's intention, she would try her best to fulfill it. Judging by Chu Liuchen's situation, Rui'an Great Elder Princess knew they could only choose to go to the upper level instead of staying behind. Otherwise, they would come to no good end.

When the Empress Dowager and the Emperor were still in power, Chu Liuchen would be fine. But in the future, neither Prince Zhou nor Prince Yue would be kind to him once they ascended to the throne.

The more the Empress Dowager and the Emperor disliked them now, the more unfriendly they would treat Chu Liuchen in the future, or even worse, they would take revenge on him.

Great Elder Princess was not stupid. It was just that she had never dared to think like this before. Now that her granddaughter had said so, she accepted it courageously with ease.

For the sake of her granddaughter and little grandson, Great Elder Princess even dared to do more.

Feeling Great Elder Princess's pacified mood, Shao Wanru became calmer. In her last life, without her, Chu Liuchen won the supreme power and defeated every rival step by step. Finally, he became the crown prince as the Emperor's nephew and gained a firm foothold as the Southern Palace crown prince. This time, it could only be better.

Rui'an Great Elder Princess and Shao Wanru held each other close. After a long while, Rui'an Great Elder Princess asked, "We will go on striving for the noble title for Hao'er, just like it before. It's just that we can't let others find out any differences. Thus, we can just leave the noble title undecided. If Hao'er can't get it, they won't get it either. Zhuozhuo, do you think it's reasonable?"

It was not a good time to change. Even a slight change might arouse others' suspicion. Whether they chose to go further or withdraw on this matter, it was not appropriate to make a sudden change at this sensitive period. They could only wait and do nothing, as Great Elder Princess suggested just now.

"It's best for you to think in this way. Do whatever the way you've done before. Let Hao'er study hard. If he is promising, he can earn a title of nobility for himself in the future. As for the noble title of the Marquis Xing's Mansion, it will be good if we can get it, but it doesn't matter if we can't. But one important thing is that we can't let others get it, lest they do something bad." Shao Wanru calmly analyzed.

Since Old Madam tempted her with the noble title of the Marquis Xing's Mansion, maybe, in the minds of her and other people in the mansion, all things that Shao Wanru had done were to get the title.

It was not wrong for them to think in this way. She wouldn't let the title of nobility fall on Shao Hua'an. Giving them such an illusion would also make it convenient for her to do other things.

Great Elder Princess didn't say anything but just hugged Shao Wanru hard. After a pause, she said, "Don't worry, I will protect you and your brother!"

It was a great pity that she didn't protect her only daughter. If she failed to protect her two grandchildren this time, Great Elder Princess felt she would die with regret.

She was willing to do anything for her grandchildren.

Shao Wanru was lying in the arms of Rui'an Great Elder Princess. She felt like crying, with the rims of her eyes slightly red and her nose twitching. In her previous turn of life, she got separated from her grandma, who loved her most. Neither of them had a happy ending. This time, she would never repeat the tragedy in her last life. She would protect the families she cared about.

"What was going on with Infanta Yuan'an that day? Second Young Master Qu, living a promiscuous lifestyle, is never good. His sister plotted against him. How dare they bring it up in front of me?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess suddenly sneered and changed the topic.

She was clear about this matter, but she didn't ask more after Chu Liuchen handled it.

"Did they go to you?" Shao Wanru immediately understood what Great Elder Princess meant. With a smile, she came out of Great Elder Princess's arms, and her eyes lit up. She was not surprised at all.

"After what happened before, you told me to ignore this matter, saying that you didn't suffer any loss and Prince Chen had taken revenge for you, so I didn't take any action. I didn't expect that they would come to my mansion." Rui'an Great Elder Princess was in rage whenever she recalled it. As soon as she heard about the matter between Infanta Yuan'an and Shao Wanru, Rui'an Great Elder Princess wanted to talk it through with Ruiping Great Elder Princess.

Although both were princesses, they were not close to each other in the past and even had some disputes in secret. When Ruiping Great Elder Princess talked about Rui'an Great Elder Princess in private, her words were not pleasant to hear. She always started with the fact that Rui'an Great Elder Princess had no child and then mentioned her grandchildren with great pride.

Merely because of this, they couldn't be close to each other.

"They looked for you because they wanted you to persuade me to make peace with them," Shao Wanru said affirmatively.

"That's right. She said it was a misunderstanding that was not good for you. That playboy, Second Young Master Qu, wouldn't pursue the matter. They just hoped that you could get along well with each other in the future and not talk about the misunderstanding, lest it should cause friction between the Prince Zhou's Mansion and the Prince Chen's Mansion. Besides, she said that Prince Zhou had always been taking good care of Prince Chen." Rui'an Great Elder Princess said.

As soon as she thought of this, Rui'an Great Elder Princess would get angry. How could they say Prince Zhou had been taking care of Prince Chen? Did they think she knew nothing about the truth in the Palace? Prince Yue and Prince Zhou didn't hold any good intentions toward Prince Chen. At present, they didn't dare to do anything against Prince Chen, just for fear of provoking the Empress Dowager and the Emperor.

"Did they attempt to reconcile with me?" Shao Wanru raised her eyebrows.

"Yes, they hoped a reconciliation. Besides, they said they didn't know about the following things. There must be someone secretly stirring up some troubles. They thought it had nothing to do with Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess said disdainfully.

In the past, Shao Wanru thought that Infanta Yuan'an was not bad and was much better than her grandmother. In the past, she seemed very steady and generous, but now Shao Wanru realized that she had misjudged her. A dog that didn't bark would bite.

"Which place did they choose to reconcile with me?" Shao Wanru didn't take it seriously.

"They invited you to enjoy the flowers and have a meal in the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion. Together, they would solve the misunderstanding happily with you, and everyone could leave the matter behind and move on." Rui'an Great Elder Princess said discontentedly, "It seems they have made some troubles again?"

Rui'an Great Elder Princess didn't know what had happened in the Butterfly Clothing Shop. But when it happened, Ruiping Great Elder Princess didn't say anything. Now, they mentioned the past again, which showed that something else must have happened.

Regarding this matter, Shao Wanru did not keep it a secret and briefly told her what had happened. Prince Yue's Mansion was behind it, but they shifted the blame on Ruiping Great Elder Princess' Mansion, which made them anxious. They worried someone would use this matter to deal with Infanta Yuan'an. The Empress Dowager and the Emperor would not be happy about it.

Infanta Yuan'an, who had a high status, was about to marry into the royal family. If she offended the Empress Dowager and the Emperor at this time, she would have a hard time in the future. It might bring some unfavorable effects on Prince Zhou, so they were worried.

"Grandma, tell them I'll go," Shao Wanru said confidently. Ruiping Great Elder Princess was really needed to deal with this matter. Only she could deal with Chu Liuyue.

"Do you really want to go?" Rui'an Great Elder Princess frowned and asked. She was worried that Shao Wanru would suffer losses, so she thought she'd better not go.

"Grandma, how about going there with me?" Shao Wanru smiled.

"Okay, great, I'll go with you, and then I can rest assured!" Rui'an Great Elder Princess nodded, thinking that it was the best way. With her accompany, even if Rui'an Great Elder Princess wanted to play tricks, she could fight back in time. Anyway, Rui'an Great Elder Princess knew she was rumored to be a hard woman, but she didn't give it a damn.

"Infanta Yuan'an will marry into the Prince Zhou's Mansion in a few months. You have to be more careful. Prince Zhou is the legitimate son of the Empress. The throne will pass to the legitimate son instead of the concubine's sons. Even if the inheritance of the crown prince has little to do with the legitimate or illegitimate, you should be careful of them." Rui'an Great Elder Princess was worried and reminded her again.

Prince Zhou's succession to the position was more in accord with tradition. If there was a legitimate son, he would become the crown prince unless something terrible happened to him.

Hearing Rui'an Great Elder Princess's words, Shao Wanru admired. She was indeed a great royal family princess because she could see through the chaos. In her last turn of life, Chu Liuzhou fell from power for plotting a rebellion, after which Chu Liuyue became the most likely candidate for the crown prince. However, because of Chu Liuchen, Chu Liuyue still didn't become the crown prince in the end. So, he should feel very aggrieved.

Just when Chu Liuyue reached out to fetch the victory, Chu Liuchen snatched it away from him. It turned out that all his elaborate plans were done for Chu Liuchen. At that time, Chu Liuyue must have been totally freaked out.

The invitation card of Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion arrived very quickly in the afternoon. She was invited to enjoy the flowers in the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion tomorrow. Of course, in the name of enjoying the flowers, they hoped the two sides could reach a compromise, which was their most important purpose.

The invitation from Marquis Xing's Mansion actually came with their invitation! It happened that the time was also tomorrow. Shao Wanru scanned through the invitation and sneered, raising the corner of her rosy lips.

"My Lady, shall we go to the Great Elder Princess's Mansion or the Marquis Xing's Mansion tomorrow?" Yujie came in with two invitation cards and asked curiously.

"The Marquis Xing's Mansion!" Shao Wanru said decisively.

"But what about the invitation card of Ruiping Great Elder Princess? But before Rui'an Great Elder Princess left, you agreed to it!" Yujie looked at the invitation card. It seemed Old Madam just wouldn't give up. She had adopted hard means but failed, so she tried mild measures. But when none of her soft ways worked, she resorted to using both the hard and the soft way.

From tomorrow on, they would do a religious ceremony for the former Heir of Duke Xing. In this way, Shao Wanru and Shao Yuanhao must attend. How could they be absent from a religious ceremony for their parents?

However, when Rui'an Great Elder Princess left the Prince Chen's Mansion, Princess Chen agreed to appreciate the flowers in the Ruiping Great Elder Princess. That was why they had sent this invitation here. If she didn't go there, she was going back on her word, which would displease Ruiping Great Elder Princess.

"Even if I go there, will Infanta Yuan'an be truly friendly to me?" Shao Wanru said indifferently. It was good the two invitations clashed, which saved her from a lot of trouble.

"No!" Yujie shook her head decidedly.

"Then it's settled. No matter what I do, Infanta Yuan'an and I can't get along well. So, why don't we let it be?" Shao Wanru said casually. If she didn't do it on purpose, they may be fine or maybe not. However, if she did it with any purposes, something interesting would happen!

Yujie felt that these words made sense, and she couldn't find a way to argue against that. Sure enough, Shao Wanru was indeed her superior master...

[Medical Princess](#)

Chapter 996: Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Teachings

"What? She refused our invitation?" Infanta Yuan'an turned angrily to Ruiping Great Elder Princess, who was at the seat of honor. She put down the teacup heavily and snorted. "How could she turn it down? She nicely indicated she would come here. She deliberately refused now to humiliate us, didn't she? Is she proud of being a daughter-in-law of the royal family? Doesn't she know I will marry into the royal family too?"

Rui'an Great Elder Princess told them that Shao Wanru accepted the invitation and was willing to heal the relationship between the two families. So long as they sent an invitation and showed her the intention to make peace, she would accept it. Therefore, Infanta Yuan'an began early to prepare for the meeting and even finished choosing the guests. In the end, Shao Wanru said she wouldn't come.

“Yuan’an, can’t you calm down?” Ruiping Great Elder Princess said calmly. She reached out and gently pushed the teapot to her. “To demonstrate the art of tea-making, you need to calm down first. But now, when you are in such an agitated state, how can you make people feel peaceful and comfortable when drinking your tea?”

“Grandma, but Shao Wanru...” Infanta Yuan’an was furious. Although her hand was on the teapot, she could no longer regain the previous serene mood. Finally, she lowered her head heavily with anger, biting her lips hard.

“Yuan’an, what did I teach you in the past? Making tea is like testing character. If you are too hasty, the color and taste of your tea will be different. You pull yourself away from being a tea master. No matter what Shao Wanru did to offend you, she is Princess Chen, and you will soon become Princess Zhou.”

Ruiping Great Elder Princess said in a mild tone, smiling at Infanta Yuan’an with tranquil eyes that gave people a feeling of peace and serenity. It seemed she could detach herself from what was going on and didn’t notice the resentment in Infanta Yuan’an’s eyes.

“Prince Chen ignored the rules and married her first. So, as Princess Chen, she can embarrass me now. I will...” Infanta Yuan’an was not convinced, and the rims of her eyes were red with the grievance.

She had been superior to Shao Wanru, thinking that Shao Wanru could never be compared with her before or after the marriage.

Before the marriage, she was Infanta Yuan’an while Shao Wanru was just an orphan, even if she was the daughter of the Marquis Xing’s Mansion. After the marriage, she would be Princess Zhou, which made Shao Wanru, Princess Chen, her sister-in-law. In terms of nobility, Prince Zhou was the most honored. Thus, Princess Chen had to salute her when they met.

However, the current situation was not what she had expected. Shao Wanru married Prince Chen first, which reversed their superior and inferior position. Shao Wanru was already Princess Chen, but she was still Infanta Yuan’an. In this respect, she ranked lower than Princess Chen.

But so what? The Emperor bestowed the marriage with Prince Zhou on her. Though she hadn’t yet married, she would become Princess Zhou sooner or later. So, why would Shao Wanru do this to humiliate her?

“Yuan’an, no matter what, she is now Princess Chen, and you are not Princess Zhou. In this respect, you are inferior to her now. Since your status is lower than hers, why do you have to compete with her? You can’t compete with her anyway.” Ruiping Great Elder Princess picked up the teacup before Infanta Yuan’an and gracefully poured the tea into the two cups before them.

The tea was light in color with faint fragrance. It had passed the process of cleaning the tea, and the tea now should be pure perfection.

Ruiping Great Elder Princess put down the teapot and picked up a small cup of tea in front of her. Then, she gently raised her sleeve and took a sip behind it. However, she frowned slightly. “It’s supposed to be a good pot of tea. Your skills and control of the cooking duration and degree are excellent, but because you stopped for a moment just now, it passed the best time and tasted a little bit bad!”

Infanta Yuan'an, filled with anger, was not in the mood to drink tea with her grandmother. How could she calm down? She picked up the tea beside her, trying to take a sip. In the end, she put it down and called, "Grandma..."

"You... Do you think it will affect Princess Chen?" Ruiping Great Elder Princess asked slowly, pretending not to see that Infanta Yuan'an wanted to say something.

"No. It's useless." Infanta Yuan'an lowered her head again.

"Since your filthy mood is useless, why do you have to stay in your low spirits and act like this? Others who see you can easily figure out what you're thinking." Ruiping Great Elder Princess put down the teacup in her hand, her eyes cold. "Yuan'an, how did I teach you in the past? Don't waste your time and energy on useless things. When it's time to maintain a cool composure, you have to calm down. Or even if you can't find your inner peace, you should pretend to be so!"

"But, Grandma... But I... I cannot restrain my anger!" Infanta Yuan'an felt wronged.

"So, what if you can't contain your anger? Go to beat up Princess Chen or plot against her in the dark? The matter of the Butterfly Clothing Shop has nothing to do with you, but once you feel hostile toward her, you bear the blame. Prince Zhou is obviously behind this matter. Everyone will think you vent your anger on a small shop if you do anything reckless. Yuan'an, you will be Princess Zhou. If you are so incapable, I think you'd better not marry into the royal family. Otherwise, you would only bring trouble to our mansion!"

Ruiping Great Elder Princess said coldly. Her face froze, and there was obvious disappointment in her eyes. Ruiping Great Elder Princess watched Infanta Yuan'an grow up and raised her with great care so that she could marry into the royal family.

Ruiping Great Elder Princess was born noble in the royal family. Of course, she hoped that her granddaughter could marry back to the royal family.

For Ruiping Great Elder Princess, Prince Zhou was the most favored prince. He was born a legitimate prince. If it were not for the eldest son of a concubine, the throne would be his. Even though there was Prince Yue, Ruiping Great Elder Princess thought more highly of Prince Zhou and believed he was the one to ascend the throne.

If her granddaughter married Prince Zhou, she would be the most revered and respected Empress.

When Infanta Yuan'an was very young, she had invited a well-known fortune teller to predict her life, who said she was born at the best time and was blessed with an extremely honorable fate. Then, the fortune teller stopped with caution because he dared not reveal too many of Heaven's secrets. Nevertheless, they got the meaning. For a girl like Infanta Yuan'an, becoming the Empress would be her extremely honorable fate in the future.

Since then, Ruiping Great Elder Princess was very concerned about Infanta Yuan'an's words and deeds. She wanted to cultivate her to become the Empress who enjoyed the most glorious status.

In the past, Infanta Yuan'an had always been doing well. Even when facing Shao Yanru, she behaved graciously and decently. Also, she carried herself with ease and natural poise in public, displaying her

perfect demeanor as a noble lady. Though she hadn't enjoyed the reputation of being the first beauty in the capital, she stood out from those noble ladies and was even more popular than Shao Yanru.

But now, her granddaughter's mind was in a turmoil. That day, she suddenly came up with an idea to plot against Princess Chen in the Butterfly Clothing Shop. In Ruiping Great Elder Princess's view, it sounded crazy.

Who was Prince Chen? He was the Empress Dowager's most beloved grandson. Since Shao Wanru had married into the Prince Chen's Mansion, the Empress Dowager must also like her very much. No lady marrying other princes could not be compared with her. Targeting at Princess Chen was equal to going against Prince Chen. How could the Empress Dowager stand by?

Ruiping Great Elder Princess really couldn't understand why her intelligent granddaughter couldn't endure Princess Chen. It was impossible for Prince Chen to seize the throne. Only by being friendly with Prince Chen's Mansion this time could she please the Empress Dowager and the Emperor. However, instead of getting along well with Princess Chen, she dared to plot against her!

And the most important thing was that Infanta Yuan'an failed! She was foolish to the extreme.

Infanta Yuan'an didn't make a best-laid plan in advance, which Ruiping Great Elder Princess felt was the biggest mistake. She came up with the idea of plotting against Princess Chen suddenly. In the end, Princess Chen managed to escape and even fought back. Even Ruiping Great Elder Princess was implicated. At this time, her grandson was still lying sick in bed. Thinking of all this, Ruiping Great Elder Princess gradually fell into a rage.

"Grandma, Shao Wanru..."

"Princess Chen!"

"Shao Wanru..."

"Princess Chen!" Ruiping Great Elder Princess repeated it twice. With a fierce look, she picked up the teacup beside her and smashed it hard on the ground.

Immediately, Infanta Yuan'an stopped, biting her pale lips. She didn't dare to mention Shao Wanru's name again. After a short pause, she apologized, "Grandma, I got it now. It's my fault for what happened in the Butterfly Clothing Shop!"

Her voice became softer, and she lowered her eyes. Although she was resentful and scared, her face looked calm. The cup in pieces sobered her up a lot.

This set of teacups was her grandmother's favorite one, and she begrudged using it in the past. Today, because Infanta Yuan'an wanted to make tea for her, she specially asked the servants to bring it over. But now, one cup was shattered, which led the whole set useless.

As she had thought, Ruiping Great Elder Princess waved her hand. "Throw them away!"

"Yes!" A servant girl came over and carefully took away the teacup before Infanta Yuan'an. Before getting a chance to appreciate the tea in it, she watched the servant girl take it away. From then on, she wouldn't see this set of teacups again.

Her grandma wouldn't give away the rest of the teacups. The servant girl would smash all of them before throwing them away.

Her grandmother would never keep useless things and would ruin them directly. "Then what about useless people?" At the thought, a chill ran through Infanta Yuan'an from her head to her heart trembling with fear. She hung her head to hide the panic in her eyes. Ruiping Great Elder Princess scared her, even if she was her biological grandmother.

"The Butterfly Clothing Shop, leave it there. Just wait and see what Prince Yue will do. If he makes a mistake, we will certainly expose the truth and let others know it was Prince Yue who did these things. But if he does nothing wrong, our mansion can never act rashly again." Ruiping Great Elder Princess, seeing Infanta Yuan'an know how to behave in a delicate situation, felt satisfied and looked slightly relieved.

Prince Yue stirred up troubles in the Butterfly Clothing Shop, but shifted the blame onto the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion. It was obvious that he had an ulterior motive. Ruiping Great Elder Princess's granddaughter would soon become Princess Zhou, so Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion was destined to stand against the Prince Yue's Mansion. Unlike Princess Chen, the Prince Yue's Mansion would be their major opponent for the throne in the future. Therefore, it was good to get hold of some of his secrets.

Prince Yue, who had the same purpose, deliberately made troubles related to the Butterfly Clothing Shop. By doing so, he could deliver a blow to the Ruiping Great Elder Princess's Mansion.

Ruiping Great Elder Princess didn't know Chu Liuyue was determined to deal a blow to the Butterfly Clothing Shop. She thought they used the dispute in the Butterfly Clothing Shop between her granddaughter and Shao Wanru on purpose to stir up trouble between Prince Chen and Prince Zhou. The more Prince Yue wanted to do this, the more she couldn't let him get what he wanted. If Prince Yue kept an eye on them, they would also pay close attention to Prince Yue.

Once she spotted any weak points of Prince Yue, she would not let go of him either.

"Grandma, I'll do as you say. Then what should we do with Princess Chen?" Infanta Yuan'an suppressed the anger in her heart, looked up, and asked with a gentle smile. It seemed that she no longer cared that Shao Wanru had offended her and had learned the meaning of what her grandma said.

Medical Princess

Chapter 997: What If Princess Chen Loses Prince Chen?

"There is no conflict between Prince Chen and Prince Zhou. They can be good brothers. Prince Zhou has a distinguished position in the state and the support of the Empress. If he also finds favor in the Empress Dowager's eyes, great things can be achieved!" Ruiping Great Elder Princess said to her granddaughter with a smile. Her face softened, and the cold look on her face slowly faded away.

Prince Chen didn't have much strength to compete for the throne. Everyone knew that no matter how the Emperor valued Prince Chen, he wouldn't pass the throne to him.

Instead of his nephew, the Emperor's sons were the legal heirs to the imperial throne, so Prince Chen had no right to succeed to the throne, let alone he had been in poor health. Even though he was better

now, he was far weaker than the several princes who had always been vital and healthy. It was lucky enough for him to stay alive like this. If remaining in his proper sphere, Prince Chen might prolong his life by a few years. But if he lusted for power, simply his mental efforts would kill him.

That was why Ruiping Great Elder Princess had decided well in advance to be friendly to Prince Chen and not to offend him.

“Princess Chen is not easy to deal with!” Infanta Yuan’an felt differently. When she saw her grandmother wanted to draw Prince Chen in, she could not help but murmur negatively.

“What if she loses Prince Chen? Then she is nothing. And, do you think Prince Chen really likes Princess Chen?” Ruiping Great Elder Princess’s arrogant sneer turned up the corners of her lips.

“Grandma, is there anything wrong with their relationship? I still remember what happened before. Second Brother did nothing wrong, but he was... It was infuriating!” Infanta Yuan’an was in a hurry to argue when getting the hidden meaning in her grandma’s words.

“So what? I’ve never known you are so close to your second brother. Every time you mention his injury, you will lose your temper!” Ruiping Great Elder Princess slid her a sideways glance and said.

The insinuation in that remark made Infanta Yuan’an blush scarlet with embarrassment. Qu Xinghong and her were only casual acquaintances. How could Infanta Yuan’an be interested in such a playboy? So what if he was her elder brother?

“See? You feel sorry for a man you don’t like, so the same goes for Prince Chen. On the face of it, you hurt Princess Chen, not Prince Chen, but in truth, you humiliated him. Given Prince Chen’s character, if he hadn’t shown any consideration for my feelings, he might have caused havoc in my mansion.” Ruiping Great Elder Princess said, glancing at Infanta Yuan’an. “Can you figure it all out now?”

Infanta Yuan’an nodded hurriedly. “Grandma, I see. If I disgrace Princess Chen, I insult Prince Chen, who will always get even for anything he has suffered. He won’t let me off, but it has nothing to do with whether he cares about Princess Chen or not!”

“If Prince Chen truly loved Princess Chen, he wouldn’t leave soon after getting married. You can see that he doesn’t concern and love Princess Chen that much!” Ruiping Great Elder Princess nodded with satisfaction. After all, her daughter grew up under her guidance, so she would be enlightened when she dropped a hint.

“But Princess Chen looks so gorgeous...” Even though she hated to admit it, Infanta Yuan’an had to agree with the fact. In the past, Shao Yanru was the most beautiful lady in her eyes, but now Shao Wanru was not inferior to her. Infanta Yuan’an even felt Shao Wanru, exuding an aura of intelligence and charm, looked more astoundingly beautiful.

Her second brother, for example, secretly inquired about Princess Chen, even when he was still lying in bed after he was seriously wounded.

“So what? Prince Chen, a man of position in the Palace, must have seen various beauties. Since a long time ago, the Empress Dowager and the Empress had begun sending him all kinds of beauties. There is a saying that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. No matter how extraordinary Princess Chen is, the other

beauties are not bad. How could Prince Chen fall in love with Princess Chen because of her appearance? You must be joking.”

Ruiping Great Elder Princess didn’t take this matter seriously.

Born in a royal family, Prince Chen had seen many beauties. Besides, everyone has his particular tastes. Prince Chen might not think Princess Chen was the most beautiful and delicate. Many exquisitely beautiful young women were sent from the Palace to Prince Chen’s Mansion, but few got a good end.

Hearing this, Infanta Yuan’an nodded her head in agreement and no longer cared about Shao Wanru’s beauty. After a brief pause, she asked, “Grandma, what should we do now? Marquis Xing’s Mansion invited her over, so she decided to go there instead of seeing us, and we can’t accuse her of breaking her promise! But I have also invited several Misses close to me.”

What Infanta Yuan’an felt extremely uncomfortable with was Shao Wanru’s refusal.

They invited Shao Wanru to the Ruiping Great Elder Princess’s Mansion because they wanted to reconcile with her. And only in the accompany of several Misses from other mansions would they not feel awkward. While enjoying the meal and beautiful scenery together, they could write off all their old scores.

After all, they had a falling-out.

Not that Shao Wanru chose not to come, Infanta Yuan’an felt so humiliated. The succession of humiliating, terrible blows agitated Infanta Yuan’an, who had tried to treat this matter coolly.

“The Marquis Xing’s Mansion will hold a religious ceremony for her biological parents. As a daughter, Princess Chen must attend the event. I wouldn’t let her come even if she chose to come here. We can’t prevent her from showing filial piety to her parents because of our family affairs. Others will gossip about us, and the Empress Dowager and the Emperor will be critical of us!”

Ruiping Great Elder Princess analyzed.

Infanta Yuan’an was smart. After she pondered over this matter carefully, her face changed greatly. She had never thought carefully about it. She just felt Shao Wanru had embarrassed her again and again, which made her lose face before other noble ladies. But now, when she thought seriously about what was happening, she broke out in a cold sweat.

Infanta Yuan’an was not an ordinary noble lady in the capital. In the near future, she would be Princess Zhou who was closely related to Prince Zhou. Shao Wanru was supposed to return the Marquis Xing’s Mansion to fulfill her filial duty. If the Empress Dowager and the Emperor thought she forced Shao Wanru to keep the appointment with her by taking advantage of the power of Great Elder Princess and Prince Zhou’s Mansion, Infanta Yuan’an might never be able to marry Prince Zhou.

“Grandma...” Realizing this, Infanta Yuan’an was horrified and looked at Ruiping Great Elder Princess in a cold sweat.

“Understand?” Ruiping Great Elder Princess raised her chin and asked with perfect composure.

Infanta Yuan’an nodded repeatedly, giving up the idea of asking Shao Wanru to come over. “Grandma, I can see that now. I was wrong. It’s best if she doesn’t come. I won’t exact a promise from her!”

"There is more you can do. It's no big deal if Shao Wanru doesn't come. We can go to her door ourselves to make peace, which will do us a lot of good. Even if Prince Chen is not in his mansion now, the Empress Dowager and the Emperor will be happy if they know it. Even the Empress is happy to see you get close to Prince Chen's Mansion."

Ruiping Great Elder Princess smiled. Her granddaughter was not foolish; she figured everything out by a gentle reminder.

"Do you mean we should go to the Prince Chen's Mansion?" Infanta Yuan'an asked, a bit ill at ease.

"Not really. Since Princess Chen has gone to the Marquis Xing's Mansion, what's the point of going to the Prince Chen's Mansion? Let's go to the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Since it's a memorial ceremony, let's bring some offerings like candles and paper horses to mourn her deceased parents. It's also a token of our regard!" Ruiping Great Elder Princess said with a smile.

Infanta Yuan'an rolled her eyes and nodded appreciatively. "Yes, grandma! I will do as you have said. I'll get some servants to prepare the sacrificial offerings soon!"

"Well, no hurry. With calm and firmness, you can handle complicated matters with ease." Ruiping Great Elder Princess smiled and patted the table lightly. Then she ordered the maid beside her, "Go and take out the rain-mountain tea set I've treasured and let Infanta Yuan'an practice with it."

The Empress Dowager awarded Ruiping Great Elder Princess the tea set, which made it even more precious. In the past, Infanta Yuan'an had only seen it being used in significant events. But now, her grandma actually allowed her to learn how to make tea with this tea set. She widened her eyes in surprise and said with deep gratitude, "Thank you, Grandma!"

"They are nothing but valuable items. In the future... you can get whatever treasures you want. In the Marquis Xing's Mansion, you should come to Princess Chen's aid if anyone picks on her. You are not yet Princess Zhou, but you belong to the royal family and can be considered as her cousin!" Ruiping Great Elder Princess said in a very matter-of-fact way.

Once Infanta Yuan'an became the Empress, who was second only to the Emperor, she could get all the things she desired.

It was not hard to understand why the Marquis Xing's Mansion would hold such a religious service. The capital was agog with rumors that the Madam of Marquis Xing had been plotting against Princess Chen for a long time. When the Ministry of Justice took the case over, it couldn't be settled within the Marquis Xing's Mansion.

No matter what, this matter meant a loss of face for the Marquis Xing's Mansion. The result could either be severe or slight, which largely depended on Princess Chen's attitude. But it seemed that Princess Chen had no intention of forgiving. Therefore, the Marquis Xing's Mansion had devised this plan to get Princess Chen back!

Why didn't they force Princess Chen to come back? They couldn't do it even in the name of filial piety because the Marquis Xing's Mansion was on the wane and had been unkind to Princess Chen in the public's eyes.

At present, except for the late former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua, there was nothing the Marquis Xing's Mansion could use to threaten Princess Chen.

Infanta Yuan'an nodded understandingly. "Help Shao Wanru... I must do that... Even if I can do nothing, I have to create opportunities for myself. I have to show Shao Wanru my sincerity..."

First of all, she could start with sacrificial offerings...

Shao Wanru was also preparing for the sacrificial ceremony, but running short of time, she didn't get well prepared. That very night, she sent Qing'er to the Yuhui Nunnery for a consecrated Buddhist scripture and some other things from the abbot. Early the next day, she went to the Marquis Xing's Mansion with her servants.

Shao Yuanhao came straight from the Rui'an Great Elder Princess's Mansion later, so the two of them didn't arrive at the same time.

Since it was a religious ritual for the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua, some of their old friends also came specially. When Shao Wanru arrived, she saw a fine spectacle. It was the first time the Marquis Xing's Mansion held a sacrificial ceremony for the deceased former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua.

After the tragedy, the Duke Xing's Mansion didn't make large arrangements for the funeral. They played the matter down and just informed some family elders about their death. For them, the matter was sort of done then. However, after so many years, they took the initiative to hold such a grand memorial ceremony for the couple, which made many people feel ridiculous.

It was evident that they put on this ceremony for Princess Chen. Due to Shao Wanru, the Marquis Xing's Mansion finally remembered to offer a sacrifice to the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. The change made them appear even more cold-blooded, snobbish, and mercenary to everyone...

[Medical Princess](#)

Chapter 998: Sadfishing in the Mourning Hall

Nanny Yu had been waiting for Shao Wanru in the front yard for a long time. When she saw her coming, she hurried forward to salute and then stepped aside, welcoming her respectfully. "Your Highness, please come with me."

"Not in the main hall?" Shao Wanru paused in perplexity.

"No, it's not. The main hall is used in welcoming guests. There are many guests coming and going today. If Old Madam and Marquis Xing can't receive all of them for the time being, some will be invited there to drink tea and wait."

Shao Wanru looked at Nanny Yu and suddenly smiled. "Nanny Yu, does my grandma think the religious rite for my parents is not important enough to be held in the main hall?"

"How... how could this be?" Nanny Yu stammered, shaking her head vigorously.

Of course, she didn't dare to tell the truth, but Princess Chen was right. Old Madam had never given whole-hearted support to the religious ceremony because she just wanted to lure Princess Chen back by it.

"Since not, why didn't she set it in the main hall? Aren't my parents qualified enough for that?" Shao Wanru's smile turned grim.

Some guests behind them stopped when hearing their conversation.

It was not necessary to put a religious ritual in the main hall, but it was usually held in the main hall to show respect for the deceased.

"Of course, the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua are qualified, but now..." Nanny Yu said with a sigh, "You know many things have happened in our mansion recently. Both Old Madam and Marquis Xing wanted to remain low-key about the matter, so they placed it in the side courtyard. Please rest assured. There is not much difference. It's just on the side of the main hall. The memorial ceremony for the Duke was also held there!"

After the Duke Xing died, the memorial ceremony was indeed in the side courtyard. For this reason, many people in the capital thought it was deliberately done by Shao Jing, who had been promoted to Duke Xing's position. Displeased with the fact that Duke Xing was partial to his elder brother, he put the ritual in the side courtyard.

No matter how important the former Heir of Duke Xing became, he couldn't get better treatment than that of Duke Xing. Now that Nanny Yu mentioned Duke Xing, Shao Wanru had no choice but to accept it.

Shao Wanru was silent for a few seconds, and her watery eyes dimmed a little. But soon, she flashed Nanny Yu a smile. "In that case, Nanny Yu, lead the way!"

Next, she'd like to see how Old Madam and Madam Jiang would deal with it. At this moment, she was not in a hurry to deal with this matter...

There were few things quite as sweet as revenging and settling all old scores and new ones with her enemies!

Seeing Shao Wanru no longer insist, Nanny Yu secretly wiped the cold sweat on her forehead. She was afraid that Princess Chen would not give up and stand here, which would be very embarrassing.

Shao Wanru moved on, and so did the guests who followed her. They followed Nanny Yu inside. When they arrived at the intersection, Shao Wanru was led directly to the side courtyard, and the guests went to the main hall for the time being.

The side courtyard for the memorial ceremony was said to be right next to the main hall, but it was not close at all. Although it belonged to the front yard, Shao Wanru seldom came here. After taking two turns with Nanny Yu, she finally arrived.

A simple and unadorned courtyard appeared before Shao Wanru. The chanting of monks and Taoist priests wrapped around her as she entered it after Nanny Yu. It was very lively inside.

In the courtyard ablaze with lights from candles, many maids were taking good care of the burning joss sticks and candles. Besides, there were many young monks and Taoist priests.

The air inside was heavy with coiling incense smoke, and bursts of Buddhist chants reached the ears of Shao Wanru through layers of long and white gauze. On the incense burner table, she saw the memorial tablets of Shao Jiang, the former Heir of Duke Xing, and Infanta Qinghua.

Someone was kneeling before the table. From the back, Shao Wanru could only tell that it was a woman. But since she was wrapped up in white clothing, Shao Wanru couldn't see who she was.

The woman, crying loudly and bitterly, didn't notice it when Shao Wanru came in. She hunched over the ground, wailing bitterly.

"Madam, Madam, Princess Chen is here!" Nanny Yu took two quick steps forward and said in a low voice to the woman.

The woman raised her head and met Shao Wanru's eyes. Only until then did she recognize Madam Jiang. Compared with the last time they met, Madam Jiang was much thinner. In the white clothes, she looked very worn and forlorn.

However, Madam Jiang did not hear Nanny Yu. She continued crying, murmuring something.

The courtyard radiated the fragrance of incense sticks and candles, and there was a smell of herbs that Shao Wanru was familiar with. Yes, it was the smell of medicine!

"Madam!" Nanny Yu raised her voice. The maid beside them came over and gently pulled Madam Jiang's sleeves. Only then did she look up.

Madam Jiang was no longer what she looked like when Shao Wanru had just arrived at Marquis Xing's Mansion. She was emaciated and old, kneeling before the memorial tablets with bloodshot eyes, and looked extremely pitiful.

"Madam, Princess Chen is here!" Nanny Yu repeated.

"Princess Chen..." Madam Jiang frantically tried to get up and nearly dropped the incense in her hand. In a hurry, Nanny Yu took it from her hands. A maid beside her helped her up. But when she got up, she was still a little unsteady on her feet. She leaned against the maid weakly and said, "You're back... Go and pay respects to your mother!"

Madam Jiang said with a haggard look and a soft voice. After the maid helped her to sit down on a chair nearby, she looked toward the two memorial tablets of Shao Wanru's parents, tears rolling down her sad face. "I married into the Duke Xing's Mansion after your mother. Back then, we were young and impetuous and had some disputes, but now when I thought about it, I know I was wrong!"

"Young and impetuous? How could she be so brazen-faced to describe the past with such a delicate touch?"

However, Shao Wanru remained silent. She took the incense offered by Nanny Yu and knelt respectfully before the memorial tablets in the middle, the hem of her snow-white dress spreading on the ground.

She knelt, lowering her head in silence.

Yujie stepped forward to take the incense in Shao Wanru's hands and deferentially put it into the incense burner in the middle.

"Princess Chen, I was wrong. I apologize to you for what happened in the past. For our mansion's sake, I sincerely hope you can get some consideration for the Marquis Xing's Mansion. You can do whatever you want to me, but don't let Old Madam worry about this. She is too old to bear so much trouble!"

Madam Jiang sighed again and stood up with the help of the servant girl beside her.

The servant girl came over to help her get up and supported her in kneeling next to Shao Wanru.

Shao Wanru still didn't utter a single word. It sounded that Madam Jiang cared so much about Old Madam and did much better in fulfilling her filial duties than Shao Wanru, her biological granddaughter.

Her long eyelashes fluttered, and her eyes were calm and solemn. She took a small wooden fish from Yujie and began to gently knock on it along with the Buddhist chants around her. After living in the Yuhui Nunnery for so long a time, she had learned to beat the wooden fish when chanting a sutra.

Seeing Shao Wanru ignore her, Madam Jiang was not discouraged and continued to say, "Wang Shengxue is not a good person. I found out that when he was in the mansion and intended to drive him away with an excuse. However, I didn't expect that he would dare to do such a nasty thing and put all the blame on me! Wanru, in this respect, I'm so sorry!" Madam Jiang lowered her head and trembled with emotion.

She looked extremely pitiful.

Nanny Yu stepped forward and whispered in Shao Wanru's ear, "After Madam returned to the mansion, Old Madam had severely punished her: she was beaten dozens of times by a heavy stick. She still can't walk by herself."

Madam Jiang got beaten up by a stick, so she put a thick layer of medicine on her wounds and drank lots of herbal medicine for recovery. The pungent smell of medicine filled the air, and Shao Wanru smelled it as soon as she came. She believed that anyone entering without a stuffy nose would smell it. Such a sharp scent even covered the faint fragrance of incense sticks and candles.

Anyone who had drunk herb medicine knew what this smell was.

"Is Madam Jiang showing her wounds to get sympathy from me?"

"I should have taken all these things as punishment. It's all my fault. Please forgive me, Wanru... For one thing, I trusted the wrong people. For another, I had my selfish thoughts. These are the causes of recent events!" Madam Jiang cried sadly. Although she said all of this facing the incense table in the middle, she said these words to Shao Wanru.

With a wretched appearance, Madam Jiang couldn't even stand up on her own feet, but she still came here to pay homage to Shao Wanru's parents. It was evident that she was sincere enough.

"I took a fancy to you and wanted to adopt you as my daughter. But in the end, I could only take in Qin Yuru. I was depressed then, so I asked Wang Shengxue to teach you a lesson, but I've never told him to ruin your reputation. I thought you would come to seek my help if you were scared. Back then, I really wanted you to be my daughter."

Madam Jiang continued, "When we were discussing this matter, you didn't officially come back to our mansion. Making full use of this matter could kill two birds with one stone. In any case, if Wang Shengxue did it, I could drive him away, and you would accept me out of gratitude. From my very heart, I hoped you would be my daughter. However, I didn't envision any changes with that. Later on, I was so

occupied that I put this matter aside. To my disappointment, Wang Shengxue worked together with Nanny Sheng to plot against you behind my back..."

Speaking of this, Madam Jiang burst into loud sobs.

"It's really a good scheme to put all the blame on Nanny Sheng, who is dead already. Nanny Sheng had devoted herself wholly to you, but you made her a scapegoat. Aren't you afraid she would turn in her grave?"

Shao Wanru, silent and grim-faced, ignored Madam Jiang's story, which was full of holes, and continued knocking on the wooden fish in her hand.

Ever since she entered here, she saw no outsiders. Only Madam Jiang was here with her as if no one else had come to pay his respects to her parents in the Marquis Xing's Mansion. But when she came in, she saw guests coming!

"Princess Chen, it's all my fault. You can punish me in whatever way. I won't resist even if you want to take my life away. I sincerely hope you can let go of the Marquis Xing's Mansion. No matter what, I'll bear the responsibility alone. Please don't give outsiders any chance to laugh at us!"

While pleading, Madam Jiang moved slightly and turned herself sideways to Shao Wanru. With these excuses she cooked up in advance, she expected Shao Wanru to do something. Even if she didn't forgive her, she would at least say something. However, Shao Wanru, still appearing indifferent, made no response as if nothing had happened. Things didn't go as Madam Jiang had thought, which made her a little anxious.

She stared askance at the gauze curtain behind the incense burner table with an increasingly anxious look.

Behind the incense burner table hung layers of gauze curtain. The scene looked sad and desolate.

"Wanru..." Madam Jiang prostrated herself on the ground and moved sideways to one side. However, if she moved further, she would kneel face-to-face with Shao Wanru. It seemed as if she were kneeling to Shao Wanru.

"Madam Jiang, you'd better get up and talk. You are an elder. If you kneel before Her Highness, those who know the inside stories may think you are expressing penitence for all your past actions to the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. But those not knowing all of this will think you are kneeling before Her Highness. Princess Chen is reciting the Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani for her parents with all her heart and soul. If you have anything to say, you should talk about it later!"

Yujie came over to help Madam Jiang get up. She was strong, so Madam Jiang had no choice but to get to her feet.

Medical Princess

Chapter 999: Who Was Forced? The Time Is Right!

Another servant girl came out from behind Shao Wanru and worked together with Yujie to make Madam Jiang sit down on the chair.

"Madam Jiang, please don't disturb our Miss to release the souls of the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua from purgatory by reciting the Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani!" Yujie said in a low voice, looking neither humble nor arrogant.

Madam Jiang was so angry that she gritted her teeth secretly, but she could not interrupt Shao Wanru again. She could only suppress the anger in her heart and asked Yujie in a kind and pleasant way, "When will Princess Chen finish it?"

"I'm not sure!" Yujie whispered the answer.

Once again, Madam Jiang was enraged by her words, but she had to suppress her anger before asking, "The holy text of a sutra is limited. How could you not know when she would finish it?"

"You're right. Her Highness can finish reciting it after some time, but she often recites it more than once. When she lived in the Yuhui Nunnery, she would chant it the whole day. No matter how many times she does it, she won't think it's enough to fulfill her filial duties. Back then, our Miss wanted to do a religious ritual in the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Now, she will certainly take this rare chance to chant it as many times as possible!" Yujie said.

She then bowed respectfully to Madam Jiang and lowered her voice to say, "Please do not disturb Her Highness again and let her finish chanting the Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani for her parents in peace."

Madam Jiang thought she had learned to control her temper after spending so much time in the Yuhui Nunnery. In fact, she had been good at keeping her composure when she was in the Marquis Xing's Mansion. In the eyes of everyone, she had always been a dignified and decent noble Madam. However, whenever she faced Shao Wanru, somehow, Madam Jiang couldn't contain her anger.

"No one knew how long it would take, and she told me to stay away!

"How could I walk away? I've made painstaking efforts to set this trap. Don't even think about getting away with ease!"

So, she shook her head and said, "Then I'll stay here with Princess Chen."

"Madam, you don't look well. You'd better go back to rest. We can stay here with Princess Chen. Her Highness may not finish chanting it soon!" Yujie said.

"It doesn't matter. I also wanted to chant some Buddhist sutras here!" Madam Jiang said with a frigid smile. Shao Wanru had robbed her of her good job. According to her original plan, she would be kneeling here to let everyone see her sincerity: even though she was seriously injured, she was willing to kneel until the end of the ritual.

Although she had made a mistake, it was not serious. Wang Shengxue was mainly to blame for the case. People wouldn't believe all that he had confessed. Many of them would stand on her side.

As for whether Shao Wanru believed it or not, it was not a big problem. At least on the surface, Shao Wanru, who was now Princess Chen, couldn't do things with no concern due to her status.

Since Shao Wanru became Princess Chen, she had to behave with great dignity. With so many things to take care of, she could no longer do whatever she wanted to do at will.

As long as Madam Jiang won over enough sympathy from others, Shao Wanru, who was Princess Chen, had to swallow her feelings and intercede for her.

In particular, Madam Jiang had invited people from the Ministry of Justice over because she wanted them to see how Shao Wanru got along with her in private. It would be better if Shao Wanru beat her furiously or said something improper in a rage.

However, she did not expect Shao Wanru to treat her indifferently as if she had not seen her. She did what she should do. At this moment, she was engrossed in reciting the Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani, leaving Madam Jiang no chance to talk to her.

Her version of events was entirely different from what actually happened. Madam Jiang, gritting her teeth in hatred, had to brace herself to meet the challenge. She couldn't retreat. If she left, she would have no chance to irritate Shao Wanru or make Shao Wanru forgive her, even on a superficial level. Either way would get her out of trouble.

The room quieted down with only the sound of Shao Wanru beating the wooden fish lightly. The corners of her mouth moved slightly as she recited scriptures silently. There were Buddhist monks and Taoist priests in the wing rooms on both sides of the main room. They chanted their religious scripts in rhyme, making this place an otherworldly sort of place. Everything seemed so unreal.

Madam Jiang couldn't sit anymore because she was beaten with sticks. Though her wounds were not as severe as they appeared, she was sick and wounded. Sitting still like this made her feel more uncomfortable than when she knelt on the ground.

Leaning against the chair, she moved slightly to make herself feel better and secretly heaved a sigh of relief. Then she lowered her head and listened to the chants quietly. After a while, she turned in another direction. Shortly after that, she moved again uneasily. Since she stayed on the chair for a long time, she felt stiff in her arms and legs. Her injured legs, especially, became sore and numb with bursts of pain.

She turned again.

"Madam Jiang, let me change a place for you." Yujie saw her embarrassment, so she walked to her side and whispered.

Madam Jiang looked around. Her chair was next to the incense table and close to Shao Wanru. Therefore, she didn't dare to move too much. Feeling very uncomfortable, she reached out to point at the door and motioned for Yujie to move the chair there. It was far away from the table and Shao Wanru, so she could move at ease to relax.

Yujie nodded and asked a maid to help Madam Jiang stand up while she picked up the chair and gently put it down at the hall's entrance. Then she invited Madam Jiang to take the seat.

Holding the hands of the servant girl, Madam Jiang walked over slowly. After sitting down again, she lifted her legs. Only then could she stretch her legs again. The wounds on her legs also felt much less painful.

Her feet were right beside Shao Wanru just now. It was really inconvenient for her to lift her legs because she was afraid she would accidentally touch Shao Wanru.

"Madam, I'll make you a cup of tea!" Yujie asked in a low voice again.

Madam Jiang nodded. In a cold sweat, she was tired and painful. At this time, she was thirsty.

Yujie went inside and soon came back with a cup of tea. After that, she asked a servant girl of Prince Chen's Mansion to bring a large tea table from the side room. Then she placed the teacup on it.

Madam Jiang picked it up and took a sip, breathing a long sigh of relief. With a malicious look, Madam Jiang stared at Shao Wanru, who was kneeling inside with her back to her. At this time, they were far apart from each other.

"Madam, here are some snacks, and you can eat them with the tea. Her Highness specially told us to take them here from the Prince Chen's Mansion!" Yujie walked to the door, picked some snacks from the sacrificial offerings they brought here, and put them on the table in front of Madam Jiang. Then she pointed to Shao Wanru and said, "Madam, please don't make much noise when enjoying them. It may disturb Her Highness!"

Her behaviors nearly drove Madam Jiang crazy.

"Goddamned Shao Wanru! Indeed, maids often look and act similar to their masters. I thought this maid was smart, but how could she let me have the sacrificial offerings from the Prince Chen's Mansion here? It's unacceptable."

"Nanny Yu, take these away!" Madam Jiang said to Nanny Yu, who was following her.

"Well..." Nanny Yu looked at the table with a frown. In her eyes, the large table was the most annoying thing. She didn't know where Yujie found such a table, which didn't fit in this place at all. "Madam..."

She was about to persuade Madam Jiang to remove the table too.

"Madam Jiang, they are gifts from Princess Chen to the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Don't you like them?" Yujie suddenly interrupted her, and her smiling face immediately darkened. The servant girl of Prince Chen's Mansion, who had been working with her, stared at Madam Jiang and Nanny Yu with an unfriendly look.

Nanny Yu panicked and choked on her drool. She couldn't help coughing loudly. For fear of disturbing Princess Chen, she ran outside, pressing against her chest.

"How could I distaste gifts from your mansion? But it's not appropriate to eat snacks now!" Madam Jiang, trying so hard to suppress her anger, explained to the maid whom she despised the most in the past.

However, as a saying goes, a man standing under the low eave has to lower his head. Madam Jiang was no longer the Madam of Marquis Xing with great dignity. At this time, she had to endure it. Even if it was for her daughter, she must swallow the insults.

"Not appropriate now? Then when do you think it will be suitable?" Yujie said unhappily with an overbearing air.

"I mean... let's withdraw them for the time being. When Princess Yue finishes, we can have them together!" Madam Jiang endured the humiliation and suggested with an amiable smile.

She was all skin and bone and appeared a little spooky when she smiled. Apart from that, she was still the capable Madam of Marquis Xing as she used to be.

"Her Highness has already had the snacks. Madam Jiang, you'd better eat some first!" Yujie suddenly picked up a plate of pastries on the table and handed them to Madam Jiang. "Madam Jiang, please!"

Although her words sounded polite, she acted disrespectfully.

Again and again, the maid forced her to do something she didn't want to. No matter how forbearing Madam Jiang was, she could not bear it any longer. Her face darkened as she barked, "How dare you! Get out, right now!"

"Madam Jiang, do you want them or not?" Yujie ignored her harsh order and looked down truculently at her, raising her eyebrows. It seemed as if she would stuff the pastry in her hand into her mouth by force if Madam Jiang couldn't give her a good answer.

"You... you..." Madam Jiang flew into a rage, pointing at Yujie with a wave of anger. Eventually, she managed to hold back her anger and only squeeze out a single word through clenched teeth.

"Madam Jiang seems to be in a really good mood. Sitting elegantly at the memorial ceremony, she enjoys those snacks with nice tea. And at whim, she reproached Princess Chen's trusted maid. How imposing she is!"

As a peal of laughter came, Madam Jiang's heart thumped with fear. Immediately, she realized something was seriously wrong. "Why would someone come at this time? Shouldn't they all be stopped outside? Only when she finishes her business here will the others be allowed to get in to offer sacrifice! Who could enter and behave so unruly?"

Madam Jiang turned around and saw the few servants of the Marquis Xing's Mansion hiding behind a group of people. Infanta Yuan'an, who was smiling, was escorted by them.

They must be here to pay their respects because the servant girls and old maids behind her had many sacrificial offerings in their hands.

"Madam Jiang, you're an elder, but you're nothing compared with Infanta Qinghua, aren't you? How could you be so disrespectful to the deceased? And how dare you humiliate Princess Chen like this? You have no respect for the royal family at all!" At this time, Infanta Yuan'an also saw Shao Wanru, and her face changed greatly. She pointed at Shao Wanru, severely denouncing Madam Jiang's conduct.

Before the marriage, both Infanta Yuan'an and Shao Wanru were descendants of the royal family. Although their surnames were not Chu, they were descendants of Great Elder Princess.

Shao Wanru kept knocking on the wooden fish, the corners of her mouth curling up a little. Her long eyelashes moved as she opened her eyes slightly. She remained calm and stole a glance at the back of the altar table. There was no wind just now, but something there moved. "Someone must be hiding over there!" Shao Wanru thought to herself.

After she came in, she found that there was someone there. From time to time, Madam Jiang would look over there. Although she did it quietly, Shao Wanru noticed it.

It was almost the time when Infanta Yuan'an, who wanted to be on good terms with her, appeared...

Medical Princess

Chapter 1000: Tricky Things Appear One After Another!

"Infanta Yuan'an..." Madam Jiang struggled to stand up, trying to bow to Infanta Yuan'an before explaining.

"Madam Jiang, it seems that Old Madam has punished you, but you vent your anger on Princess Chen. Although Princess Chen is a junior, she has married into the royal family and is the granddaughter of Rui'an Great Elder Princess. How could you keep watch on her with such an irreverent attitude? She is chanting sutras for her parents, but you are leisurely drinking tea and eating snacks while sneering at her?"

Infanta Yuan'an waved her hand to stop Madam Jiang from explaining. She swept her gaze across the crowd around her and said sarcastically.

Many people coming to pay respects went here with her.

These people behaved themselves when served by servants of the Marquis Xing's Mansion in the main hall, but after Infanta Yuan'an came to the mansion, she instigated part of them to break into this courtyard. Then, they happened to see the scene in front of them.

No matter how Madam Jiang explained it, it was evident that she was insulting Princess Chen.

If Princess Chen was still Fifth Miss Shao, these people would not speak for her. At most, they would secretly accuse Madam Jiang of being a ruthless and vicious person.

But things were different now. Shao Wanru had become Princess Chen, who enjoyed a noble and high status. In particular, Empress Dowager had shown special favor to her.

"Madam Jiang, you've gone too far!" An elderly madam looked at the ugly scene with a dignified expression. She frowned and spoke in support of Princess Chen.

"Madam Jiang, how dare you insult Princess Chen?" Since someone had stepped up to support Princess Chen, more people joined in to help her.

After all, they were also clear that Madam Jiang was no longer the powerful Madam of Marquis Xing.

"I... I wasn't..." Madam Jiang was angry and annoyed, but she couldn't explain it clearly for a while. All of a sudden, she turned her head and saw Yujie, who was standing aside. How could she not understand that this maid started all of this? In front of everyone, she found it hard to keep the grievance to herself, especially when bullied by a maid.

But in the end, no matter how unwilling she was, she could only put up with it because she could no longer afford to be reckless.

"Infanta Yuan'an, Princess Chen asked her maid to serve me these things. I didn't mock Princess Chen just now. Instead, I told her that kneeling for such a long time would harm her health."

Madam Jiang struggled to get on her feet and lowered his head to explain.

"Madam Jiang, do you think all of us are stupid? How dare you come up with such a barefaced lie?" Infanta Yuan'an said ironically. Then she arrogantly walked past Madam Jiang with a servant girl. When she walked inside, she solemnly bowed her head, took the three incense sticks from the servant girl, and inserted them into the incense burner after a respectful salute.

After that, she took a few steps back and saw Shao Wanru still silently muttering the sutra with bowed head while knocking on the wooden fish in her hand. An idea flashed into her mind. She turned her eyes and looked at Yujie, who was serving Shao Wanru aside.

"May I ask what is Her Highness doing?" She had sharp eyes and noticed at a glance that Shao Wanru was not doing an ordinary memorial ritual.

"Her Highness is chanting Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani for the former Heir of Duke Xing and Infanta Qinghua. I'm afraid that she can't receive you and other madams!" Yujie whispered.

Infanta Yuan'an knew something about the Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani. However, sutras like that were usually chanted by monks, and few people would read Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani for their families.

Since Shao Wanru was busy chanting the sutra, she couldn't disturb her. Today, she came here mainly to make friends with Shao Wanru, but it seemed she couldn't talk to her for the time being. Infanta Yuan'an blinked and felt at a loss what to do.

"Infanta Yuan'an, could you do a favor for Her Highness?" Yujie hesitated and asked in a low voice.

"What's the matter?" Infanta Yuan'an was happy to help Shao Wanru at this time. Her grandmother had made it crystal clear that no matter what, she had to get along well with Shao Wanru, and she must make it.

"Could you please take Madam Jiang away? She is so noisy and has caused a lot of trouble here. Her Highness will be disturbed. She can't be interrupted when chanting the Amitabha Pure Land Rebirth Dharani." Yujie lowered her head. "But I am just a servant girl. I don't dare to tell Madam Jiang these words."

"Okay, I'll take her away for Princess Chen!" Infanta Yuan'an thought for a while and agreed.

Today, she suppressed all her thoughts and helped Shao Wanru wholeheartedly. Since Shao Wanru couldn't say anything at this time, she should do it for her. Frankly speaking, Infanta Yuan'an felt displeased when seeing the scene as she entered the courtyard.

Madam Jiang was just an official's wife with an honorary title. Even if she had an honorary title, so what? Could the title make her more honorable than a Princess? How dare she look down on the royal family? In this respect, Infanta Yuan'an was on Shao Wanru's side. She would also marry into the royal family, so it was her duty to preserve its dignity.

When she walked to the door and saw that Madam Jiang was still struggling to stand up straight, Infanta Yuan'an harshly scolded the few servants of the Marquis Xing's Mansion, "Why haven't you taken your master away? Do you want her to go on humiliating Princess Chen like this?"

The few servants of the Marquis Xing's Mansion looked at each other, not knowing what to do.

"Infanta Yuan'an, my feet couldn't bear it just now, so I sat down to rest for a while. I didn't..." Madam Jiang was in hot haste. She needed Shao Wanru's help today. The current situation would only make things worse.

"Madam Jiang, you can say whatever you like, but no one will believe you." Infanta Yuan'an's gaze swept across the large tea table and those exquisite pastries. The corners of her lips twitched sarcastically, and her cold gaze fell on Madam Jiang's face.

"Infanta Yuan'an, I didn't. If you don't believe me..." Madam Jiang turned around in a panic as if she wanted to find support from other people. Those Madams who came with Infanta Yuan'an had already burnt joss sticks to pay respects in succession, but none of them felt sympathy for her. Even those who used to have a good relationship with her stayed far away. They were afraid of getting into big trouble once they got involved.

No one stood out to speak up for her.

Madam Jiang was in a pique over it. Suddenly, her eyes fell on the curtain behind the incense table. There was a person from the Ministry of Justice who must have seen what was going on just now.

"Infanta Yuan'an, I can find someone to prove that I didn't humiliate Princess Chen!" She blurted out and immediately regretted saying these words. "Could the man hiding behind the curtain show up as a witness?"

Shao Wanru was still facing the altar table, but she could see everything clearly when she slightly raised her eyelids. Thanks to her long, curling eyelashes, others couldn't see that she opened her eyes. When Shao Wanru saw the curtain behind the altar move a little, her eyes became deep and dark. Her long eyelashes fluttered, and then she slowly closed her eyes.

"Oh, who is it? Madam Jiang, please let her come out and explain everything to us! But you shouldn't do that if she is a servant of the Marquis Xing's Mansion. Who doesn't know that you had been in charge of the Marquis Xing's Mansion for more than ten years?" Infanta Yuan'an glanced at Madam Jiang and said, feeling a little surprised. "How could she get a witness at such a critical moment?"

"I..." Madam Jiang didn't know what to say. "Could I tell them someone from the Ministry of Justice was hiding in the curtain behind the altar? Moreover, it's a man."

"Greetings, Your Highness!" A gentle voice came and interrupted them when Madam Jiang was in a dilemma. It was Zhao Xiran.

Before Zhao Xiran got married, she was also one of the few noble ladies in the capital. Moreover, she was generous and did not have so many secret thoughts as Shao Yanru. She was sort of a close friend of Infanta Yuan'an. But at this time, Infanta Yuan'an was not happy to see Zhao Xiran. Today, she was here to help Shao Wanru, so Zhao Xiran would stand in her way.

"Xiran, you don't have to do that!"

"Why didn't you tell me when you came here? I'd like to accompany you early," Zhao Xiran said softly and ordered the maid she brought with her, "Take Madam Jiang to rest. The doctor said she'd better stay in bed as much as possible. Otherwise, she couldn't recover without any after-effect!"

Her words were very reserved, but with the pungent smell of herbs stronger than the incense smoke, the meaning of her words sounded authentic.

Shao Wanru slightly rolled her eyes but didn't open them. Compared with Madam Jiang's acts and words, Zhao Xiran was obviously much more intelligent and thoughtful. With just a few words, she had made it clear that Madam Jiang came here to pay respects even with injuries. No one could oppress others when seriously wounded. What was more, she might suffer from severe after-effects if she didn't take good care of her wounds.

Unlike Madam Jiang, Zhao Xiran could stay calm. In addition, she was better at exploiting the situation to maximum advantage. Hence, it was much harder to deal with her.

At this time, Madam Jiang also came to her senses. She nodded and leaned against the servant girl who came over to support her. With a guilty look on her face, Madam Jiang looked at Shao Wanru. Then, she patted the servant girl's hand and motioned for her to get her to Shao Wanru. When she moved next to Shao Wanru, Madam Jiang bent down with difficulty and said, "Princess Chen, I'll go back to rest for a while. When I feel a little better, I'll come over to chant sutras with you."

However, Shao Wanru said nothing.

After saying that, Madam Jiang stood up. Since she had been hanging on there for a long time, her face became increasingly paler, and she could barely stand up. However, she still struggled to stay when beads of sweat appeared on her forehead. Judging from her emaciated look and the smell of medicine, anyone could see that she was on the verge of collapse.

Since she braced herself to come here with her weak body, she shouldn't have behaved as arrogantly and domineeringly as everyone had seen. Did they misjudge the scene, or did the servant girl of Prince Chen's Mansion play a dirty trick?

Princess Chen couldn't speak then, but this servant girl said something. At this time, some people couldn't help turning to Yujie, who was standing beside Shao Wanru.

Zhao Xiran ruined the favorable situation just now with a few words.

Yujie, getting Shao Wanru's hint, took several incense sticks of incense by Shao Wanru's side. These sticks were offerings from Prince Chen's Mansion, which were different from what the Marquis Xing's Mansion had prepared. After she took them in, she placed them behind Shao Wanru.

"Madam Jiang, I am just a maid, and no one would choose to believe my words. But there are too many strange things here. An incident happened just a while ago, and now another one comes. I don't know how the Marquis Xing's Mansion will explain it!" In no hurry, Yujie lit the incense sticks and inserted them into the incense burner in front of the altar while talking to the others slowly.

Madam Jiang suddenly had a bad feeling.

"Yujie, don't talk nonsense. Fifth Sister is still chanting the sutra. Let's talk about it later!" Zhao Xiran took two steps forward and said gently.

Her voice had always been soft. Therefore, it sounded like a very mild reproof.

In the past, she always talked tenderly to Madams and Misses, but now she was facing a servant girl who was really too aggressive. Many people around felt injustice done to her and wanted to help. Even Infanta Yuan'an appeared to be disappointed, "Sure enough, Shao Wanru is not a decent lady at all. The servant girl beside her looks so domineering. Doesn't she know she is just a cheap servant? How could she dare to criticize her previous master?"

Yujie suddenly took two quick steps forward and rushed to the back of the altar. She stretched out her hand, held onto something, and pulled something out hard...