

Venomous 1021

Chapter 1021: Leaving (5)

Xie Jingxing said, "How can he know so much?"

Even if Fu Xiuyi had trusted Pei Lang before, it was impossible for him to trust him to this extent. Pei Lang wrote down the chess pieces that Fu Xiuyi had laid out. It was as if Pei Lang was a trusted general who had been with Fu Xiuyi for many years and knew everything about his master.

Shen Miao's fingers were trembling.

Some of these things would only happen a few years later. Even now, Fu Xiuyi did not know those people, so how could Pei Lang know them?

Unless Pei Lang also had the memories of his previous life, which was why he already knew Fu Xiuyi's "future" trusted aides and chess pieces.

When did Pei Lang know? He clearly did not know anything before.

Could it be... Shen Miao's heart skipped a beat. She dreamed of her previous life after the assassination attempt on Xie Jingxing's birthday. Could it be that it also happened to Pei Lang?

She looked at Hui Xiang. "Is there anything different about Mr. Pei these days?"

Hui Xiang thought about it carefully and said, "There doesn't seem to be any difference. He often sat there in a daze, deep in thought about something."

Shen Miao wanted to ask Pei Lang if he knew anything about his previous life. Pei Lang had been by Fu Xiuyi's side the longest, so he naturally knew him the best. However, just as she was about to speak, she stopped.

So what? If Pei Lang really remembered his previous life, just like how Shen Miao couldn't face Pei Lang, Pei Lang definitely couldn't face her either.

The two of them were not fated enemies, nor were they close friends. They could not pretend that nothing had happened and could not explain it clearly either, so escaping from it might really be the wise choice.

Xie Jingxing asked, "Do you need me to get someone to capture him?"

Shen Miao came back to her senses and said, "There's no need. Since he wants to live his own life, let him go." It was good that Pei Lang left like this. She held the piece of paper, her eyes sharp.

Seeing this, Xie Jingxing said, "This letter..."

"It's true." Shen Miao said, "We have to hand this to my brother. We're not in the capital, so it's useless to us. Give it to my brother and my brother. They can benefit from it. With this, the Shen family will at least have more leverage." Then, she was in a difficult position. "However, this thing is precious. If the messenger is hijacked on the way..."

"Let the Black Feather Army go." Xie Jingxing said casually, "The Black Feather Army has been sending letters for many years and has never been hijacked."

Shen Miao felt a little relieved. Before she could speak, Pei Lang's letter was taken away by Xie Jingxing. Xie Jingxing casually threw the letter away and said, "It's too late. Rest."

"How is it late?" Shen Miao said curiously, "It got dark not long ago." She continued, "Although we don't have to find Mr. Pei, we have to at least ensure his safety. That day, he was injured for no reason. If he's targeted again..." Before she could finish his sentence, Shen Miao was already picked up by Xie Jingxing. He threw Shen Miao on the bed and approached her, saying sinisterly, "Try showing concerns about Pei Lang again."

Shen Miao was speechless.

In the palace.

In the royal garden, the lotus flowers were blooming well in the summer, and the green lotus leaves were almost covering the pond.

Empress Xiande sat in the pavilion. Although there was no moon today, there were stars. The cool wind was blowing, and the water was sparkling. It was good scenery. She ordered someone to make flower tea. It was extremely comfortable to drink a small cup in summer..

Chapter 1022: Leaving (6)

Nanny Tao stood behind her and smiled. "The lotus flowers are blooming well this year."

Empress Xiande took a look and said with a smile, "Last year, I got someone to change the seeds. This year, it's really much more pleasing to the eye."

As they spoke, they saw someone walking past from afar. That person seemed to have seen Empress Xiande and the others and paused for a moment before turning around and walking towards the pavilion.

When that person walked closer, Empress Xiande saw that it was none other than Consort Jing.

Compared to before, Consort Jing looked much more disheveled today. Or rather, Consort Jing had not been in good condition for the past few days. She seemed to be in no mood to dress up, and her usually beautiful face looked a little tired.

However, when she saw Empress Xiande, her tiredness immediately turned into hatred.

She said, "I saw someone here from afar. I was wondering who was in such a good mood to appreciate the flowers. So it's the empress."

Empress Xiande smiled noncommittally and said, "I'm drinking tea here. Consort Jing, do you want a cup?"

Consort Jing sneered at her and said, "You are in the mood to drink tea, but I'm not."

Emperor Yong Le had begun to suppress the Lu family. Although the women in the harem did not know what was going on in the imperial court, they could guess one thing or two from the frequency of visits the emperor paid to the consorts. It was clear that Consort Jing was losing favor.

Empress Xiande smiled and continued to pour tea. "The tea is here whether you are in the mood to drink it or not."

Consort Jing was so angry that she was trembling.

Madam Lu went to the palace to look for her and said that Emperor Yong Le had made a move on the Lu family. She also asked her to find out what Emperor Yong Le was up to. If necessary, she had to beg for mercy.

However, even if Consort Jing did it, it was useless. In fact, all these years,

Emperor Yong Le had indeed doted on her a lot. Even in the harem, Empress Xiande had to be respectful to her. No matter how arrogant she was, she would always be safe in the end. However, she had never been able to change Emperor Yong Le's mind.

Now that the Lu family was in trouble and needed her help, Consort Jing went to look for Emperor Yong Le. What caught her off guard was that Emperor

Yong Le's attitude suddenly turned cold.

Consort Jing had a smooth-sailing life and had never suffered much. When she entered the palace, she easily became a consort with the support of the Lu family. Now that the Lu family was in trouble, she was also implicated. However, she realized that for so many years, other than making enemies in the palace, she had done nothing.

On the other hand, Empress Xiande, whom she had always looked down on, was sitting in the pavilion and drinking tea leisurely. Consort Jing was filled with anger.

She thought that Emperor Yong Le did not love Empress Xiande, but Empress Xiande could get everyone's respect because of her status as the empress. This was too unfair. If she was the empress, Emperor Yong Le would not dare to lay hands on the Lu family.

Consort Jing immediately felt resentful.

Consort Jing quietly took a few steps closer to Empress Xiande and said, "The tea indeed smells fragrant. I wonder how it tastes." As soon as she finished speaking, she screamed and pretended to sprain her ankle, falling towards

Empress Xiande. Empress Xiande was on the side facing the pond. If she fell on Empress Xiande like this, Empress Xiande would be knocked into the water!

Consort Jing was stupid, but Empress Xiande was not. She had been on guard against Consort Jing the moment she appeared. Seeing Consort Jing falling towards her, she immediately took a step to the left and avoided her.

With a plop, water splashed.

Consort Jing's personal maid suddenly screamed..

Chapter 1023: Royal Descendant (1)

Late at night, Prince Rui's mansion had already fallen into a deep sleep. In the quiet silence, a voice suddenly sounded. It was Tie Yi who had something to report. Typically, at this hour, Tie Yi would not come and disturb Xie Jingxing. Shen Miao was sleeping when she felt Xie Jingxing get up and leave. A moment later, she heard him saying something to someone outside. Then, there was the sound of clothes being put on in the room. She opened her eyes and saw Xie Jingxing standing at the desk to put on his clothes.

"Did something happen?" she asked.

Seeing that she was awake, Xie Jingxing said, "Something happened in the palace. I'll go to the palace to take a look. Sleep first. You don't have to wait for me."

Hearing this, Shen Miao's sleepiness dissipated. Since Xie Jingxing was going out in the middle of the night, it meant this matter was definitely serious. She said, "What is it? Is it very serious?"

"The empress pushed Lu Jing into the pond." Xie Jingxing said as he put on his robe, "I can't explain the details in a short time."

Shen Miao first heaved a sigh of relief. She thought that someone was assassinated in the palace. When she heard this, she was relieved. However, on second thought, she said in surprise, "Why would the empress push Consort Jing into the pond?" Shen Miao had seen Empress Xiande and Consort Jing. Empress Xiande was not an aggressive person and wouldn't be bothered to deal with someone like Consort Jing. Shen Miao would believe that Consort Jing pushed Empress Xiande into the pond, but she would never believe that Empress Xiande did it.

"The Lu family is also in the palace now." Xie Jingxing said, "They like to kick up a fuss the most. I'll go and take a look first."

Shen Miao quickly stood up. "I'll go too."

"It's too late." Xie Jingxing disagreed. "Go to sleep first. Nothing will happen."

Shen Miao shook her head. "Since you are already summoned to the palace, it won't be a simple matter. Anyway, I can't sleep anymore. If I stay in the mansion alone, I'll let my imagination run wild. Why don't I go with you? Perhaps I can help."

Xie Jingxing thought for a moment and said, "Forget it. I'm not at ease leaving you here alone. Let's go."

Shen Miao quickly got up to change her clothes.

Because it was really late, the servants were all resting. Xie Jingxing and Shen Miao only brought Tie Yi and Cong Yang. The two of them rode a carriage on the street of Long Ye. There was no one on the street at this moment. Xie

Jingxing's expression was a little cold, and Shen Miao was deep in thought.

Even if Empress Xiande really pushed Consort Jing, there was no need to call Xie Jingxing to the palace in the middle of the night. Moreover, it was almost time for Emperor Yong Le and the Lu family to fall out.

When Shen Miao was in Ming Qi, she had also seen consorts setting each other up. To anyone with a brain, it was obvious that Consort Jing fell into the pond just to frame the empress. Why did they want Xie Jingxing to go to the palace? Shen Miao felt that this matter was not that simple. However, Tie Yi said that the person who sent the message did not explain it clearly, so the exact situation remained unknown.

The two of them were deep in thought. In the blink of an eye, they arrived at the entrance of the palace. At the entrance was Eunuch Deng. When he saw Xie Jingxing, he was delighted. Then, he was stunned to see Shen Miao jumping down from the carriage. However, he did not dwell on it and smiled. "Prince Rui, you're finally here. His Majesty is waiting for you in the palace.."

Chapter 1024: Royal Descendant (2)

Xie Jingxing asked Eunuch Deng to lead the way. Shen Miao followed behind and thought for a moment before asking Eunuch Deng, "Eunuch Deng, is the empress well now?"

"Her Majesty is fine. Thank you for your concern, Princess Consort," Eunuch Deng said with a smile.

Shen Miao narrowed her eyes. If the empress was fine, then who was not fine should be Consort ling.

As expected, just as she thought of this, she heard Eunuch Deng say, "But Consort Jing hasn't woken up yet."

Xie Jingxing sneered. "What is Lu Jing up to this time?" He looked quite angry.

Eunuch Deng smiled and did not say anything else. Shen Miao felt that smile was meaningful.

After entering the palace, Eunuch Deng brought the two of them straight to the Jinghua Palace. The Jinghua Palace was where Consort Jing lived. It was already midnight, but the Jinghua Palace was

brightly lit. A group of palace maids knelt in the hall. Shen Miao immediately saw that Emperor Yong Le and Empress Xiande were also there. The two of them sat in the hall, but Empress Xiande did not look any different. She was still calm, but Emperor Yong Le's face was as cold as ice.

Shen Miao and Xie Jingxing entered hand in hand. Eunuch Deng quickly reported. When Emperor Yong Le saw that Shen Miao was also here, he was slightly stunned. Empress Xiande stood up and walked up to Shen Miao with a smile. She held Shen Miao's hand and said warmly, "I originally wanted to summon you to the palace and ask you how you have been doing, but things happened one after another. I didn't expect you to come so late tonight."

Shen Miao smiled and said, "His Highness Prince Rui is summoned to the palace suddenly. I didn't know what happened, so I followed him here." Empress Xiande asked her, "Are you feeling better these days?"

Shen Miao said, "I've already recovered. Thank you for your concern, Your Majesty."

Empress Xiande smiled. "Then I'm relieved."

Xie Jingxing looked at Emperor Yong Le and asked with a dark expression,

"Brother, what happened?"

Everyone knew that Empress Xiande would definitely not push Consort Jing into the pond. Even though Consort Jing was still unconscious, Emperor Yong Le didn't care because he had already started to attack the Lu family. Why would he summon Xie Jingxing to the palace then?

Emperor Yong Le said coldly, "The Lu family just came."

"They've been here?" Xie Jingxing frowned and said, "When I came in, I didn't see the Lu family." The Lu family was arrogant. Now that Consort Jing had fallen into the pond, the Lu family would definitely seize this opportunity to make a fuss. At the very least, they would definitely pester Empress Xiande. Now that the Lu family was nowhere to be seen, could it be that the Lu family had already made a fuss before they came?

"They're not afraid that something will happen to Consort Jing." It was Empress Xiande who spoke. "Because they have something to rely on."

Shen Miao's heart skipped a beat.

Just as they were talking, an imperial physician walked out of the bedroom. He walked up to Emperor Yong Le and bowed. "Your Majesty, Consort Jing fell into the water and caught a cold. Fortunately, her condition is stable, and the child is still safe. After recuperating, she will be fine."

Consort Jing was pregnant?

Shen Miao and Xie Jingxing were stunned at the same time. Shen Miao subconsciously looked at Empress Xiande. The corners of Empress Xiande's lips curled up slightly, and she still looked as calm and generous as usual. However, Shen Miao felt that that smile was a little mocking. Looking at Emperor Yong Le, his eyes were cold, and his face was sunken. He did not look happy at all.

In the room, Consort Jing seemed to have woken up. She started to shout "I want to see His Majesty". Xie Jingxing looked at Emperor Yong Le with a faint smile, but Emperor Yong Le turned to look at Empress Xiande. Empress Xiande smiled and said, "Your Majesty, go and see Consort Jing. The child is innocent after all." She then looked at Xie Jingxing. "Your brother will probably want to talk to you later. Wait here for a while." She then said to Shen Miao, "I have to go back and change my clothes. Princess Consort, come with me. I'm afraid you must be tired. You can rest for a while in Weiyang Palace.."

Chapter 1025: Royal Descendant (3)

Empress Xiande was so composed that no one could notice anything wrong with her, but the calmer she was, the more it made people feel uncomfortable. Shen Miao saw that a large part of Empress Xiande's dress was wet. She thought that she must have been by the pond with Consort Jing previously.

When Consort Jing fell into the water, Empress Xiande's clothes were also wet. However, probably because she had been worried about Lu Jing, she did not have the time to go back and change into a clean dress.

Shen Miao nodded and said, "Alright."

Emperor Yong Le stared at Empress Xiande and did not speak. Consort Jing's voice in the room was getting louder. Empress Xiande said, "Your Majesty, you'd better go in and take a look. It's not Consort Jing who's important now, but the child in her stomach." With that, she pulled Shen Miao away.

As soon as they left Jinghua Palace, the air outside seemed to be much more refreshing. The scorching summer in Long Ye was about to pass, and before long, the weather would gradually turn cold, and it would be early autumn.

Shen Miao lowered her head. Recalling the strange atmosphere between Emperor Yong Le and Empress Xiande just now, she felt that Empress Xiande looked especially tired today. She even seemed to be at odds with Emperor Yong Le in the Jinghua Palace. This was different from Empress Xiande's calm personality. Perhaps it was because of Consort Jing's child?

By the way, Empress Xiande did not have a child. Ever since the first time Shen Miao entered the palace, she had realized that Emperor Yong Le was in his prime, but he did not have an heir.

But now, Consort Jing was pregnant. If Consort Jing gave birth to a son, would he be able to become the future crown prince? Then wouldn't the world still fall into the hands of the Lu family in the end? No wonder Emperor Yong Le was not happy at all when he heard that Consort Jing was pregnant. However, Empress Xiande was probably unhappy not only because she felt threatened, but also because of her jealousy as a woman.

From an outsider's perspective, one could always see things clearly. It was the same for Shen Miao. The way Empress Xiande looked at Emperor Yong Le was exactly the same as the way she looked at Fu Xiuyi

back then. She loved her husband deeply, but in the end, another woman was pregnant with her husband's child. Despite looking calm on the surface, Empress Xiande must be sad inside.

After all, she was just a woman.

"Princess Consort?" Empress Xiande's voice sounded in her ear. Shen Miao came back to her senses and saw that Empress Xiande was already looking at her. She smiled kindly. "You were so deep in thought that you didn't even hear me."

Shen Miao quickly apologized, "Sorry."

"There's no need to be sorry." Empress Xiande did not take it to heart and said, "It's already so late. It's natural for people to be absent-minded because of sleepiness. Princess Consort, you don't have to blame yourself."

As Shen Miao walked, she couldn't help but ask, "Your Majesty, I want to ask you something."

"Please."

"Did you really push Consort Jing into the pond?"

Empress Xiande paused for a moment before looking at her with a smile and saying, "Princess Consort, what do you think?"

"Your Majesty definitely won't do that. You have been in harmony with her for many years. There's no need to deal with her at this juncture." Shen Miao said,

"So I'm very curious. Why do you want to take the blame?"

Empress Xiande stopped in her tracks and looked at Shen Miao with a smile. She said, "It's good to know that you believe me. Speaking of which, I felt it's strange. The first time I saw you, I felt that you were very similar to me, but your personality is stronger. It's probably because your father is a general. I've heard a lot about you. Although you're also extremely scheming, you have a unique heroic aura and straightforwardness. I don't have it. My methods are soft and indirect. Even if I want to bring someone down, I will do it slowly. You're different from me.."

Chapter 1026: Royal Descendant (4)

Shen Miao was silent.

Empress Xiande smiled and said, "Indeed, I don't have to push her into the pond. The emperor and the Lu family understand this, but Lu Jing is the only one who doesn't. It doesn't matter if I take the blame or not. The goal of framing someone is to deceive the world. However, even you, who just came to Long Ye, can expose this lie, let alone the officials."

Shen Miao asked, "Aren't you going to defend yourself?"

"I can't be bothered, and I don't care. Consort Jing can do whatever she wants. I don't take it to heart at all," Empress Xiande said indifferently.

Shen Miao thought to herself that she was completely different from Empress

Xiande in this aspect. If it were her, she would not take the blame. However, Empress Xiande was like the ocean, accepting and calm, making others feel very insignificant in front of her.

As they spoke, Weiyang Palace was already in front of them. Nanny Tao was waiting at the door. Seeing the two of them return, she quickly walked up to Empress Xiande and said, "Your Majesty, are you alright? Is Consort Jing alright?" After Consort Jing fell into the water, Empress Xiande asked Nanny Tao to go back first. Nanny Tao had been worried because Empress Xiande took a long time to come back.

Empress Xiande did not answer Nanny Tao. She smiled and said, "It's fine. I'll go and change my clothes first. Nanny Tao, take the princess consort to the hall and make her some hot tea." With that, she went in to change her clothes.

Nanny Tao brought Shen Miao to the hall. The tea was already made. Nanny Tao poured tea for Shen Miao and couldn't help but ask, "Princess Consort, what exactly is going on with Consort Jing? Is she alright? Why did it take so long?"

Shen Miao thought for a moment and said, "Consort Jing is fine, and so is the child in her stomach."

Nanny Tao was suddenly stunned and almost spilled the tea. When she reacted, she quickly put down the teapot, but her face was very pale.

Seeing her like this, Shen Miao asked, "Didn't you know that Consort Jing was pregnant?"

Nanny Tao forced a smile. "Princess Consort, you must be joking. How would we know? If we knew..." She did not continue.

If her pregnancy was made public, the likelihood of her giving birth to the child in the harem would be very low.

Just as they were talking, Empress Xiande walked out. She had changed her clothes, but what she changed into was a moon-white gauze dress with orchids embroidered on it. Shen Miao had to admit that after taking off the empress's court dress, Empress Xiande suddenly looked like a different person. Shen Miao looked carefully and felt that Empress Xiande indeed had the aura of someone who came from a family of historians. She was a little similar to Pei Lang, but she was even calmer than him.

She walked over and sat down beside Shen Miao. She picked up a cup of tea and smiled. "This tea can help you stay awake."

Nanny Tao suddenly knelt down and said, "Your Majesty, are you still in the mood to drink tea?"

Empress Xiande was stunned and said, "What are you doing?" Her tone was slightly stern.

Nanny Tao didn't get up. She continued to kneel, but she was a little sad and angry. She said, "Consort Jing is pregnant. She's pregnant and wants to frame you. How long do you have to tolerate her?"

These words were a little out of line for a servant to say. The originally good atmosphere in the room immediately turned tense. Shen Miao held her teacup and did not speak. Empress Xiande said, "You've been with me for so many years. I treat you as my family, but what you said just now is too inappropriate.."

Chapter 1027: Royal Descendant (5)

Nanny Tao refused to stand up.

A moment later, Empress Xiande sighed and said, "Forget it. Lu Jing doesn't know that she's pregnant. I know Lu Jing very well. If she's pregnant, she definitely won't dare to use the child in her stomach to frame me. She will do all she can to protect the child well."

"But it's a fact that Consort Jing is pregnant now." Nanny Tao looked up. "Your

Majesty, you have to think for yourself!"

Shen Miao finally stopped being silent and said, "Nanny Tao is right. You have to think about this matter carefully. For the sake of His Majesty, you can't just sit back and do nothing."

Empress Xiande looked at her in surprise, as if she did not expect Shen Miao to speak at this juncture. However, she quickly smiled in relief and said, "It seems like Jingxing has told you a lot."

"Get up." Empress Xiande said to Nanny Tao, "I don't want to repeat myself." This was an order. Nanny Tao hesitated for a moment before standing up.

Empress Xiande looked at Shen Miao. "I've made a fool of myself." She sighed. "Actually, I've always thought that Lu Jing was stupid. I disdained to compete with her. Now it seems that I was wrong. Lu Jing is still quite capable. She actually avoided the infertility soup and got pregnant."

Infertility soup. Shen Miao's heart skipped a beat. Empress Xiande told her this shocking secret just like that. In fact, the more she knew, the more dangerous it was. Those who knew about the secrets in the palace would eventually become the fertilizer for the flowers in the palace. However, for some reason, she felt that Empress Xiande told her this only because she wanted to tell her.

"You're smart. I think you've seen it for yourself. The emperor doesn't have any children in the palace, not because those consorts are infertile, but because they all drink infertility soup. Lu Jing used to drink it, but for some reason, she actually got pregnant with a child. This is probably the first child in the palace." After saying that, she thought of something and smiled. "Maybe it's not the first child. I once had a child too, but it was a miscarriage." When Nanny Tao heard this, her eyes turned red.

Shen Miao's hand that was holding the teacup trembled.

"His Majesty doesn't think highly of you because he thinks that Jingxing is the best man. Back then, Jingxing said that he wanted to marry a girl from Ming Qi. His Majesty sent people to investigate you.

After gathering your information, he told me that you're vicious." Empress Xiande suddenly changed the topic and looked at Shen Miao. "But now, I think you're very kind."

Shen Miao was puzzled. Empress Xiande continued, "You clearly want to ask me about the miscarriage, but you're afraid of making me sad, so you held it back and didn't ask."

Shen Miao said softly, "I just don't dare to ask."

"You're really straightforward, and I like you even more." Empress Xiande smiled and said, "Actually, it's been a long time since the miscarriage, and I'm already over it. Back then, when I was pregnant, Lu Jing added some cold herbs to the pastries made by the royal chef. With just a bite, my child was gone. At that time, Lu Jing had just entered the palace and was backed by the Lu family, so His Majesty could only punish her lightly.."

Chapter 1028: Royal Descendant (6)

Just by listening, Shen Miao could already feel the heart-wrenching pain. In her previous life, in Ming Qi's harem, the consorts fought with each other for the favor of the emperor. The harem was a battlefield for women, and when women were ruthless, they were sometimes even more terrifying than men.

Many consorts' children were sacrificed under such circumstances. No matter how vicious the consorts were, at the moment they lost their children, they were all crying in despair. Had this calm and gentle Empress Xiande also experienced that kind of despair? The scar would take a long time to heal, and only Shen Miao knew the pain of the scar.

The most intolerable thing was that she could not even take revenge for her child. Why?

"Don't blame His Majesty, and don't think I'm very pitiful. Although I'm indeed very pitiful, I'm also an evil person." Empress Xiande said, "After that miscarriage, I can't give birth anymore and can't have children of my own in this life. Therefore, His Majesty made all the women in the harem unable to give birth to his children."

Shen Miao was stunned.

Because Empress Xiande could not give birth, Emperor Yong Le made all the women in the palace unable to give birth?

Emperor Yong Le should like Empress Xiande very much, but if he really liked her, why would he let her suffer so much? Why would he favor Consort Jing?

Shen Miao felt that the royal family of the Daliang Dynasty had as many secrets as Ming Qi's.

"But you're right. I naturally have to plan for the future. Lu Jing's pregnancy came at the right time and saved her life for the time being, but the Lu family is not so lucky." Empress Xiande smiled, and her smile suddenly became sharp..

"This child can't be kept." In the imperial study, Xie Jingxing's eyes were cold as he spoke to the emperor.

"I know that I can't let her live. If possible, I want to force a bowl of abortion medicine down her throat," Emperor Yong Le said coldly, as if it was not his child who was going to die, but someone else.

"Why didn't you make her drink just now?" Xie Jingxing asked sharply.

"Xiande won't let me," Emperor Yong Le said.

After a while, Xie Jingxing smiled mockingly. "She has always been soft-hearted. Perhaps it's because the child in Lu Jing's stomach reminds her of her dead child."

"Xie Jingxing!" These words seemed to have touched Emperor Yong Le's sore spot. He glared at him.

However, what he got in return was a casual smile from Xie Jingxing. He said, "So what should we do now? I don't care about Lu Jing, and I don't want to care about that child either. The Lu family must think that the child in Lu Jing's stomach is a protective talisman."

Whether Emperor Yong Le liked it or not, the future crown prince would be given to Lu Jing's child. Therefore, when the Lu family came today and saw that Consort Jing was pregnant, they did not kick up a fuss and left very quickly. Perhaps in their eyes, Empress Xiande's position as the empress was about to be gone.

However, was this really the case?

Life was unpredictable.

"The Lu family always forgets one thing. You and I have the blood of the Xie family flowing in us." Emperor Yong Le said indifferently, "And the Xie family is heartless.."

Chapter 1029: Background (1)

On the way back, Shen Miao thought about what Empress Xiande said and couldn't calm down for a long time.

In the end, Consort Jing and her child were safe, and Empress Xiande did not get into trouble because of this. It looked like a very perfect result, but Shen Miao felt that something was wrong. When they returned to Prince Rui's mansion, the sky was almost bright. It was already very late to sleep. Moreover, Shen Miao was not in the mood to rest.

Seeing this, Jingzhe and Gu Yu instructed the kitchen to make some sweet soup for the two of them. Shen Miao and Xie Jingxing returned to the room and closed the door. Shen Miao sat at the table and looked at Xie Jingxing. "Consort Jing is pregnant. What about the Lu family now?"

Emperor Yong Le did not have any other children, so the child Consort Jing was pregnant with was the most precious. If she was pregnant with a son, as long as nothing went wrong, the position of the future crown prince would naturally belong to the child in Consort Jing's stomach. Logically speaking, that should be the case, but Empress Xiande did not seem to agree. This was a little puzzling. Could it be that Emperor Yong Le had other children? Because of Consort Jing's pregnancy, the Lu family was now fearless. Would Emperor Yong Le's plan to deal with the Lu family be put on hold?

Shen Miao didn't think so.

When Xie Jingxing heard that, he said indifferently, "Brother has already made a move on the Lu family. It doesn't make a difference if she's pregnant or not."

What he meant was that the child in Consort Jing's stomach was one thing, but the ending of the Lu family was another. At most, Consort Jing would be spared death because of the child, and the rest of the Lu family would be wiped out according to the original plan.

Shen Miao frowned. "I talked to the empress for a while and found it a little strange. I heard that the empress once had a miscarriage because of Consort Jing. Let's not talk about whether she did it on purpose or not, but no matter how magnanimous the empress is, she won't let Consort Jing live safely for so many years."

Xie Jingxing was pouring tea for her when he heard this and paused.

Shen Miao stared at him. "Tell me the truth. Why hasn't the emperor had any children yet? Did he do it on purpose or because he had no choice?"

After thinking about it, she felt that it was too strange that Emperor Yong Le did not have any children. Every emperor, be it a wise emperor or an incompetent emperor, wanted to have as many children as possible. The more princes there were, the more stable the situation in the dynasty would be. Even someone like Fu Xiuyi had never lacked children. Previously, Shen Miao was puzzled. Emperor Yong Le's political achievements were so outstanding, and the people lived in harmony. Why was the imperial court still unstable? Later, she understood. This was because Emperor Yong Le did not have any children. Emperor Yong Le was already very capable. If it were any other emperors, they would probably have been removed from the throne and become an ordinary person.

Xie Jingxing looked at Shen Miao with a strange gaze. "Do you really want to know?"

"When you fell unconscious after returning from the royal hunting ground, I had a feeling that some things would change. However, at that time, I just came to Long Ye and didn't know much about the situation in the Daliang Dynasty, so I couldn't do anything. Apart from going to Phoenix Head Garden to look for that person, I couldn't help with anything else." Shen Miao said, "I don't like to be in this passive state. If you are going to do something big one day, I hope that I will not be useless. However, I don't know anything. Even if I want to help, I can't."

Xie Jingxing looked at her for a while and suddenly sighed. He patted her head and said, "Not only is Jiaojiao smart, but she's also considerate.."

Chapter 1030: Background (2)

Shen Miao pushed his hand away and said, "You can't ask me to be a freeloader."

"I don't dare to underestimate you." Xie Jingxing smiled and sighed. "Since you want to know, I won't hide it. You once told me that you had a dream. That dream was very tragic. What I want to tell you now is not a dream, but something that really happened."

"It will take half a year to reach the capital of Ming Qi from Long Ye. Don't you always want to know why I became the son of the Marquis of Lin'an back then?"

All these years, I knew my identity, but I didn't go back to the Daliang Dynasty. It wasn't that I didn't want to go back but that I couldn't go back." His gaze gradually became sharp.

Xie Jingxing's real name was Xie Yuan, and his courtesy name was Jingxing.

The person who named him was his father, Xie Yilong, Emperor Xiaowu, but the person who gave him the courtesy name was his mother, Empress Xiao.

Xie Yilong was the most outstanding prince of the Daliang Dynasty back then. He held military power, was stable in the world, and was handsome, heroic, and high-spirited. The only bad thing about him was that because he was the youngest son, the royal family of the Daliang Dynasty had never raised the youngest. However, Xie Yilong was too outstanding. The more outstanding a person was, the more they either did not care about worldly affairs or were ambitious. Unfortunately, Xie Yilong was the latter. In addition, the crown prince at that time was much inferior to him, so Xie Yilong eventually took the path of competition for the throne.

Xie Yilong's competition for the throne was very smooth. He was born to the empress and had accumulated a lot of merits in his youth. In the end, Xie Yilong schemed against his brother, the crown prince, and caused his mother to die from depression. He controlled his father and successfully obtained the throne.

In the competition for the throne, one had to give up some things, such as family and love. Of course, to Xie Yilong, these were not important. He was an ambitious person, so in the end, he married the daughter of the Xiao family.

The Xiao family was the head of the civil officials. If he married the daughter of the Xiao family, he could almost rope in more than half of the civil officials in the Daliang Dynasty. In addition, the daughter of the Xiao family was already beautiful and smart. This marriage was actually extremely worth it.

After ascending the throne, Emperor Xiaowu treated Empress Xiao with respect. Emperor Xiaowu was a wise emperor, and Empress Xiao was a virtuous figure that all the women in the world looked up to. Not long after, Empress Xiao gave birth to her eldest son, Xie Chi, and made him the crown prince. Originally, the Daliang Dynasty was gradually expanding, and the country was gradually surpassing the other two countries. Everything looked good.

However, nothing in the world could remain unchanged.

The people who went through thick and thin with you might not be able to share wealth with you.

Empress Xiao married Emperor Xiaowu in a time of chaos. The couple complemented each other. Xie Yilong was ambitious and steady. Empress Xiao was smart and resourceful.

However, when the enemies outside were eliminated, the arrowhead would turn to the people inside.

Emperor Xiaowu was an ambitious person. Back then, he used tricks to obtain the throne. Ambition came from desire, and he gradually suspected that the Xiao family had the intention of monopolizing the imperial court. The more virtuous and smart Empress Xiao appeared, the more paranoid Emperor Xiaowu was. In order to balance the power of the Xiao family, Emperor Xiaowu took in a large number of women. Among them, there was no lack of women from families that were on par with the Xiao family. In the imperial court, he let the Xiao family fight with the other families, and in the harem, he let Empress Xiao fight with the women of those families..