

Venomous 1121

Chapter 1121: The Return of an Old Friend (29)

Shen Miao rolled her eyes at her. "There are many things I don't know."

"For example?" Luo Tan asked excitedly.

"For example, I won't be as curious about everything as you."

Luo Tan said, "In any case... the hard time is about to end. You're about to give birth, and Brother-in-law is about to win the war. At that time, Uncle, my father, and the others will probably come over to reunite with us. Now looking back, the hardships we went through are nothing."

Shen Miao smiled. "That's right."

The hardships were worth it.

Xie Jingxing sent back good news not long after. Ming Qi had been destroyed. Seeing that peace was impossible, the emperor of the State of Qin fled north in a panic. Now, the soldiers of the Daliang Dynasty were rushing to the capital of the State of Qin. After occupying it, Xie Jingxing would return to the Daliang Dynasty first.

In a way, the war was over. Now, what they had to wait for was the triumphant return of the hero.

This was really the best news Shen Miao had received recently.

However... Shen Miao sighed. Xie Jingxing probably already knew about

Emperor Yong Le and Empress Xiande's death. When he returned to the Daliang Dynasty and went to the imperial mausoleum to see the emperor, she did not know what he would feel. The last person in this world who was related to him by blood had already left.

However... he was not alone. At least he still had Shen Miao and his child.

Nanny Tao smiled and said, "Princess Consort Rui's pregnancy due date is estimated to be on the first of next month. There are still more than ten days left.

Luo Tan rubbed her palms together. "I'm really excited. I wonder if it's a little niece or nephew. I'm so curious. I guess it's a little niece. She'll be a beautiful little fairy."

"Not necessarily." Nanny Tao said, "It looks like a young boy."

Shen Miao smiled as she listened to their discussion. She had never felt so at ease.

After giving birth, when Xie Jingxing returned, perhaps the hardships and chaos of the past year would end.

However, in this world, there was probably nothing perfect. Even if the ending was good, there would definitely be twists and turns in the middle. At the end, there would still be some trouble, as if this was the only way to emphasize how precious and happy the ending was.

Just as Shen Miao thought that she was walking towards a happy life without a hitch, she encountered a huge problem.

The autumn day was bright and clear, and the weather was good.

Shen Miao sat in the courtyard. Today, she finished reading the memorials early. Luo Tan found a kite from somewhere and was playing with the maids in the palace. Even Shen Miao was affected by her laughter and couldn't help but smile.

Eunuch Deng quickly walked in with a rare solemn expression. When he saw Shen Miao, he gestured for her to walk into the inner hall.

Seeing that he seemed to have something important to say, Shen Miao was helped to the inner hall by Jingzhe. As soon as they arrived, Eunuch Deng said, "princess consort, Dao news. 'I've surviving members or the Lu family are attacking the city!"

"The surviving members of the Lu family?" Shen Miao frowned. "Wasn't the entire Lu family wiped out in Ruyang?"

"Among the surviving members of the Lu family, there is Second Miss Lu's husband. He is a military official and has raised a group of soldiers secretly. At that time, they were not in Long Ye, but in the suburbs outside Long Ye, pretending to be ordinary people. These people have been in contact with the Ye family. Back then, when the Ye family was in trouble, Ye Maocai gave these people a huge sum of money. Now that these people are well-equipped, they already plan to attack the city and are fighting with the city guards," Eunuch

Deng said..

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Shen Miao frowned. After a while, she said coldly, "They're coming at me, right?"

Eunuch Deng wiped the sweat off his forehead and said, "Princess Consort..."

It was impossible for the remaining members of the Lu family to compete with Xie Jingxing. The reason why they chose this time to attack the city was none other than because they wanted to avenge Ye Maocai and Lu Zhengchun and fight with the royal family to the death. Shen Miao was pregnant with Xie Jingxing's child. Perhaps in their opinion, if they killed Shen Miao and the child, Xie Jingxing would be in so much pain that he wanted to die.

To Xie Jingxing, this was the best retaliation.

"How many troops are there in the city and how many guards are there in the palace?" Shen Miao asked.

"There are enough imperial guards to protect you, but those people have already started to kill the commoners outside Long Ye. Once they enter the city, they will definitely kill indiscriminately. These people are cruel by nature and are mixed in the crowd. If we want to deal with them, we have to

mobilize a large number of imperial guards. This way, there won't be enough of them in the palace to protect you.'

Shen Miao frowned. "In other words, it's either me or the people."

Eunuch Deng was silent. He did not know how to answer.

"I understand." Shen Miao nodded. "Send out the imperial guards to protect the people first."

"Princess Consort!" Eunuch Deng was stunned. "You can't put your life at risk."

If you're in any danger, Prince Rui will kill us all."

"It's not that I want to put my life at risk." Shen Miao said, "Do you really think those people are only outside the city? I'm afraid some of them have already sneaked into the city. What they're doing is nothing more than instigating the fear of the people. If I still keep the imperial guards within the palace, the people will be easily instigated by their words. If the people are wavering, even if this palace is impregnable, it will fall apart. His Highness is coming back. Nothing can go wrong at this point." Seeing that Eunuch Deng still did not agree, Shen Miao said, "Besides, I won't risk my life. Before His Highness left, he left some people for me. They will protect me."

Some of the Black Feather Army soldiers who protected Prince Rui's mansion later followed Shen Miao into the palace. She knew in her heart that she had no choice. Lu Zhengchun and Ye Maocai's last move was disgusting. If Shen Miao only cared about herself and did not care about the lives of the commoners, after this matter was over, even if Xie Jingxing ascended the throne in the future, he would be called selfish and cold. As an emperor, the most important thing he needed was the support of the people. If he lost the support of the people, his foundation would not be stable in the beginning.

For the sake of Xie Jingxing, she could not let the imperial guards only protect the palace.

Seeing that she seemed to have made up her mind, Eunuch Deng did not insist and followed her instructions.

Shen Miao, on the other hand, was not as calm as she looked. She frowned. If it were in the past, it would have been fine, but at this juncture, she was pregnant and could easily be taken advantage of.

No matter what, she had to protect the child in her stomach.

When Luo Tan received the news and rushed over, she was also worried. She persuaded her, "Cousin, why don't you find a place to hide now and wait until after the child is born? It's not safe in the palace now. Everyone knows that you're in the palace, so the rebels will naturally know. Once the imperial guards are sent out, they will sneak in and attack you.."

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Shen Miao shook her head. "If I leave, I'm afraid those rebels will spread rumors that I ran away. This palace is like a battlefield. My decision represents the decision of the royal family. If I retreat, the royal family will lose its prestige."

“But...” Luo Tan still wanted to convince her.

“There’s no buts. Just hold on for a few more days and Xie Jingxing will be back.” Shen Miao said, “As long as we can survive these days, everything will be fine.

As Shen Miao had expected, the next day, rumors began to spread on the streets. It was said that Princess Consort Rui had already escaped with her people and did not care about the lives of the people of Long Ye. Now, there was no one in charge of the Daliang Dynasty. The rebels were fighting with the city guards at the city gate. They might enter the city one day. At that time, blood would definitely flow like a river in Long Ye.

The people were very simple, and simple people were the easiest to use. They relied on the protection of the emperor. However, now that their protector was gone, they felt as if they were like fish under a knife, waiting to be slaughtered.

For a moment, they scolded the royal family for being heartless and Shen Miao for escaping. They scolded Xie Jingxing for only caring about conquering the world and not caring about the lives of the people of Long Ye.

Shen Miao sat at the side of the throne room. She was wearing a purple-gold robe and had her hair combed into a bun. She was young, but she could pull off wearing that robe surprisingly well. She said, “Set out for the palace tower.”

The court officials looked at each other. One of them went forward and said,

“Princess Consort, isn’t this too risky?” Back then, this person objected to Shen Miao supervising the court the most. However, in the past few days, he had become much more obedient.

“We have to take risks to make the people believe that we won’t abandon them in danger.” She stood up, and Jingzhe and Gu Yu quickly helped her up. She was pregnant now, so it was a little inconvenient for her to walk.

When Shen Miao and the officials reached the palace tower, there were some commoners gathered below. MO Qing led the Black Feather Army, and the palace guards were all ready to attack to prevent assassins from sneaking up on them.

Some of the commoners recognized Shen Miao. Someone immediately exclaimed, “It’s the princess consort!”

In just a moment, below the city tower, it was packed with people. Shen Miao looked down and slowly spoke.

“People, there have been many rumors recently. The rebels are attacking Long Ye and saying untrue words to instigate unrest.”

In the wind, her voice was neither loud nor soft, as if it had the power to comfort people, but it was also filled with determination.

“However, everyone, don’t believe them. I swear in the name of the royal family that I’ll be with you and fight with you!”

There was an uproar below the palace tower, but there were people who were suspicious of her words and people who believed her words.

“The soldiers of the Daliang Dynasty are fighting a war outside. I’m also a member of the Xie family. As long as I’m around, the Xie family will not fall. I’m from a military family, and in a military family, there are no cowards. We can lose, but we can’t escape. Moreover, what a mess can a few rebels cause?

What a joke!”

Her voice was resounding and firm. Everyone looked up at the woman in the purple-gold robe who had her chin raised lightly. In a daze, people seemed to have seen Prince Rui charging through the battlefield, arrogant and confident.

“So, don’t believe, don’t fear, don’t panic, and don’t dread.”

“I’ll stay in the palace and see who dares to come.”

Her purple robe fluttered in the wind, and the flag behind her also fluttered..

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The people below were silent for a moment before bursting into cheers. The cheers were deafening, echoing throughout the capital.

In times of imminent danger, the people desperately needed someone to tell them that everything would be fine. They were all very supportive of Shen Miao.

The civil and military officials standing behind her were all moved by this scene.

Words actually had such power. This woman seemed to be very good at knowing what people wanted the most. In just a while, the city walls of Long Ye were more fortified than it had ever been.

Shen Miao turned around and left.

In the next few days, the unrest in Long Ye subsided. Even if some troublemakers tried to sow discord, the commoners would just ignore it.

Seeing that they couldn’t crumble Long Ye from within, the rebels attacked even more crazily outside the city.

Everyday, Shen Miao had to handle the state affairs and go to the watchtower to check the situation. With a pregnant body, she was running around and tiring herself out.

On this day, she woke up early and saw Luo Tan running in. When Luo Tan saw her, she said, “Cousin, someone is here to see you.”

Shen Miao frowned. “Who?” Apart from talking to those court officials, no one would specially come to see her. She did not have many friends and family in Long Ye. The best ones were all in the palace.

“I’ll help you out,” Luo Tan said.

Luo Tan helped Shen Miao out. When they arrived at the main hall, they saw a person sitting at the table. Jingzhe was pouring tea for that person. The person was dressed in green and was as scholarly as she remembered.

Shen Miao cried out in surprise, "Mr. Pei?"

Pei Lang turned around.

Too many things had happened while Pei Lang was gone. Back then, in some ways, Pei Lang's leaving was the best scenario for the two of them. After all, knowing that they had the memory of their previous life, neither of them knew how to face each other.

When Pei Lang saw Shen Miao, he smiled. "I heard that Long Ye is in trouble and the palace is in chaos. Although I don't have any extraordinary ability, I can at least share the burden."

Shen Miao frowned and did not speak for a moment.

Pei Lang smiled. "Don't think too much. We are both from Ming Qi and are considered compatriots. Moreover, I was your teacher back then, so we're not completely unrelated. This time, take it that I'm here to help my student."

He was natural and at ease. Seeing that he seemed to have made peace with the past, Shen Miao was relieved and at ease too.

To Shen Miao, the past was no longer important. She valued the future more. Pei Lang's appearance could indeed help her solve many problems.

She said, "I'll owe you another favor." Last time, it was Pei Lang who took the knife for her.

Pei Lang muttered to himself, "I owe you so much that I can't repay in my lifetime." When he looked up at Shen Miao, he said, "Let's not waste time. Let's start dealing with the most urgent matter in Long Ye now."

What was the most urgent thing in Long Ye now? It was naturally to wipe out the rebels and protect the safety of the people in the city. Because of the ongoing war, there were all kinds of memorials from all over the Daliang

Dynasty. It was very difficult for Shen Miao, who was pregnant, to handle it. Moreover, she was about to give birth, so she really could not take on such a burden alone..

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After Pei Lang came, the task became less onerous.

Pei Lang used to be Fu Xiuyi's aide, so he naturally knew a thing or two about managing the imperial court. Moreover, he was talented in this aspect.

However, he was immediately faced with a problem, which was the shortage of soldiers in Long Ye. It was enough to protect the people, but it was far from enough to confront the rebels causing trouble

outside the city. The risk of sending the soldiers out was high, but it was not a good idea to continue in this stalemate either.

"If we stall for a few more months until Xie Jingxing comes back, these rebels will be wiped out." Shen Miao said to Pei Lang, "As long as we can last for that long."

Pei Lang was helping her read the memorials. None of them mentioned anything about the previous life, as if the two of them had an unspoken mutual understanding not to mention it. Sometimes, pretending to be stupid was the best way to get along.

When Pei Lang saw Ye Hongguang, he was stunned for a long time. He probably realized that Ye Hongguang and Fu Ming were really too similar, so he treated Ye Hongguang especially gently.

"Although that's the case." Pei Lang was a little worried. "The rebels also know this very well. The day before yesterday, the city guard reported that the rebels suddenly stopped the harassment. This is too abnormal. I have a feeling that they're preparing for something."

"No matter what they're preparing, we just have to keep Long Ye tightly guarded." Shen Miao sighed. "I didn't expect that the greatest threat to the Daliang Dynasty was not Ming Qi or the State of Qin, but the rebels left behind by the Lu family."

"The Lu family hates the royal family to the core, so when they knew that they had no hope of winning, they left some people to harass Long Ye."

"These old foxes deserve to die." Shen Miao held the memorial and looked out of the window. "But we can't let Long Ye fall, not even a brick."

Luo Tan walked over with a food basket and said with a smile, "You two have been reading the memorials for so long. It's time to eat. Little Cousin, you have a baby in your stomach now. If you starve, my nephew will starve with you. She took out the pastries and soup from the basket and said, "Mr. Pei, eat some too. I watched the chefs make these things with my own eyes. I guarantee that they're very clean!"

Luo Tan had nothing to do and couldn't leave the palace. Shen Miao and Pei Lang had to handle the state affairs, but she could not help, so she focused all her attention on Shen Miao's child. It was unknown if there were bad people mixed in with the servants, so she had to pay extra attention to food. Many women in the palace had a miscarriage because they ate something they shouldn't. Luo Tan brought a stool to the imperial kitchen and watched the chefs make the food closely. Even though Nanny Tao, Jingzhe, and Gu Yu were already there, she still insisted on supervising it personally.

Shen Miao smiled. "Thank you."

Pei Lang's gaze landed on Shen Miao's protruding stomach. He hesitated for a moment and asked, "It's... about time, right?"

"It's hard to say." Shen Miao said, "But I think it's about time." She rubbed her stomach, and a trace of gentleness flashed across her eyes. "It's really difficult for him to be born in such a chaotic world."

"What chaos?" Luo Tan said, "Cousin, you're wrong. You have to know that the world is now peaceful. When Brother-in-law comes back triumphantly, this little fellow will have a heroic father. The world will

cheer and bless him. Not everyone can have such an honor.. Why do you think such a good thing is a bad thing?"

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Pei Lang smiled. "We'll be fine after going through this crisis. I just hope that rebels will not do anything extreme at this time."

The more critical the moment was, the more they could not make any mistakes. As long as they survived these days, Xie Jingxing would return and save Long Ye. Be it rebels or thieves, they would forever disappear from the Daliang Dynasty. From then on, Ming Qi and the State of Qin would be gone, and there would only be the Daliang Dynasty in the world, ruled by Xie Jingxing.

Even if the rebels fled to the ends of the earth, they would be hunted down like ants and stray dogs.

The rebels had no intention of leaving alive from the beginning. Otherwise, they wouldn't have attacked Long Ye. However, before they died, they had to kill Shen Miao and the child in Shen Miao's stomach. With the passage of every hour, seeing that Long Ye was still stable, the rebels became anxious. They wanted to make the entire Long Ye chaotic so that when Xie Jingxing returned, he would face a mess and the tragic death of his wife and child.

Therefore, two days later, they launched a crazy attack on Long Ye.

Just as Pei Lang had guessed, the sudden cessation of their attack was abnormal, and they were indeed planning something big. This plan was originally set up by Lu Maocai to force the emperor to abdicate. Now, this plan was used to deal with the palace that was sparsely guarded.

The imperial guards had to be mobilized to protect the people, so there would naturally be fewer imperial guards in the palace. Shen Miao was in a very dangerous situation.

"Princess Consort, why don't you summon some imperial guards back to the palace?" Eunuch Deng said, "I'm afraid it's safer to have more people in the palace now."

"It's useless to add one or two more guards. If we call half of the guards back, the people will be at risk. Forget it." Shen Miao said, "Let's leave it at that. We just have to get through tonight. The rebels also have to rest. If they can't make it tonight, their morale will naturally decrease. Tonight will be a restless night. After tonight, the rest will be much easier."

Nanny Tao was a little nervous. "Princess Consort, you are making me worried. Will you and the child in your stomach really be fine?"

Shen Miao subconsciously touched her stomach. These days, she could clearly feel the child kicking in her stomach. However, tonight, it was very calm. She smiled and said, "She's probably asleep. She knows that she can't cause trouble at this time, so she's very obedient."

Pei Lang said, "Since you've made up your mind, let's stay put. However, we still have to be fully prepared. If anything happens, we'll get everyone from the Black Feather Army to come over and escort you to a safe place. Although we have to guard this palace, we still have to put safety first. Even if the

people find out that you escaped in the end, they will not blame you. After all, you still have to protect the royal bloodline.”

Shen Miao nodded.

“Then everyone, perk up.” Luo Tan said, “This is a critical night. We have to be united. There is nothing we can’t overcome. In the face of war, we are not afraid.. What’s there to be afraid of when facing some small fries?”

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Luo Tan grew up with the Luo family and had a heroic spirit and courage in her nature. The more dangerous the situation was, the less afraid she was. Her words made everyone in the palace ardor and zeal coursing through their blood. Even the palace maids and eunuchs of Weiyang Palace knelt down and said that they wanted to live and die with the palace.

As a matter of fact, the situation was not that desperate yet.

Shen Miao sat in the middle of the hall. The hall was very spacious, making it look a little lonely. Pei Lang sat at the side, deep in thought, while Shen Miao was going through the memorials sent by the court officials at noon. As for Luo Tan, she was fiddling with something uneasily. Nanny Tao and Eunuch Deng stood at the side, warming the tea from time to time. They looked like they were busy with their own things.

Even the tense atmosphere was lightened a little.

However, that was just a little, because from time to time, guards would come to report the situation in the city. Those rebels were really cruel. They slaughtered people indiscriminately, causing panic everywhere. Fortunately, Shen Miao sent more than half of the imperial guards and the city guards to fight the rebels. For a moment, it was difficult to tell who had the upper hand.

These rebels were very cunning. Some of them sneaked into the streets to cause panic and divert the attention of the soldiers, and some of them secretly surrounded the palace, trying to attack it. From afar, Shen Miao could hear the sound of soldiers fighting. No one could face such a situation with perfect composure.

They felt like they were an arrow on the bow. One moment, the bow was drawn to the max, and the next, it was released, making them unable to calm down.

When the first ray of the morning sun shone through the horizon, the commotion outside gradually subsided.

Eunuch Deng and Nanny Tao finally heaved a sigh of relief after feeling tense for an entire night.

The commander of the imperial guards came in from outside and said to Shen Miao, “Princess Consort, the rebels already retreated outside the city. The ones in the city have been cleared. The city guards are pacifying the people.” This meant that the crisis was over.

Luo Tan stretched and yawned. Although she was excited upon hearing the news, she could not hide the fatigue on her face. She said, "Cousin, I spent the night with you. It can be considered a small contribution, right?"

Shen Miao looked up. She was better than Luo Tan. Apart from feeling a little sleepy, she was not that tired. She smiled and said, "Everyone has worked hard. When His Highness comes back, he'll reward you accordingly."

The commander of the imperial guards smiled and said, "Princess Consort, you've worked hard too."

To be able to remain calm at such a critical juncture and even sit through the night with them, she was admirable. Over the days, people gradually got to know Shen Miao better and understood what kind of person she was. If not for her presiding over the imperial court, it would probably be in a mess now.

Pei Lang also looked up at Shen Miao and smiled, looking relaxed.

Nanny Tao was the most worried about Shen Miao's body. She said, "Princess

Consort, you should rest first. Even normal people like us can't stand staying

up all night, let alone you who are pregnant." She came over to help Shen Miao up.

Shen Miao was helped up by Nanny Tao. Just as she took a step forward, she felt her stomach drop and she froze on the spot..