

Venomous 201

Chapter 201: Trade (4)

Shen Miao was the cause of her misery. Otherwise, with Ren Wanyun's ability and viciousness, how could Concubine Wan, who was trampled by her, be so arrogant today?

"Mother." Shen Qing, who was beside her, pulled her hand. These days, she had been treated with cold shoulders by everyone, and her arrogant personality had been bridled quite a lot. However, the hatred was still simmering inside her. She gritted her teeth and said, "Don't worry, bear with it. After marrying Prince Yu, no matter what it takes, even if it's my life, I will make Prince Yu punish Shen Miao. I will definitely not let her off easy."

Because Shen Qing was already pregnant, the empress set the wedding date next month. In such a short time, Ren Wanyun really couldn't help her daughter. She had no choice but to watch Shen Qing jump into the fire pit.

"Qing, don't be afraid." Ren Wanyun said, "Your brother will be back soon. Yuan is the smartest. When he comes back, he will definitely think of a way to ruin that little b*tch's reputation." Shen Yuan would also rush back to attend Shen Qing's wedding. Now that she was alone and helpless, if not for the fact she had a son, Shen Yuanbai, who was adored by Old Madam Shen, that old woman would probably not help her either.

When Shen Miao returned to the West Courtyard, she was surprised to see Shen Qiu waiting for her there. Seeing that she was back, Shen Qiu heaved a sigh of relief and sized her up. "Why were you gone for so long? I thought something happened to you."

"It's broad daylight. Anyone who makes a move to harm me will be a fool." Shen Miao handed him the snacks. "I bought these on my way back. Here."

Shen Qiu was stunned for a moment before taking it. When he returned this time, he found Shen Miao changed a lot in terms of her attitude towards him.

"Why aren't Father and Mother around?" Shen Miao asked.

"They've been busy socializing with their fellow officials." Shen Qiu looked around and said quietly, "Sister, you weren't around this morning. Father has been at loggerheads with Second Uncle and Third Uncle these few days. Just now, Old Madam summoned Father and reprimanded him."

"Father is at loggerheads with Second Uncle and Third Uncle?"

Shen Qiu looked at Shen Miao's expression and thought for a moment before saying, "Sister, you also know that because of what happened in the ancestral hall, Father and Mother are a little unhappy with Second Uncle and Third Uncle. Naturally, they don't want to talk to them. Old Madam was probably worried that her own sons wouldn't be supported by Father anymore, so she reprimanded Father." At this point, Shen Qiu couldn't help but look indignant. "Old Madam is too biased. What did Father do wrong? Second Uncle and Third Uncle were the ones who failed to fulfill what they promised about taking good care of you while we are away. I'm furious already, let alone Father."

Shen Qiu did not call her “Grandmother” but “Old Madam”. Clearly, he had a grudge against Old Madam Shen too.

After saying that, Shen Qiu couldn’t help but observe Shen Miao’s expression. Shen Miao had been raised by Old Madam Shen all these years. In the past, Shen Miao was always very respectful to Old Madam Shen, so he wasn’t sure if what he said would make Shen Miao flare up and speak up for Old Madam Shen.

“There’s a difference between family and friends. In the end, Father isn’t her son,” Shen Miao said indifferently. “Of course she’ll be biased.”

“Ha.” Shen Qiu was happy that he had found someone like-minded. “That’s right. Father is filial to her for the sake of Grandfather. He has done enough for so many years, but she actually accused Father of being unfilial...”

“It’s not just because of Second Uncle and Third Uncle that she reprimanded Father.” Shen Miao said, “I’m afraid it’s also because Father didn’t hand over the money rewarded by His Majesty this time.” Old Madam Shen loved money as much as her life. This time, because Shen Xin was so angry, he kept the money to himself. As time passed, Old Madam Shen naturally couldn’t sit still anymore and came to find trouble.

“That’s really...” Shen Qiu seemed to want to say something, but he felt that it was not good to say that in front of his sister. He swallowed it and said something else, “So what? The money belongs to Father, so he can give it to whoever he wants.”

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“That’s right, so just ignore her. What can she do? It’s just that Father is too quick tempered. He won’t hesitate to express his grudge and anger. Let’s just wait and there will be a time we can deal with them all.”

Shen Qiu felt that Shen Miao’s words were a little strange, but he seemed to have guessed something. He smiled and said, “I haven’t seen you for a year, but you’ve become much more domineering.”

Shen Miao did not comment. Shen Qiu opened the paper bag, picked up a big pastry, and threw it into his mouth. He chewed a few times and said, “The snacks in the capital are delicious. We don’t have such exquisite things in the Northwest Desert.”

Shen Miao watched him eat with a sweet smile on her face. A moment later, she asked softly, “Brother, what do you think of loyalty?”

“Loyalty?” Shen Qiu said without looking up, “Of course it’s to be loyal to the emperor and serve the country.” He then asked Shen Miao, “Sister, why do you ask?”

“Nothing.” Shen Miao shook her head and said softly, “If you like the pastries, I’ll bring you more next time.” In the depths of her eyes, there was a moment of murderous look.

The first snow arrived, and it snowed all night in the capital. When the sun shone, the ice under the eaves that were frozen at night glinted brightly, looking very beautiful. On the street, there were

naughty children throwing snowballs at each other. The closer it was to the end of the year, the livelier the capital became. It was as if all the hard work in the year had come to fruition.

On the outer eaves of the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop, there was a row of red lanterns hanging neatly, but they were not ordinary red lanterns. The lanterns were made of an unknown material with golden yarn mixed in it. Under the sunlight, they actually glittered brightly. The pendant hanging under the lantern was also giving off glints. There were naturally guards outside. Otherwise, in no time, the lanterns would've been stolen.

The shop assistant welcomed the customers with a smile. There were very few people who came to the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop to do business, and the shop assistants were usually lazy. However, today, they were unusually energetic, as if they were certain that a particular customer was coming.

At the end of the long corridor of the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop that opened up to another world, a woman in red smiled charmingly and personally brought the snacks in. She smiled and said, "Please try the snacks made by the chef first." With that, she left quietly.

There were three people sitting in the tearoom. One of them was wearing a lake-green robe and had a friendly smile. The two people opposite him were about 20 years old and looked 70 to 80% similar. Clearly, they were a pair of brothers. The two of them had thick eyebrows and big eyes. The swords at their waists gave them a martial arts aura.

At this moment, the older of the two brothers said, "Shopkeeper Ji, why has the person who wants to sell us the information shown up yet?"

Ji Yushu smiled and said, "Brother Chen, don't be anxious. That day, I told her that we would meet here today, but I didn't mention the time. Anyway, she will show up soon. I hope you can be patient." After saying that, he cursed the two people opposite him in his mind. Who would come to do business at dawn? He still had a brain fog and couldn't think properly. If it weren't for the fact that the Chen family was something, he'd chase the two of them out.

"To be honest," Chen Yueshan, the elder brother of the two, said, "When the two of us heard the news, we set out immediately and completed the journey that was supposed to take half a month in just a few days. On the way, a few horses died of exhaustion. Shopkeeper Ji, you also know that we've spent a lot of effort to find clues related to the whereabouts of my sister over the past three years, but there's nothing at all. Now that we finally have some clues, we're naturally a little anxious. I hope you won't mind our being impetuous." Chen Yueshan was quite tongued. He probably saw that Ji Yushu was a little unhappy that they came too early, so he explained and apologized.

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Ji Yushu felt a little better, and his smile became more sincere. He smiled and said, "I've been keeping an eye on the clues for you for the past few years. Now that I have some clues, I'm just as happy as you are."

"Actually, I don't mind waiting for a bit longer here." Second Young Master, Chen Yueha, was young, so he was more quick-tempered than his elder brother. "As long as the clues are true, I won't mind even if I

have to wait for a week. But if it's fake... Don't blame us for being rude for making a fool of our Chen family like this."

Ji Yushu was displeased again upon hearing that. He did not care what the Chen brothers wanted to do elsewhere, but in his territory, they didn't get to play the boss. His smile did not change, but his tone was a little cold. "My Exiled Immortal Pawnshop is only responsible for buying and selling information. As for whether or not the information is true or fake, there is no guarantee about it. If anyone seeks trouble here, I'll make sure they pay a heavy price."e."

Chen Yueshan glared at his brother to signal him to shut up. He naturally knew that this seemingly friendly and harmless young man was not as simple as he looked.

Being glared at by his brother, Chen Yuehai knew that he had said something wrong and stopped talking.

After a while, approaching footsteps could be heard. Hong Ling opened the bead curtain and said with a smile, "Shopkeeper, the guest is here."

The two Chen brothers subconsciously looked at the curtain. A girl in purple walked out from behind Hong Ling. This girl looked delicate and cute, and she looked to be about 13 or 14 years old. However, for some reason, her eyes were as calm as water, and she looked like she was much older than her actual age. For a moment, the Chen brothers were confused.

She lifted the curtain, walked over, and sat down on an unoccupied chair. She nodded at Ji Yushu. "Shopkeeper Ji."

"This... Miss," Chen Yueshan asked with difficulty, "Is she the person selling information?"

After Hong Ling left, the Chen brothers, Shen Miao, and Ji Yushu were the ones left in the tearoom. Shen Miao said, "That's right."

Chen Yuehai's attitude changed drastically and he said with a sneer. "Miss, how old were you three years ago? How could you have any clues? Are you playing with us?"

"There are many ways to get clues. Maybe I got the clues from someone else, or maybe I overheard someone talking about it and noted it down. In any case, we are doing business, and what's important is the outcome. Does my age matter? Moreover, why would I go out of my way to play with a mere Chen family?"

Ji Yushu couldn't help but laugh. When he saw Chen Yuehai's ugly expression, he quickly said in all seriousness, "Miss Shen is right. What matters is the outcome. As for how she got the clues, it's not important."

"Is that so?" Chen Yuehai looked at Shen Miao and said indifferently, "Then I wonder how can Miss Shen guarantee that the clues you provide are not fake? It's true that doing business is all about outcome, so if the clues are true, the two of us will naturally reward you handsomely. But if it's not... Do you know the consequences?" At the end of his sentence, Chen Yuehai's tone suddenly turned sinister.

People in the martial world all had a ferocious side to themselves. At that moment, the ferocity that erupted was enough to scare ordinary people. At least, it was more than enough to scare a little girl.

In silence, Shen Miao stared at him without blinking, not scared at all. Her calm look made Chen Yuehai appear like an unreasonable person.

Ji Yushu wanted to laugh, but he knew it was appropriate, so he could only hold it back. Chen Yueshan, who had been silent all this time, finally said, "Miss Shen, my brother is a little rash. I apologize on his behalf. We are here to buy clues sincerely. If Miss can provide true clues, we will definitely reward you with a considerable amount of money."

"There's no need for so much money." Shen Miao said, "Just give me some. The Chen family has a lot of connections. I just want to use this chance to befriend you. If I need your help in the future, I hope the two of you won't turn your backs on me."

Facing the two men who were much older and more experienced than her, she did not lose her composure. She spoke with reason and logic, making her look like a woman who had seen the world. Chen Yueshan was impressed by her and cupped his hands in agreement.

"Now, tell us what you know," Chen Yuehai couldn't wait any longer and asked anxiously.

Shen Miao glanced at him and said, "Back then, the Chen sisters went missing in Yuzhou, Jiangnan. In fact, they were abducted. And the one who abducted them was none other than Prince Yu, the brother of the current emperor."

As soon as she said that, the three people in the tearoom were so shocked that they couldn't utter a word. In the secret room next to the tearoom, two people were also stunned. The young man in white opened his mouth and muttered, "Prince Yu?"

The young man in purple rubbed the jade cup in his hand and suddenly revealed a smile. He said casually, "Interesting."

Chapter 204: Annihilation (1)

In the tearoom, Ji Yushu was suddenly enlightened. Previously, when Shen Miao said that she wanted to create a rumor, the rumor was targeted at Prince Yu. At this moment, the clues she sold to the Chen family were also related to Prince Yu. It seemed that Gao Yang was right. The Shen family and Prince Yu had a deep hatred for each other. They had set a trap for Prince Yu and were waiting for him to fall into it. However, when he thought about it, Ji Yushu felt a little depressed. People who came to the All-Knowing-Scholar to buy and sell clues all wanted money. Unlike Shen Miao, who practically used the All-Knowing-Scholar as a tool to rope in the Chen family and deal with Prince Yu.

However... Ji Yushu thought to himself, no matter how powerful the Chen family was, Prince Yu was after all backed by the royal family. Unless it was really a blood feud, they couldn't possibly make a move on Prince Yu and risk offending the emperor.

"Is Miss Shen telling the truth?" Chen Yueshan's voice was hoarse. Everyone in the dynasty knew that Prince Yu was a pervert. If the Chen sisters fell into his hands, it wasn't hard to imagine what kind of misery they lived in.

"I have no reason to lie to you."

“But how can you prove that what you said is true?” Chen Yuehai suddenly shouted excitedly. Perhaps it was because he couldn’t believe it or because he couldn’t bring himself to believe it, but he became especially aggressive to Shen Miao.

“The Chen sisters were beautiful and taken as the apples of everyone’s eyes in the Chen family. Prince Yu had always liked to seek excitement, so he spent a lot of effort to kidnap the Chen sisters. Then, he quickly brought them to the capital overnight. When the Chen family was still searching for the missing sisters in Yuzhou, the Chen sisters had already been taken to Prince Yu’s mansion.” At this point, Shen Miao paused for a moment and continued, “After that... Prince Yu tortured them with terrifying methods. The Chen sisters wanted to kill themselves, but they were all stopped by Prince Yu. Later, the elder sister tried to please him, hoping that by doing so, her younger sister could escape. In fact, Prince Yu knew their plan and pretended not to know. After that, the elder sister was given to his subordinates for fun and then beaten to death. While on the run, the younger sister was humiliated and lost one of her eyes. She then found a job to clean the toilets. She wanted to survive because this was the life that her elder sister had fought for her. However...” Shen Miao let out a sigh.” She actually never escaped Prince Yu’s hands. The job was set up by Prince Yu to trick her into believing that there was hope and watch her slowly lose her hope.

Her voice was calm and cold, and there was only a hint of pity at the end, but it made people feel a chill run down their spines. Ji Yushu was also shocked. Although he knew about Prince Yu’s horrifying methods of torturing women, this was the first time he had heard someone describe it in such detail. It was easy to kill a person, but it was very difficult to make a person live a life worse than death. As for that younger sister of the Chen family, she thought that she had escaped and lived on with hope, hoping that she could be saved and avenge her elder sister. However, she did not know that her life was still in the hands of Prince Yu and that she was just a plaything for him.

These words made the Chen brothers fall silent. Chen Yuehai slowly reached out and covered his head, suddenly howling in pain. His voice was like a wounded beast, making people’s hearts tighten. Ji Yushu could not help but look at him sympathetically.

Shen Miao looked at him and sighed in her heart. In the first half of their lives, the Shen sisters led a comfortable life and were supposed to continue doing so. However, in the second half of their lives, they were more miserable than animals. What had the Chen sisters done to deserve that?

“Miss Shen...” Chen Yueshan was more collected than Chen Yuehai. Even so, his voice was still trembling.” How can you prove that what you said is true? All of this is just your one-sided story.” No matter how collected a person was, when they heard things that they didn’t want to believe, they would try to deny it. This was what people would do when the defense mechanism kicked in.

Chapter 205: Annihilation (2)

“It’s very simple. Your younger sister is still alive. Prince Yu’s mansion is impregnable. If you go and question him rashly, I’m afraid you won’t get what you want. If you want to know if what I say is true, kidnap a servant from Prince Yu’s mansion and ask him if there’s a girl who cleans the toilets in the mansion.”

As soon as she said that, the two brothers wobbled at the same time, unable to hide the pain on their faces. Ji Yushu sighed in his heart. Shen Miao had said it in such detail and with such certainty. This was most likely true.

“You...” Chen Yuehai stared at Shen Miao and suddenly said, “Since you know about this, why didn’t you save her? You watched her fall into the abyss without offering a hand. Instead, you came here to sell the information. You...” He slammed the table. “You’re so heartless!”

“Yuehai!” Chen Yueshan reprimanded him in a low voice. He looked at Shen Miao and cupped his fists. “I’m sorry, Miss Shen. My second brother is just too sad. I hope Miss Shen won’t take it to heart.” Although he spoke politely, Shen Miao could still see resentment in his eyes.

After a moment of silence, Shen Miao smiled instead of flaring up. She looked at Chen Yuehai and said, “Young Master Chen, how do you think I should help her? I’m just a powerless girl. What ability do I have to save her? Do you want me to sneak into the prince’s mansion without caring about my own safety, or do you want me to risk my life to help her escape like her elder sister did? Let me be brutally honest with you. If she were my biological sister, I might risk myself to save her. However, she’s just a stranger to me. I dare to ask you, Young Master Chen, would you risk your life for a stranger? If you would, you have all my respect. However, I’m just a timid and cowardly woman, and I don’t want to be a hero!”

She spoke quickly and excitedly, making the Chen brothers unable to interrupt. Ji Yushu’s mouth was wide open. For some reason, he felt that Shen Miao was angry, and her words were filled with sarcasm. That’s right. If the world was full of people who were willing to risk their lives for strangers, there wouldn’t be so much suffering. Shen Miao was just a little girl. What ability did she have to help the Chen sisters escape?

Shen Miao looked at the two brothers opposite her coldly. Just now, she had lost control of her emotions. What she hated the most now was being asked to be just and righteous by others who knew nothing about her. Back then, for the sake of the people of Ming Qi, for the sake of Fu Xiuyi, she volunteered to be a hostage in the State of Qin. When she returned to the palace, what awaited her was the coldness and heartlessness of an emperor. The Shen family had assisted the emperor for the sake of the country, but what they got in return was execution. Why should they be the sacrificers? Why should she be asked to be the savior? The Chen sisters were indeed very pitiful. Back then, when she was forced to hang herself to death, who offered a hand to help her and wasn’t she pitiful too?

In this world, no matter how difficult life was, one had to walk on their own. No one was responsible for saving others.

Chen Yuehai was silent for a moment before saying to Shen Miao, “Miss Shen, I’m sorry.”

Shen Miao calmed down and said, “That’s all the information I can provide you.”

“The two of us believe in Miss Shen.” Chen Yueshan said, “However, the most important thing now is to find out where my sister is. If we find her, the Chen family will definitely reward you handsomely.”

“I’ve already said that I don’t need that much money. I just wish to befriend the Chen family.” Shen Miao said, “However... I have something to say. I wonder if the two of you want to listen...”

"Please, we're all ears." Chen Yueshan cupped his hands.

"Prince Yu is narrow-minded. If anyone provokes him, he will not hesitate to take revenge. The Chen family is influential and powerful, but it's nothing compared to the royal family. I believe the two of you not only want to save your sister, but also avenge her."

Chapter 206: Annihilation (3)

The two brothers looked at each other. Chen Yuehai did not hold back from expressing his true feelings. "The blood feud is irreconcilable. The Chen family and Prince Yu will be enemies for life, and we will take revenge."

"If your sister has gone missing in the Prince mansion, Prince Yu will definitely suspect that it was done by your family. I think if you want to settle this matter once and for all, you need to wipe the Prince mansion out of the surface of the earth."

"Miss Shen, what do you mean?" Chen Yueshan asked hesitantly.

"Although Prince Yu is a noble, in terms of strength, he's far inferior to your family that has connections reaching out to every corner and cranny of the martial world. Annihilating the Prince Mansion isn't all that difficult."

Ji Yushu was listening at the side, but when he heard 'annihilating', he spat out a mouthful of tea. He looked at Shen Miao in surprise. It was actually a little terrifying to see a little girl say the word "annihilating" with a calm expression.

The Chen brothers were also stunned. Chen Yueshan sized up Shen Miao opposite him and couldn't help but feel a chill run down his spine. He thought that he had seen many ruthless people in the martial world, but this little girl in front of him could be said to be one of the most ruthless.

However, they also felt that what Shen Miao said made sense.

"It's indeed not difficult to annihilate Prince Yu." Chen Yueshan smiled bitterly. "But going against the current emperor..." As members of the Chen family, they naturally wanted to cut Prince Yu into pieces and they were capable of doing that, but there were still other people in the Chen family, including the women, old, and weak. If the royal family found out the truth, the entire Chen family would be implicated.

"I have a way to make His Majesty not pursue this matter, as long as you have the guts to get rid of Prince Yu," Shen Miao said.

"You?" Chen Yuehai said, "Miss Shen, we know you're capable. Otherwise, you wouldn't have the piece of information we've been looking for for three years. However, the royal family is not a merciful bunch. If you are not careful, you'll find yourself in trouble you can't deal with."

"I think you'll go and get to the bottom of my identity after the meeting, so I might as well tell you about it. I'm the daughter of the Mighty General Shen."

The Chen brothers were stunned and looked surprised. They probably did not expect Shen Miao to have such a background. Then, they fell silent. They came from the martial world. Although they were rich, they were at most a family of merchants. When compared to government officials, merchants were many times lower in terms of social status. There was no way merchants could interfere with the matters at the imperial court and had no idea what was going on in the palace. When they heard Shen Miao say that, they were convinced even more.

“Why are you helping us?” Chen Yuehai asked warily, “What good will it do you to go out of your way to help us?”

“You’re really strange. Just now, you blamed me for not helping your sister. Now that I’m trying to help, you’re suspicious of me.”

Shen Miao’s mocking words made Chen Yuehai a little angry. Chen Yueshan waved his hand and looked at Shen Miao with a smile. “Miss Shen, this matter is very risky. If you are implicated...”

“I’m not just helping you,” Shen Miao said indifferently. “I also have a blood feud with Prince Yu. My cousin is about to marry Prince Yu and will be tortured by him. When you are annihilating the Prince mansion someday, I hope you can let my cousin live.”

When the Chen brothers heard that, most of the doubts in their hearts dissipated. They cupped their hands at Shen Miao. “In that case, thank you.”

“The two of you can go and ask around to find out about your sister first. After you find out, don’t act rashly. Let’s meet up here in three days.”

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The Chen brothers nodded. They could tell that Shen Miao was asking them to leave. They did not intend to linger and stood up. Chen Yueshan said, “After we can rescue our sister, Miss Shen, you will be our benefactor. If you need our help in the future, the Chen family will naturally not decline. Thank you for what you did this time.” With that, he picked up his sword and left in a hurry.

Ji Yushu stared at Shen Miao, more impressed by her performance today. There were many capable people in the martial world, and the Chen family was considered a very influential family. Moreover, this was supposed to be a fair trade, but Shen Miao actually made herself the benefactor of the Chen family with just a few words. The Chen brothers were also very polite to Shen Miao. Just as the two brothers said, if Shen Miao had any difficulties in the future, the Chen family would help her. It was not easy to get close to the Chen family.

“Shopkeeper Ji, now we can talk about the deal between us.” Shen Miao looked at him.

“I’ve already thought about the conditions you offered that day.” Ji Yushu rubbed his chin pensively and pretended to be in a difficult position. “Actually, what you wanna do is too risky. If it succeeds, everyone will be happy. However, if it’s discovered one day, my Exiled Immortal Pawnshop will have to shut down. My head will be chopped off too. As for the staff, they will all die. Therefore, I don’t think it’s a fair deal.”

Shen Miao glanced at him flatly and said, "In that case, I guess we're not going to make the deal work. I understand. Sorry for disturbing you for so long. Goodbye."

Before Ji Yushu could finish his words, he saw that Shen Miao was about to leave. He instantly panicked and quickly said, "Hey, hey, hey, I'm not done speaking yet. Why are girls nowadays so impatient? Miss Shen, although I think this will put my life in danger, when I saw you for the first time, I felt that the two of us are very fated. I'm sure men will agree to any request from a beautiful girl like you. I can't bear to see a beauty getting sad. If I don't do this business with you, I think you'll be unhappy. In order to make you happy, I don't mind risking my life... So, I agree."

In the secret room on the other side, after hearing Ji Yushu's extremely cheesy words, Gao Yang couldn't help but look at Xie Jingxing. "Is he alright? How dare he flirt with such a vicious woman?"

Xie Jingxing smirked. "He's simply courting death."

Shen Miao sat back down calmly and said, "In that case, I'll tell Shopkeeper Ji about my plan."

Ji Yushu immediately sat up straight. "Alright, Miss Shen. Please, I'm all ears."

"Now, everyone in Ming Qi knows that ten years ago, when His Majesty was assassinated, Prince Yu saved His Majesty from the assassin, which caused him to be crippled. However, the assassin escaped."

"That's right."

Shen Miao smiled. "The rumor I want you to spread is very simple. Here it goes – Recently, Prince Yu killed a personal guard of his. That personal guard happened to look very similar to that assassin ten years ago, other than being a little old."

"This..." Ji Yushu was stunned and almost dropped the teacup in his hand.

"Shopkeeper Ji, please make sure the rumor reaches the ears of the emperor." Shen Miao smiled.

"Is this rumor real or fake?" Ji Yushu asked tentatively.

"In any case, Shopkeeper Ji, all you need to do is make the rumor real," Shen Miao said with a faint smile.

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"You..." Ji Yushu stared at Shen Miao and was speechless for a long time. He felt that this little girl who looked much younger than him was really a monster.

"Since the deal is done, it's time for me to leave." Shen Miao stood up. "Shopkeeper Ji, you have to act quickly. The rumor has to be wide-spread before Prince Yu and his mansion are annihilated."

After saying that, she turned around and left without looking at Ji Yushu. Hong Ling, who had been waiting outside for a long time, saw her come out and knew that the deal was done. She led Shen Miao out of the shop.

In the secret room, Gao Yang was silent for a while before saying, "I don't think it's a good thing to keep a powerful family like the Shen family around. Now that powerful and influential families are cleaned one by one, I think the Shen family has to go too."

"I have the final say." Xie Jingxing said lazily, "It's not a bad idea to use the Shen family to deal with Prince Yu."

"Maybe the Shen family will deal with you like this one day."

"If they dare, I don't mind getting rid of them." Xie Jingxing's beautiful black eyes were flickering. "Any news regarding that thing?"

Gao Yang shook his head.

"On the day of the annihilation, I'll go there myself." Xie Jingxing sat up straight and played with the jade cup in his hand. "I don't believe it's gone from the surface of the earth."

"Do you really think Prince Yu's mansion can be wiped out? Shen Miao has a good plan, but in execution, there will inevitably be some accidents."

"Accidents?" Xie Jingxing chuckled. His half-closed eyes were as intoxicating as wine. However, under his long eyelashes, his gaze was as sharp as a knife. He said, "Ever since I met her, she has never allowed an 'accident' to happen."

...

Time always passed especially quickly.

The Shen family was a very strange family. Everything was well concealed and peaceful. At least from the outside, the relationship between the first and second branches looked good. However, after the fire that burnt down the ancestral hall, Shen Xin lost all his trust in the second and third branches, and their relationship had been stiff ever since.

Now that Shen Qing had lost her virginity and was going to marry Prince Yu, everyone knew that this was not a good thing. However, Chen Ruoqiu and Shen Yue were happy and enthusiastic about preparing for Shen Qing's marriage. Although it was only right for them to appear happy since Shen Qing was marrying into the royal family, the fact that their happiness was undisguised made them look a little too unsympathetic.

Ren Wanyun argued with Shen Gui because of Shen Qing. Old Madam Shen was biased towards Shen Gui and was increasingly dissatisfied with this daughter-in-law of hers. She did not mention anything about returning the management power of the family to Ren Wanyun. Chen Ruoqiu was now trusted by Old Madam Shen, so she became more and more diligent. Ren Wanyun was furious and could not help but show resentment when she was around Old Madam Shen. Old Madam Shen was even more ruthless. She forced Shen Yuanbai to stay in Rongjing Hall and did not let Ren Wanyun see him.

At this point, Ren Wanyun had become an out-and-out loner in the huge Shen mansion. Even some of her former servants chose to side with Concubine Wan, who was continuously gaining momentum. Ren Wanyun either cursed all day long in Rosy Cloud Garden or cried with Shen Qing, looking nothing short of a lunatic.

None of this had anything to do with West Courtyard.

Shen Xin and his wife consciously kept a distance from the second and third branches, and their attitudes were neither cold nor warm. Through Shen Qing's incident, they probably understood what a cruel bunch the second and third branches were. At least in Shen Xin and Luo Xueyan's opinion, if what happened to Shen Qing happened to Shen Miao, the two of them would definitely not sit back and watch their daughter suffer. They would probably fight to the death to seek justice for Shen Miao. Moreover, Shen Miao was much more sensible now, and her attitude towards them was not as distant as before. This made them feel that it was worth it to ask Emperor Wen Hui to allow them to stay in the capital.

In the room, Bai Lu said, "Miss, Eldest Young Master picked a few more pieces of jewelry for you and gave you a few banknotes. I put them in a box."

Chapter 209: Annihilation (6)

Shen Miao nodded. Ever since Shen Qiu found out that she had been to the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop, he thought that she was short of money. Every day, he would pick some exquisite things from the rewards given by the emperor and send them over. He even said to her, "Sister, if you don't have money, tell me. I'll give it to you. Don't go to the pawnshop. My friends will think I'm a stingy brother if they see you going to the pawnshop."

Shen Miao couldn't be bothered to explain to him. Moreover, it wouldn't hurt to have more money, so she accepted his kind offer.

It had been two days since my last meeting with the Chen brothers. She would have to go to the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop tomorrow and wondered if Chen Yueshan and Chen Yuehai had found out about their sister's whereabouts.

The life of the Chen sisters was undoubtedly very pitiful. Shen Miao found out about this in her previous life. When Fu Xiuyi just ascended the throne, he was very impatient with Prince Yu. After all, Fu Xiuyi was not Emperor Wen Hui who was saved by Prince Yu. As an emperor who had just ascended the throne, having an uncle who only knew how to cause trouble for him was really not something to be happy about.

Three years later, the Chen family finally found out what happened to the Chen sisters. At that time, they attempted to assassinate Prince Yu, but only managed to cripple his leg. Prince Yu still survived and was furious. He put pressure on Fu Xiuyi to investigate who it was.

It was extremely difficult to find out who the assassin was in this enormous world. However, Fu Xiuyi had many connections in the martial world, and there were also martial artists among them. Someone told Fu Xiuyi about the All-Knowing-Scholar in the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop.

Fu Xiuyi did not show up and asked someone to spend a lot of money to buy information about the assassin who attempted to kill Prince Yu, but strangely, the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop never managed to find a clue about the assassin. Later on, Fu Xiuyi personally established an investigation team to look

into this matter and found out that the Chen family was behind it all. It went without saying that what awaited the entire Chen family was death.

When Prince Yu had evil designs on her and started cooperating with Ren Wanyun, Shen Miao had already set up this trap. Everything was going according to her plan. Shen Qing being humiliated and her unexpected pregnancy was all part of Shen Miao's plan.

Prince Yu was too occupied in trying to get his hands on Shen Miao, so the Chen family could take this opportunity to secretly plan and deal him an unexpected blow. As for the royal family, it was even easier to deal with.

In fact, Shen Miao always had a guess. With the ability of the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop, it was possible that they didn't have any clues as to who tried to assassinate Prince Yu. Perhaps the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop did it on purpose. Could it be that the people of the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop were also enemies of Prince Yu?

Therefore, Shen Miao deliberately tested Ji Yushu in the tearoom by saying the word "annihilation". Ji Yushu was stunned, but he did not reveal a look of excitement or happiness. Clearly, there was no blood feud between Ji Yushu and Prince Yu.

However, Shen Miao, who had died once, had a terrifyingly accurate intuition. Not only did Ji Yushu's reaction not dispel Shen Miao's doubts, but it also made her suspect something else. If that was the case, everything could be explained.

Perhaps... the actual owner of the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop was not Ji Yushu.

Then who could the owner be?

Shen Miao couldn't figure it out. She thought that in her previous life, as the empress, she already knew pretty much all there was to know. Now, it seemed that the water was much deeper than she thought it was.

However, no matter what, Prince Yu had to die. As for Shen Qing, she only deserved to live a life worse than death. In the previous life, Shen Qing even went to see Shen Miao in prison to gloat over her misery, and in this life, Shen Miao would return the treatment.

Shuang Jiang walked in with a flower pot and said with a smile, "The sun was strong yesterday, so I took the flower pot out to bask in the sun. Miss said that it would probably snow in the next few days, but I didn't believe it. Unexpectedly, it snowed early this morning. It's all thanks to Miss's accurate prediction. Otherwise, these pots of flowers would have been frozen."

"Speaking of which, Miss, you seem to like to predict very much." Bai Lu smiled and said, "You always prepare things in advance and think about the moves ahead of time. Every time we're in a critical situation, we can already get out of it unharmed. Miss, your prediction is very reliable."

Shen Miao smiled, her bright eyes reflecting the sun outside. She said firmly, "It's nothing. I just don't like 'accidents'."

Chapter 210: Suspicion (1)

The day passed quickly. When Shen Miao came to the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop on the third day, the Chen brothers had been waiting for a long time.

Compared to before, the two of them seemed to have changed a lot, especially Chen Yueshan. His straightforward and upright aura was gone, and it was replaced by a deep gloom. Shen Miao glanced at Chen Yueshan and Chen Yuehai, and she had a rough idea what happened. The two of them had probably already asked around about their sister, and perhaps they had even seen her with their own eyes. Seeing their beloved sister live such a miserable life must be a great stimulation to them. Otherwise, the Chen brothers wouldn't have gone to assassinate Prince Yu in the previous life.

"Miss Shen." Chen Yuehai was the first to speak. He said, "Miss Shen, can you tell us how to prevent the royal family from finding out it's the Chen family who assassinated Prince Yu?"

Ji Yushu stared at his teacup, deliberately avoiding looking at Shen Miao.

Shen Miao sighed. "I naturally want to help, but like I said before, this way, the risk I'm taking will be huge. In a way, the Shen family and the Chen family will be tied on the same boat. If anything goes wrong, the Shen family will also suffer."

Chen Yueshan paused for a moment and said, "I know that we're pulling you into a dangerous situation that has nothing to do with you, so... if Miss is willing to help, we will give half of the Chen family's assets to the Shen family."

As soon as he said that, even Ji Yushu couldn't help but look up at Chen Yueshan.

The Chen family was the richest family in Jiangnan. Since ancient times, blessed with geographical advantages, Jiangnan had been an affluent place. The Chen family probably had more money than the royal family. If the Shen family could really gain that much money, their power and influence would be taken to another level.

When Shen Miao heard that, she looked at Chen Yueshan's pleading face and was lost in thought. The Chen family was actually willing to pay such a price to avenge their sisters. They knew that even with Shen Miao's help, there was no guarantee that they could one hundred percent save their sister. The fact that they were still willing to take the risk showed how important the Chen sisters were to the Chen family. In her previous life, Shen Miao was imprisoned and helpless. If the Shen family was still around at that time, would her parents and brother do everything they could to save her?

"Miss Shen?" Seeing that Shen Miao was absent-minded, Chen Yueshan called her.

Shen Miao came back to her senses and said with a smile, "Forget about your family assets. I'm not helping you because I want your money. I just want to build a good relationship with the Chen family. If I need your help in the future, please don't turn your backs on me. Secondly, I am also enemies with Prince Yu. If he's around, he'll remain a constant threat to me." She looked at Chen Yueshan. "Now, we're on the same boat."

Chen Yueshan looked at Shen Miao in front of him. Her eyes were clear and her tone was sincere, as if every word she said was from the bottom of her heart. From the first time he met her until now, she did not act like a young girl. Chen Yueshan could not help but wonder if his sisters could also have the temperament and wisdom of the girl in front of him, would they end up differently?

At the thought of his sister, Chen Yueshan's mood immediately darkened. He asked, "Miss Shen, what's the idea you have in mind?"

"You don't have to worry about the royal family for the time being. Leave them to me. In addition, if you want to make a move, it's best to do it next month. Prince Yu wants to marry my cousin. On the second day of the marriage, the security will definitely be relaxed. When the time comes, it will be foolproof to make a move early in the morning. "

"You..." Chen Yueshan wanted to say something, but in the end, he shook his head and said, "How are you going to take care of the royal family within a month? "

Shen Miao looked at Ji Yushu, who was drinking tea, with a faint smile. "You don't have to worry about that. The most important thing now is to gather your men." After a pause, she continued, "Prince Yu's mansion is not small. You have to figure out the layout first. On the day of execution, other than my cousin, you have to kill them all."