

Venomous 721

Chapter 721 Peach Blossom Luck (6)

As Luo Xueyan listened, she gradually felt a sense of sorrow in her heart. As a mother, she could naturally understand Mrs. Su in some ways.

Mrs. Su continued, "But don't worry, Madam. Although the Su family is no longer an official family, we have enough money and many shops. After Miss Shen marries over, my husband and I will treat her as our own daughter. Mingfeng is honest and kind. There won't be any other women besides Miss Shen."

Luo Xueyan was tempted. She never wanted her son-in-law's family to be rich. As long as he was good to her daughter, it would be enough. Su Mingfeng was really a good candidate.

Thinking of Luo Ling just now, Luo Xueyan began to hesitate. Although Luo Ling was not bad, if he married Shen Miao, they would have to return to Spring city. If it was Su Mingfeng, Shen Miao could stay in the capital.

This time, because of various considerations, Luo Xueyan did not reject Mrs. Su immediately. She only said that she would think about it. After Mrs. Su left, Luo Xueyan went to look for Shen Xin to discuss this matter. Of course, the most important thing was still Shen Miao's opinion. Luo Ling and Su Mingfeng were both outstanding. As long as Shen Miao thought that Su Mingfeng was good, they would arrange for Shen Miao to meet her future husband.

For some reason, this matter reached Shen Miao's ears. When Luo Tan came to look for her, she smiled happily and said, "Cousin, you don't usually leave the house. I didn't expect you to be so popular among men. Look, Cousin Ling and the young master of the Su family both express their intention of marrying you, and there's also the crown prince. There are three peach blossom lucks. All the girls in the capital are envious of you."

Shen Miao was helpless. She didn't expect Luo Ling to want to marry her. What surprised her even more was the fact that Mrs. Su came to talk about marriage for his son.

Originally, Shen Miao was afraid that the reason Su Mingfeng wanted to marry her was to find out Xie Jingxing's whereabouts. Now that the royal family was involved, the Su family still wanted Su Mingfeng to marry her. She felt that Su Mingfeng was becoming more and more dangerous. She thought that it was best to leave Su Mingfeng to Xie Jingxing to deal with, but... She glanced at the window. She did not know when Xie Jingxing would return. It was a troubled time, but he chose to disappear at this moment. For some reason, Shen Miao was discontent.

Luo Tan continued, "When you hung the red string on the tree in Putuo Temple, the red string you threw was hooked in a good place. At that time, I saw that there were many twigs extending from that branch. I'm afraid that means you'll have a lot of peach blossom luck."

Luo Tan continued to mutter to herself, "But little cousin, the red string you threw ended up on a high branch. That high branch should represent the status of your husband. I wonder who my brother-in-law is?"

Shen Miao took a sip of tea and listened to Luo Tan's nonsense absent-mindedly.

"If only it was Prince Rui!" Luo Tan clapped her hands. "Then I would rise with the tide and become Prince Rui's sister-in-law!"

Shen Miao was drinking tea when she spat out a mouthful of tea and almost choked.

Unexpectedly, Luo Tan's words came true. Shen Miao's peach blossom luck would come one after another.

Chapter 722 Admiration (1)

The next morning, a special guest arrived at the Shen mansion.

It was none other than Feng Anning.

Previously, after Shen Miao and Luo Tan were kidnapped, Feng Anning took the initiative to visit and apologize. Shen Xin and his wife were also straightforward people. Moreover, they could not blame Feng Anning for what happened back then. Although Shen Xin and his wife said that they didn't take it to heart, Feng Anning seemed to feel very guilty. Other than sending some gifts every few days, she never asked Shen Miao out again, probably because she felt ashamed. Luo Tan sent a letter to Feng Anning to invite her out, but Feng Anning rejected it politely.

They did not expect her to take the initiative to visit today.

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When Luo Tan heard that Feng Anning was here, she was very happy. She pulled Shen Miao to the front hall. In the capital, Feng Anning was Luo Tan's only friend. The two of them were straightforward and clicked the first time they met. Because of what had happened previously, Luo Tan had not seen Feng Anning for a long time, so she could not wait to see her.

When they arrived at the front hall, they saw Luo Xueyan talking to Feng Anning. Feng Anning was dressed in a moon-white short brocade dress and had her hair combed into a bun. She wore pearl earrings and a hairpin and looked much gentler than usual. Luo Tan was the first to call out, "Feng Anning!" and ran over.

Shen Miao noticed that there was a young man in his early twenties sitting beside Feng Anning. This young man had delicate features and was wearing a green robe. The robe fit him well, and he looked very elegant. When he saw Shen Miao looking at him, he nodded slightly.

He looked a little similar to Feng Anning.

Only then did Luo Tan notice that there was another person. She asked, "This is..."

Luo Xueyan was a little embarrassed. It was naturally against the rules for the two unmarried girls to meet an unknown man for no reason. However, when she thought of the reason why Feng Anning came today, she felt a little awkward. She did not know if she should feel happy or worried.

Feng Anning took the initiative to say, "This is my elder brother."

The Feng family only had one legitimate son called Feng Zixian. Without a doubt, this man was Feng Zixian.

Feng Zixian stood up and cupped his hands at Shen Miao and Luo Tan. The two of them hurriedly returned the greeting. Luo Tan looked at Feng Zixian in confusion, then at Feng Anning and asked, "Anning, didn't you come here to play with us today?"

Feng Anning did not say anything and only looked at Feng Zixian. Feng Zixian's face blushed slightly, but he still took the initiative to say, "I came today because I heard Brother Shen Qiu from the Ministry of War mentioning that his sister is looking for a husband... I came to recommend myself. Please forgive me for my abruptness." After saying that, his face turned slightly red, and he glanced sideways to avoid Luo Tan's probing gaze.

Luo Xueyan was a little embarrassed, but her eyes were filled with joy. Luo Tan opened her mouth wide, as if she did not expect him to come for this, while Shen Miao was stunned, not knowing what to say.

Chapter 723 Admiration (2)

Seeing that Shen Miao was silent, Feng Anning took the initiative to speak. She glanced at Shen Miao. Feng Anning was no longer as arrogant as before. She was probably still feeling guilty about what had happened previously, and her tone was apologetic. She said, "We've all heard the rumors. Now, all the people in the capital are afraid of marrying you. Why don't you... Why don't you marry my brother? My brother is good at martial arts and has a good personality. If you marry him, I can also take care of you."

Feng Anning had always been a person who did not know how to beat around the bush. Her words were honest, but she was really thinking for Shen Miao. Luo Xueyan's expression softened a lot. Shen Miao asked, "Do your parents know about this?"

Feng Anning hesitated for a moment before saying, "At first, my father didn't agree, but after our persuasion, he let us be. My father has a sharp tongue but a soft heart. He definitely won't stop us from doing this!"

Shen Miao did not doubt this. Just from Feng Anning's straightforward personality, she knew that Master Feng was probably a straightforward person too.

She looked at Feng Zixian and asked, "Young Master Feng, do you think I'm pitiful, so you want to help me out by marrying me?"

Everyone was stunned to hear that.

Luo Xueyan found it surprising that Shen Miao didn't shy away from talking about her marriage at all and that her expression was perfectly calm. Feng Zixian did not expect Shen Miao to ask him so bluntly.

He quickly came back to his senses and answered, "My sister has mentioned you many times before. I admire your talent and temperament... It just so happens that you have the intention of getting married." After saying that, his face turned even redder.

Luo Tan chuckled when she heard that, but Shen Miao was a little helpless. She did not know how Feng Anning usually described her to Feng Zixian to make him think so highly of her.

Feng Anning looked at Shen Miao nervously and said, "My brother is definitely better than the Crown Prince!"

Shen Miao almost laughed out loud. If others heard this, they would probably say that Feng Anning was disrespectful. However, Feng Anning really took her seriously. Shen Miao looked at Feng Zixian, who looked a little like Feng Anning. He looked honest and should be an upright person.

Shen Miao smiled and said, "If I make a decision simply based on the few words you said, it's unfair to me and to you as well. Don't you think so?"

When Luo Xueyan heard Shen Miao's words, she was confused. What Shen Miao meant was that she had other thoughts about her marriage. However, as a mother, she did not know what Shen Miao was up to. Shen Miao was unwilling to marry the crown prince and did not seem to be interested in these young talents. Luo Xueyan was a little anxious for her.

She thought that no one would dare to go against the royal family and ask for her daughter's hand in marriage. She didn't expect three people to be willing to marry her daughter. Luo Ling, Su Mingfeng, and Feng Zixian were all talented and outstanding, but Shen Miao showed no enthusiasm towards marrying them.

Feng Anning said, "But if you don't hurry up, it'll be too late!"

That was true. Who knew when the imperial edict would be issued? In the past, there would naturally be a lot of time for Shen Miao to think it through, but now that the time was pressing, there was no room for careful consideration.

Shen Miao waved her hand. Just as she was about to speak, she suddenly saw Jingzhe rush in and say anxiously, "Miss, someone from the palace is here!"

Chapter 724 Admiration (3)

Luo Xueyan's face turned pale.

Not daring to let anyone find out that the Feng siblings were here, Luo Xueyan brought Shen Miao to the front hall to receive the person from the palace. After the young eunuch finished speaking, they realized that he was not here to deliver an imperial edict, but to ask Shen Miao to go to the palace alone tomorrow. The empress had something to say to Shen Miao.

After the young eunuch left, Luo Xueyan's expression turned extremely ugly. Although there was no imperial edict, it was not much better. Tomorrow, Shen Miao would have to enter the palace alone. If the imperial edict was issued at that time, Shen Miao could not handle the situation alone. Even if the imperial edict was not issued, who knew what kind of threat the empress would say?

Feng Anning and Feng Zixian were both a little worried, but Shen Miao advised them not to take it to heart. After the Feng siblings left, Luo Tan asked, "Cousin, what should we do now? Why don't you settle the marriage today?"

"The marriage can't be settled overnight. There are a lot of procedures to go through. We don't have enough time," Shen Miao said.

Luo Tan was stunned. "Cousin, you really know a lot about marriage."

Shen Miao paused. She naturally did. In her previous life, she watched happily as these procedures were completed one by one, wishing she could marry the person she liked as soon as possible.

However, she did not expect that she was slowly pushing herself down the abyss.

Luo Xueyan looked at Shen Miao seriously. "Jiaojiao, tell me, among these people, who do you like?"

"I don't have any feelings for them." Shen Miao smiled faintly. "Just choose the one who is most suitable. Mother, don't be too anxious. It won't be too late to make a decision when I come back from the palace tomorrow. Perhaps more suitable people will appear."

Luo Xueyan was stunned. Shen Miao always looked indifferent to her marriage and did not seem to hold any expectations for her future husband, which made Luo Xueyan a little flustered. After Shen Miao left, she muttered to herself, "Could it be that... Jiaojiao still has feelings for Prince Ding..."

Shen Miao did not know what Luo Xueyan was thinking at all. She was already prepared for the worst and was determined to die with the royal family.

Even in the worst situation, she still had to hold on to hope. After all, she was still alive, right?

As she thought this, she looked at the window with a dark gaze and finally felt a little frustrated. She instructed Gu Yu, "Close the window tightly. I'm going to rest."

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The crown prince wanted to take Shen Miao as his secondary consort, so now, the officials did not dare to have anything to do with the Shen family. This matter spread like wildfire. If it could reach the ears of the officials, it would naturally reach the ears of the princes.

In Prince Zhou's mansion, Prince Jing and Prince Zhou were sitting at the table and discussing this matter.

"After competing with Sixth Brother and the others for so long, I didn't expect the crown prince to take advantage of the situation in the end!" Prince Zhou drank the wine angrily. "The crown prince is getting smarter!"

Prince Jing was more composed than his brother. He shook his head and said, "I think this is not only the crown prince's idea, but also Father's idea. Father is already unhappy with us and Prince Li. The crown prince is the rightful heir. Father wants to help the crown prince by roping in the Shen family for him."

"Father is too old and stupid." Prince Zhou sneered. "That invalid, the crown prince, even if he gets Shen Xin's support, how many more years can he live? He'll die before he can even touch the throne." These words were very vicious, almost like he was cursing the crown prince to die early. Prince Zhou's tone was very jealous. It had to be known that if the crown prince obtained the Shen family's military power, his strength would increase greatly. Not only would he be able to compete with Prince Li, but his power might even surpass the power the rest of the princes combined.

Chapter 725 Admiration (4)

The crown prince had an advantage in terms of title to begin with. Coupled with the Shen family's military power, his chances of winning were much higher. How could Prince Zhou not be anxious?

"In that case, it's better to let that girl from the Shen family marry Ninth Brother than the crown prince," Prince Zhou said in a low voice.

"Ninth Brother?" Prince Jing smiled meaningfully. "Fourth Brother, Ninth Brother is not as simple as we think."

"Are you talking about the matter regarding Shen Wan?" Prince Zhou said. "To be honest, among the nine of us, who doesn't have ambition for the throne? Even if Ninth Brother wants to win, he has to have the ability. Not many people in the imperial court are willing to side with him."

Fu Xiuyi and Shen Wan were very close in private and had an unclear relationship with the crown prince of the State of Qin. When the princes heard this, they were wary of Fu Xiuyi, but in the end, they did not take him as the biggest enemy. The reason was that Fu Xiuyi did not participate in the imperial court for many years. Even if he had the ambition, he did not have the strength. Compared to him, there was a bigger enemy.

Prince Jing shook his head. "Fourth Brother, don't underestimate Ninth Brother. I have a feeling that he's hiding it very well."

Prince Zhou waved his hand impatiently. "Why do you keep mentioning Ninth Brother for no reason? I called you here today because I have something to discuss with you." Prince Zhou lowered his tone. "We can't just sit back and watch the military power of the Shen family fall into the hands of the crown prince. If the crown prince gets the military power, and now that the crown princess has given birth to a son, our chances will be even lower. I've been fighting with Prince Li for so long. I don't want the crown prince to take advantage of the situation."

"Fourth Brother, you mean?"

"We have to stop this marriage from happening." Prince Zhou smiled cruelly. "It's best if they become enemies."

"There are thousands of ways to make enemies. Which one are you mentioning, Fourth Brother?" Prince Jing asked.

"Of course the one where blood is shed." Prince Zhou put down his wine glass and said, "Didn't that girl from the Shen family also want to marry Ninth Brother? She definitely doesn't want to marry the crown prince. In that case, why don't we help her?"

"It won't be easy to make a move on Shen Miao." Prince Jing said, "Last time, after Shen Miao was kidnapped, Shen Xin gave her twice as many guards. How are we going to make a move?"

Prince Zhou smiled. "We can't make a move outside, but we can in the palace." He said smugly, "After she enters the palace, no matter how many guards there are, they have to wait outside. After she enters the palace, she will be in our trap. I've asked around. Tomorrow, that girl from the Shen family will enter the palace alone. When she enters the palace to see the empress, it will be our chance to make a move."

Prince Jing said, "It's easier to take action in the palace, but it's also easier for us to be exposed if they investigate."

"That's why we have to resort to the tactic of killing two birds with one stone." Prince Zhou smiled. "What do you think about framing Sixth Brother?"

Prince Jing's eyes lit up.

The two of them had been competing with Prince Li's faction for so many years. If anything happened to Shen Miao in the palace this time, Shen Xin, who doted on Shen Miao, would definitely blame the crown prince. If not for the fact that the crown prince wanted to marry Shen Miao, Shen Miao would not have been in trouble. The crown prince and the Shen family would have become enemies. In the end, Prince Li, who was framed, would not be able to get anything out of it.

Prince Jing smiled and said, "Fourth Brother, this idea is not bad, but we have to set it up carefully to prevent any flaws. Someone, call my aides over."

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Coincidentally, while Prince Zhou was discussing the assassination of Shen Miao tomorrow, Prince Li was also troubled by this matter.

Chapter 726 Admiration (5)

Prince Li smiled at the two brothers in front of him and said, "What do you think?"

Prince Xiang was a cautious and timid person. Looking at Prince Li's smiling face, he couldn't help but shiver. Prince Li had always been a smiling villain. On the surface, he looked amiable, but he was the most ruthless. Prince Xiang said, "Isn't it too risky?"

When Prince Cheng heard that, he said, "Why is it risky? We can't really let the crown prince marry Miss Shen and get the military power of the Shen family so easily. Sixth Brother and Prince Zhou have been competing for so many years but to no avail. That crown prince is sick. Even if he gets so much power, he won't have the luck to enjoy it."

Prince Cheng had always been rude and impudent. However, it was obvious that his words satisfied Prince Li. Prince Li said, "Eighth Brother is right. It's indeed not what I want to let the crown prince get the Shen family's military power. If this marriage is successful, not only will I be at a disadvantage, but you two will also be in trouble. I won't let that happen. I proposed to assassinate Miss Shen to avoid future trouble. Although Miss Shen is very innocent, she can only blame the crown prince for dragging her into the mess."

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Prince Li smiled as he spoke about the assassination of Shen Miao. Although he said that Shen Miao was innocent, there was no sympathy in his tone.

"But how do we pin this on Prince Zhou?" Prince Xiang asked softly.

"Prince Zhou is usually impulsive. Everyone will suspect that he did it on impulse. Father has a lot of complaints about him to begin with and will punish him severely," Prince Li said.

"Killing two birds with one stone is a good idea." Prince Cheng was beaming with smiles, "I support your idea, Sixth Brother!"

Prince Xiang did not speak, but even if he did not speak, it did not matter. He and Prince Cheng were both Prince Li's followers. Prince Li's decision represented the two of them. If they succeeded, they

would benefit together, but if they failed, they would also die together. This was what they understood from the beginning.

He sighed in his heart and could only hope that the assassination of Shen Miao would go smoothly tomorrow.

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The night was as dark as ink. The winter wind blew on people's faces like a knife. The wooden bucket of water left outside froze at night. It was stuck to the ground the next day and could not be lifted up.

On the upper floor of the inn, in front of the window, the purple-clothed young man stood with his hands behind his back, frowning. A snow-white pigeon suddenly flew in from outside and landed on the window sill in front of him, its body covered in a layer of snowflakes.

Xie Jingxing took off a small silver tube from the pigeon's leg and let the pigeon into the house. With charcoal burning, the room was warm. The pigeon flew to the desk in the room. It tilted its head and pecked at the corn in the small bowl on the table.

Xie Jingxing took out a small paper roll from the silver tube, unfolded it, and read it. He casually threw it into the charcoal stove and turned it to ashes. Tie Yi walked in from outside and walked behind Xie Jingxing, saying, "Master, the carriage is ready. We'll set off for the capital tomorrow morning."

Xie Jingxing nodded.

Tie Yi did not leave. Instead, he looked at Xie Jingxing's back and seemed to be a little hesitant whether he should say it or not.

"If you have something to say, say it," Xie Jingxing said without looking back.

Tie Yi was shocked and quickly said, "Master, there's news from the capital that Shen Xin is looking for a suitable young talent for Fifth Miss Shen these few days. It seems like she has the intention of getting married."

Xie Jingxing did not turn around. Tie Yi looked at his back and for some reason, he felt his hair stand on end. He did not know if he should say this or not and was torn in between. Ji Yushu and Gao Yang did not mention this in the letter they sent over from the capital. If Tie Yi said it now and Xie Jingxing blamed the two of them when he went back, it would seem like Tie Yi was being a busybody.

Chapter 727 Admiration (6)

Pei Lang looked at the snowy night outside the window and sighed deeply.

The move Fu Xiuyi made was indeed very brilliant. Whether the move turned out to be a success or a failure, it had nothing to do with him. No matter what the outcome was, Fu Xiuyi would benefit one way or another.

Just like the layout of the chessboard, Shen Miao was cornered. Even if she had a way out, it was not going to be a good way. In this round, Fu Xiuyi would definitely win.

Pei Lang was a little worried for Shen Miao.

He did not know why he was worried for Shen Miao. If Shen Miao died, he would be able to follow Fu Xiuyi wholeheartedly. Fu Xiuyi trusted him very much. If he was not wrong, Fu Xiuyi had the ability to outlast everyone and become the emperor. In the future, he would also rise to the top and enjoy endless wealth. He could also better protect Liu Ying in the dark.

However, he still did not want Shen Miao to lose.

Over the past few days, Fu Xiuyi suspected that there was a traitor in the mansion and doubled the guards. Not even a fly could enter, let alone send a letter out. He could not communicate with Shen Miao through letters and could only be anxious for her.

He heard that Shen Miao was going to the palace alone tomorrow. Coincidentally, he was also going to the palace tomorrow.

Could Shen Miao find her way out of this cornered situation?

A moment later, Pei Lang looked at the chessboard in front of him. There was no need to continue with this chess game. He placed one hand on the corner of the table and suddenly flipped his hand.

With a light lift, the entire chessboard fell to the ground, making crisp sounds as the chess pieces scatter everywhere

The ground was in a mess.

Chapter 728 Anger (1)

The next morning, Shen Miao entered the palace.

Luo Xueyan and Shen Xin were worried about her and asked her to bring many guards. However, the guards could not follow Shen Miao at all times. When they reached the palace gate, they had to wait outside.

Before Shen Miao left, she put on almost all the jewelry that Xie Jingxing had given her. She was afraid that something would happen and wanted to be fully prepared.

When they arrived at the entrance of the palace, Gu Yu and the others were asked to wait outside with the guards. Shen Miao was led to the palace by the palace maid. Along the way, the palace maid was a little puzzled. The route from the palace gate to the Palace of Earthly Tranquility was not simple. They had to walk past a few long corridors and a lot of gardens, but Shen Miao was familiar with the route. She did not even need the palace maid to remind her which corner to turn. The palace maid was puzzled. Could it be that Shen Miao remembered this route so well after having been to the Palace of Earthly Tranquility once?

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The palace maid naturally did not know that in Shen Miao's previous life, the Palace of Earthly Tranquility was where she lived. Therefore, when faced with the grand decorations and exquisite display, there was no shock in her eyes. If one looked carefully, they could see a trace of disgust flashing across Shen Miao's eyes.

When they arrived at the Palace of Earthly Tranquility, the palace maid was combing the empress's hair. Shen Miao waited for a while before the empress let her in.

Consort Dong did not come today. The empress was the only one. She was wearing a formal court dress and a nine-headed phoenix hairpin. Her makeup was exquisite, and she exuded a sense of oppression.

Shen Miao took a look and understood.

Did the empress really think Shen Miao was a little girl who did not know anything about the world? Did she want to use her status to press on Shen Miao and scare her into saying something? No wonder the empress deliberately didn't ask Luo Xueyan to come along. If Shen Miao was really a 16-year-old girl facing the empress alone, she might be intimidated.

However, Shen Miao was not a little girl. The person in front of her was the empress. In her previous life, she was also the empress and had seen more than anyone could imagine. Therefore, she really did not care about the empress. Shen Miao lowered her head and smiled.

The empress slowly frowned. Shen Miao's reaction was a little different from what she thought. She did not know if Shen Miao was pretending to be stupid or if she was stupid to begin with. Her gaze landed on the bracelet on Shen Miao's wrist and she narrowed her eyes slightly. She smiled and said, "This bracelet is not bad. Come forward and let me take a closer look."

Shen Miao went forward as instructed. The empress held Shen Miao's hand. The bracelet was made of rare jade from somewhere. It was emerald-colored and extremely smooth. Just as she was about to praise it, she heard Shen Miao say with a smile, "Your Highness, my hairpin, necklace, and earrings are also very beautiful."

The empress was stunned and actually looked at the jewelry seriously. The corners of her mouth couldn't help but twitch. The cat-eye hairpin was paired with pearl earrings, and the pearl earrings were paired with an amber necklace. As for the bracelet and the jewelry hairpin, there was no need to mention them. They were clearly all expensive jewelry with intricate craftsmanship. Why did they look so ugly on Shen Miao? The empress suddenly didn't want to praise Shen Miao's jewelry anymore, and she even lost interest in the bracelet. She was even a little disdainful of Shen Miao's taste. Back then, people said that Shen Miao was a vulgar woman who only liked gold and silver. Later, she thought that Shen Miao had changed. Today, it seemed that Shen Miao was still the same as before. At the thought of letting such a woman marry the crown prince, the empress was unhappy. If not for the fact that the Shen family's military power could help the crown prince, the empress wouldn't be willing to let such a vulgar woman be around the crown prince.

Chapter 729 Anger (2)

The empress put down Shen Miao's hand and said, "I asked to come today because I have something to talk to you about." She sighed and said, "That day, I mentioned to your mother that you're just the right age and I'd like to matchmake you. Naturally, I won't force you. I will respect your opinion."

Shen Miao lowered her head and did not speak.

The empress patted her hand. "Do you think my life is good and glamorous?"

Shen Miao sneered in her heart, but she replied with a smile, "Your Highness, your life is naturally very glamorous."

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"After marrying into the royal family, you will be protected and can live a good and glamorous life."

It was clear now what the empress was driving at. The corners of Shen Miao's lips curled up slightly, but her words were humble and she sounded terrified. She suddenly knelt on the ground and said, "I'm already doing very well now. I don't dare to imagine living a better life. Your Highness, please spare my life!"

The empress was stunned. She did not expect Shen Miao to have such a reaction. There were many people in the world who wanted to climb up the social ladder to be part of the royal family. The empress knew that all women were vain. Shen Miao was young and gullible, so she intentionally tried to tempt her. As long as Shen Miao said she wanted to live a glamorous life, the empress could say to the outside world that it was Shen Miao who wanted to marry the crown prince.

Unexpectedly, Shen Miao had this reaction. She was not tempted or hesitant. Instead, she was afraid.

The empress thought to herself, Is being a consort that scary? Or is the daughter of the Shen family actually as timid as a mouse? She doesn't understand my hint at all and thinks that she is some kind of trouble.

How useless.

For the rest of the time, no matter what the empress said, Shen Miao still looked humble and terrified. It was precisely because of this that her mouth was very tight, and she did not say a word the empress wanted her to say. In the end, the empress was a little irritated and asked Shen Miao to go back.

When the empress asked Shen Miao to leave, her attitude was unfriendly. Even the palace maids of the Palace of Earthly Tranquility did not treat Shen Miao nicely. They handed Shen Miao to a young eunuch who was passing by outside and asked him to send Shen Miao out of the palace.

The young eunuch naturally agreed.

The young eunuch brought Shen Miao out of the palace. After taking a few turns, they were deeper into the palace. When they passed by a garden and were almost reaching an abandoned garden, Shen Miao stopped and said, "This is not the way out of the palace. Where are you taking me?" Her hand quietly pressed on the bracelet on her wrist in her sleeve. No one was more familiar with Ming Qi's palace than her.

The young eunuch was stunned for a moment before saying in a low voice, "Mr. Pei wants to see you."

Pei Lang? Shen Miao frowned slightly.

After thinking for a moment, Shen Miao followed the young eunuch. It had been a long time since Pei Lang sent a letter to her. Shen Miao thought that Pei Lang had been discovered working for her by Fu Xiuyi. However, after sending Mo Qing over to investigate, she found out that Pei Lang was still in Prince Ding's mansion. He seemed to be safe and sound. If Fu Xiuyi suspected Pei Lang, he would definitely not let Pei Lang off so easily.

Chapter 730 Anger (3)

If Pei Lang was looking for her, he must have something very important to tell her.

There were many coincidences in the world. Today, Princess Rong Xin also entered the palace.

She was not in good health and had become thinner and thinner in the past few years. She rarely went to the palace, but today, she came anxiously. The palace guard was about to go and report when Princess Rong Xin waved her hand and said, "I have something to discuss with my brother. There's no need to inform him."

The guards at the palace gate did not dare to stop her. Although Princess Rong Xin did not show up much now, she was still the daughter of the late emperor and had a stubborn personality. If they angered her, they would not have a good time, so they could only let her through.

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The palace maid wanted to find a sedan chair for Princess Rong Xin, but she was rejected by Princess Rong Xin. Princess Rong Xin said, "Let's take the shortcut. Sedan chair is too cumbersome."

Princess Rong Xin was anxious. She did not interfere in the matters of the imperial court and stayed in her mansion every day. If not for the fact that she happened to pass by the courtyard and heard the servants talking about Shen Miao, she would not have known that the royal family wanted to marry Shen Miao to the crown prince. Other than doing this for Xie Jingxing's sake, Princess Rong Xin also wanted to protect Shen Miao because she liked her. As a member of the royal family, Princess Rong Xin knew very well that if a woman married into the royal family, she would not be happy even if her life was glorious. Moreover, Shen Miao was not a woman who was into wealth and power.

Princess Rong Xin was in a hurry to find Emperor Wen Hui, hoping to change her brother's mind, so she took a shortcut.

Shen Miao arrived at a remote pavilion.

This pavilion was hidden in the garden by a long corridor. There were a few rooms in the corridor that were a place to hide. Pei Lang walked out of one of those rooms.

The young eunuch stood guard outside for the two of them. Shen Miao nodded at Pei Lang and asked, "Mr. Pei, what's so urgent that you want to talk here?"

"Prince Ding has sealed off the mansion, so I can't send you a letter." Pei Lang said, "It was Prince Ding who suggested that the crown prince marry you."

Shen Miao raised an eyebrow. Seeing that she was not surprised, Pei Lang asked, "You know it already?"

"I guessed it was him," Shen Miao said indifferently. "With the crown prince's intelligence, he wouldn't be able to come up with this."

Pei Lang was a little puzzled. Shen Miao talked as if she was extremely familiar with the crown prince and Fu Xiuyi. However, Shen Miao was just a girl and did not have the chance to interact with the princes at all. How could she know the princes' personalities? Even Shen Xin might not be as familiar with the princes as Shen Miao.

This desolate garden had once been haunted, so almost no one passed by. Therefore, Pei Lang was not worried that someone would eavesdrop on them. He frowned and said, "What do you plan to do about the marriage?"

Shen Miao was a little surprised. Pei Lang had always been a person who would not put personal emotions into his analysis of the overall situation. It was rare for him to ask her about this. After all, what she thought about this marriage was unimportant in the grand scheme of things.