

Venomous 771

Chapter 771 Marrying You (2)

Fu Xiuyi stood up and thought for a moment before instructing the person beside him, "Go to the dungeon."

There was a dungeon in Prince Ding's mansion that was built in the ancestral hall in the courtyard. The royal ancestral hall was not here. The reason why he built an ancestral hall in his mansion was to pray to the Buddha. On the wall, there was a benevolent-looking Guanyin statue. If one lifted the painting beside it, they would see a small laughing Buddha holding a wooden fish. Once the wooden fish was twisted, a stone door would slowly open, revealing a passage. Walking down the passage, one would enter the dungeon.

The dungeon was filled with spies or people who had made a huge mistake. Death was too lenient a punishment for them,, so all kinds of tortures were used herer. As soon as they entered, the air was filled with the smell of blood. The stone walls were filled with thin leather-like things. When one looked carefully, they would see that they were actually dead people. The dead people were skinned and dried here. They still had an extremely painful expression on their faces before they died.

Outside was the ancestral hall, but inside, it was even more terrifying than a hell/

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Fu Xiuyi walked in with a leisurely expression and looked at the human skins on both sides with admiration. His subordinate led the way. When he was brought to the last room, he stopped.

The person locked up in this room was hung upside down on the beam and was drenched in blood. His clothes were dyed bright red, and because he was hung upside down, from time to time, blood would drip to the ground, forming a small pool of blood.

Fu Xiuyi looked at that person quietly. That person seemed to have fainted. He gave the person beside him a look, and immediately, that person poured a bucket of water on the prisoner.

That prisoner shuddered, and his entire body could not help but tremble non-stop.

Fu Xiuyi smiled and went forward. "Sir, are you used to living here?"

The water washed away the blood on the prisoner's face. It was Pei Lang.

Pei Lang smiled and replied with a trembling voice, "Thanks to Your Highness, I'm doing well."

"I knew long ago that you were not an ordinary person. I didn't expect you to be not only talented, but also unyielding. Otherwise... why would the Shen family send you here?" Fu Xiuyi sighed and said, "Everyone says that the soldiers under Shen Xin are all heroic. Sir, you're a scholar. I didn't expect you to be so tough. I also want to know how General Shen trains his people."

Pei Lang panted and smiled. "I have nothing to do with General Shen."

"It's been a few days, but you're still refusing to give in." Fu Xiuyi said, "Although your integrity is commendable, it gives me a headache. I have no choice but to specially prepare some extraordinary torture methods for you."

Pei Lang only smiled and did not speak.

Fu Xiuyi looked at him and said in a very gentle tone, "You're talented and I admire you very much. I'm a soft-hearted person and am willing to give you a chance. After you make contributions and atone for your sins, I'll pretend that nothing happened. I'll regard you as my teacher just like before. You're my most capable aide." He approached Pei Lang and said coaxingly, "As long as you tell me what secrets the Shen family has and why you were sent to my side. How about that?"

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Pei Lang cleared his throat and coughed out a few mouthfuls of blood. Then, he smiled with difficulty and said, "Thank you for your kindness, Your Highness. However, I have nothing to do with the Shen family. I can't answer your question. I'm afraid you'll be disappointed."

Fu Xiuyi looked at him expressionlessly. After a while, he smiled. He clapped his hands and brushed away the blood that splattered on his body. "Sir, I'm very impressed by you and curious as to how long you can last." He waved at the person beside him. "The torture methods used so far don't seem to satisfy Mr. Pei. Increase the intensity of the torture."

He took a step back and was about to leave when he suddenly thought of something and said, "Sir, even if you don't tell me, I can still find out the secrets of the Shen family myself. I heard that the Shen family values loyal followers. I wonder if General Shen will send someone to save you from hell?"

With that, he left with the guard.

After Fu Xiuyi left, Pei Lang suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood. This prince, who looked gentle, actually had such a vicious and ruthless side. However, what Fu Xiuyi said at the end made him smile bitterly.

It was true that the Shen family valued loyal followers, but the person he was working for was Shen Miao. Shen Miao only cared about her family. Other than her family and friends, others probably meant nothing to her. As for whether someone would come to save him, Pei Lang felt that it was unlikely. Not to mention whether Shen Miao had the ability to find this secret dungeon, back then, when Shen Miao sent him to hide by Fu Xiuyi's side as a spy, she should have expected this day to come. Shen Miao knew that once Fu Xiuyi found out, Pei Lang would definitely end up in an extremely miserable state, but she still did it.

His rationality told him that Shen Miao would not come to save him, but Pei Lang still had a trace of hope in his heart. He could not explain how he felt about Shen Miao. At first, Shen Miao used Liu Ying to threaten him. Because of that, Pei Lang even felt a little disgusted with her. He hated the feeling of being threatened and manipulated. However, later on, for some reason, he really treated himself as Shen Miao's person. He would worry about Shen Miao and do his best to be a chess piece for her. Pei Lang could not understand what he was doing. He thought that he probably owed Shen Miao something in his previous life, which was why he followed her so devotedly in this life. The guard in charge of

punishing him came again. Pei Lang threw away the thoughts in his mind and got ready for a new round of torture.

What he did not know was that in Prince Rui's mansion, Huo Long and Nightingale were sitting on a tree and eating sunflower seeds. Nightingale asked, "Shopkeeper Ji and Young Master Gao haven't come out yet. How long are they going to guard the tower prison?"

Huo Long spat out the seed shell and said, "I think Master has completely forgotten about the two of them. Master has been busy these days. I heard that there's a letter from the Daliang, telling Master to hurry up. Master probably wants to finish these things and return to the palace as soon as possible."

"You're right, but Shopkeeper Ji has been staying in the tower prison. What about the information gathered at the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop?"

Huo Long rolled her eyes at Nightingale. "The Black Feather Army will naturally report the information to Master. Besides, Shopkeeper Ji only pays attention to strange things. There's nothing serious. What are you worried about?"

When Nightingale heard that, she felt that what Huo Long said made sense.

Sometimes, a small change would cause the entire trajectory of the matter to change.

In the study upstairs in the Exiled Immortal Pawnshop, there was already a thick stack of letters in the corner of the desk. The letter at the bottom had three words written on it.

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Prince Ding's mansion.

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Emperor Wen Hui wanted the crown prince to build a good relationship with Huangfu Hao. Therefore, Huangfu Hao came to the crown prince's mansion quite frequently and openly.

However, as to what kind of conversation they engaged in, Emperor Wen Hui didn't have the right to know.

The crown prince poured some wine for Huangfu Hao and smiled. "Brother Huangfu, what do you think of what I said just now?"

Huangfu Hao smiled and said noncommittally, "You're really scheming. You let me do all the bad things, and you get the beauty at the end."

The crown prince was not angry. He smiled and said, "If possible, I'm happy to see Fifth Miss Shen as the crown princess of the State of Qin, but everyone knows that's impossible." The emperor of the State of Qin was not so ambitious as to marry the daughter of an official of another country to his son.

Huangfu Hao shook his head. "Calm down. I didn't say that I wanted to snatch her away from you. However..." He looked at the crown prince. "I'm not someone who likes to do good deeds for nothing. Moreover, my reputation will be in danger of being ruined. If General Shen hates me because of it, I will be put in a difficult spot."

The crown prince smiled when he heard that. Huangfu Hao was a smart person and quickly understood the pros and cons of his involvement in this matter. It was not an abhorrent thing for him to ask for Shen Miao's hand in marriage. With just a few words, Emperor Wen Hui and the crown prince would owe Huangfu Hao a favor. Of course, Emperor Wen Hui did not know how to repay the favor. This was the crown prince's idea, and it depended on how important this marriage was to the crown prince.

"Brother Huangfu, do you have any difficulties?" The crown prince asked with a smile.

Huangfu Hao sighed and pretended to be troubled. "Although I'm the crown prince of the State of Qin, I also have my own difficulties. My father treats me extremely well, but my brothers are not. If my brothers scheme against me one day..." He looked at the crown prince meaningfully. "At that time, I hope you will be so kind as to offer help."

The crown prince was stunned at first, then he cursed Huangfu Hao for being cunning in his heart. Fighting for the throne would happen in every country, especially countries with many princes. However, what Huangfu Hao meant was that if there was an internal strife in the royal family of the State of Qin one day, the crown prince had to help him. How could the crown prince of Ming Qi help the crown prince of the State of Qin compete for the throne?

Huangfu Hao was indeed scheming.

Seeing that he was hesitating, Huangfu Hao smiled. "What are you hesitating for? Aren't you also asking me to help you compete for the throne?"

The crown prince looked at Huangfu Hao and did not speak. If he succeeded this time and Shen Miao married him, the Shen family would be tied to the crown prince. With the help of the Shen family, the crown prince's strength would increase greatly, and he would have a dominating momentum in the competition for the throne.

This way, it seemed that the conditions Huangfu Hao offered were not so unacceptable.

The crown prince made up his mind and said, "Alright. Brother Huangfu, I promise you I will help you in time of need."

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Only then did Huangfu Hao smile. After clinking glasses with the crown prince, he said, "However... Do you really want to marry Shen Miao?" Seeing the crown prince's puzzled expression, he explained, "Back then, at the tribute banquet, I saw that Shen Miao was not a soft person. I'm afraid she's very fierce and untamable. Are you so confident in taming her?"

"That's nothing." The crown prince waved his hand indifferently. "No matter how untamable she is, she's still a woman. As long as she's a woman, once she marries me, I have ways to make her obedient. To be honest, when the crown princess married me, she was also fierce. Now, she's as obedient as a kitten."

When Huangfu Hao heard this, he did not say anything else, but he snorted in his heart. Princess Ming An's death was still a mystery, but Huangfu Hao felt that her death was definitely related to Shen Miao. Later, for some reason, his relationship with Fu Xiuyi was used by someone. Now, Fu Xiuyi was deliberately keeping a distance from him. The Shen family was not ordinary, and there seemed to be

someone guiding Shen Miao in the dark. Although the crown prince was not weak, he might not necessarily win against Shen Miao.

However, this was unimportant to Huangfu Hao. He was happy to watch the show. He drank and chatted with the crown prince before leaving.

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On the other side, in the minister counselor's mansion, someone came to deliver a reply written by Shen Miao.

Shen Miao agreed to come, but she would bring Luo Tan with her.

Wang Bi was very happy to see Shen Miao's reply. He said to Shen Dongling, "Didn't you say that the two of you don't have much contact? I didn't expect her to agree."

Shen Dongling was also a little surprised, but she smiled and said, "It seems like she quite misses me after having not seen me for a long time. After all, we're the only sisters left in the family." She took the reply from Wang Bi and read it carefully.

To be honest, Shen Dongling did not expect Shen Miao to reply to the invitation and even agreed to come over to enjoy the incense with her. With Shen Dongling's understanding of Shen Miao, she knew that Shen Miao was cautious by nature and would not come. The reason why she wanted to write an invitation to Shen Miao was because she wanted to prove to Wang Bi that she was doing her best to help him and hoped that he would treat her well in the future.

Unexpectedly, Shen Miao agreed.

Shen Dongling's mind raced. The reason why Shen Miao brought Luo Tan along was probably because Luo Tan was good at martial arts. There would definitely be many guards with Shen Miao to ensure her safety too. Since Shen Miao dared to come, she must have made a foolproof plan.

However, Shen Dongling did not mind. Her goal was not to scheme against Shen Miao to begin with. Shen Dongling nudged Wang Bi. "Husband, since Fifth Sister agreed to come, it's easier for us to execute our plan. Invite the crown prince and Huangfu Hao over too. In the future, Huangfu Hao can tell the outside world that he fell in love with Fifth Sister when he was enjoying the incense here. Doesn't it sound very convincing?"

"You women are indeed more thoughtful." Wang Bi smiled and put his arm around Shen Dongling's shoulder. "With a wife like this, what else can I ask for?"

Shen Dongling smiled, but she was thinking about something else.

Shen Miao had always been good at scheming against others. Back then, when Ren Wanyun and Shen Miao fought, Shen Dongling saw it all. In the end, the first branch won. If there was anyone truly smart in the entire Shen family, it was Shen Miao.

Chapter 775 Marrying You (6)

Shen Dongling also wanted to see who was smarter between her and Shen Miao. It was much more interesting to fight with Shen Miao than Shen Yue.

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At this moment, Shen Miao, who was being schemed against by Shen Dongling, was playing chess with Xie Jingxing in the room.

Xie Jingxing played a good game of chess. Unlike Shen Miao, who was playing steadily and strategizing every step, Xie Jingxing seemed to be able to tell at a glance what the chess pieces she had long set up were for. Wherever Shen Miao landed her piece, Xie Jingxing would find a way to corner the piece. After playing for more than an hour, the battle was in a deadlock.

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In her previous life, Shen Miao had trained hard in chess just so she could have something to talk about with Fu Xiuyi. She was not the best, but she was at least unrivaled in the palace. However, playing with Xie Jingxing, she was always at a disadvantage.

Seeing that Xie Jingxing had eaten a few more of her pieces, Shen Miao said, "I'm tired. I'm not going to play anymore."

"You don't want to or you can't?" Xie Jingxing said, "Beg me and I'll teach you."

Shen Miao was so angry that she almost laughed. He came over in the middle of the night just to play chess with her. It was only because Shen Miao had a good temper that she didn't kick Xie Jingxing out. She said, "Thank you, but I don't want to." She did not intend to be a chess master. Why would she want to learn it? She was a little surprised that Xie Jingxing was so good at chess. He was outstanding on the battlefield, but she had never heard of him being especially good at anything else. However, on second thought, this person controlled the world in his hands. Playing chess was probably nothing to him.

She asked, "Have you found enough men?"

Two days later was the day Shen Miao would visit Shen Dongling. This was the first time she and Xie Jingxing had worked together to scheme against the crown prince. If word got out, it would probably make people shiver. However, Shen Miao did not think much of it. She had once given birth to a crown prince herself. She really did not think that the status of the crown prince was unattainable. Xie Jingxing was even more so. His brother was the emperor, and the crown prince was his nephew.

"Don't worry, nothing will go wrong." Xie Jingxing said, "Your carriage has also been arranged. Do you really want to go?" He frowned. "You can choose not to go."

"Why not?" Shen Miao smiled. "If I go, they will only make the show more realistic, but in the end, they will realize that they were wrong from the beginning. Won't it be more interesting?"

Xie Jingxing said with a faint smile, "Are you that ruthless?"

"Am I?" Shen Miao asked.

"You sure are." He nodded, his eyes as clear as water, and his thin lips curled up slightly. "But I like it."

Shen Miao was speechless.

Ever since that night, the way Xie Jingxing talked to Shen Miao had been getting more and more flippant. However, he still treated her very respectfully. Shen Miao was not used to someone suddenly forcing his way into her life, but she had to admit that with Xie Jingxing around, many things became much easier. It was as if what she had spent a lot of effort to do in the past could be done effortlessly now.

However, if she continued to rely on him like this, it would still make her feel uneasy. Shen Miao had yet to learn how to trust a person, or rather, a man. She was brave and smart, but in terms of love, she was once severely injured, so if she had to do it again, she would be as clumsy as a child.

Xie Jingxing stared at her casually, his eyes dark, thinking about something. There was a chess piece beside him. The girl sat there dignified and gentle. The light made her gentle and graceful, like a blooming lotus.

His face was handsome, and his dark eyes were as deep as the night. He looked at her thoughtfully for a while before suddenly smiling.

“After this matter is settled, I’ll marry you, Shen Jiaojiao.”

Chapter 776 Kill (1)

Two days later.

Shen Miao woke up early, and Luo Tan had already dressed up. Luo Tan had always been a lively person, and she could not sit still at home. Ever since the last accident, Shen Qiu and Luo Ling had reduced the number of times Shen Miao and Luo Tan were allowed to go out. Even if they went out, they would definitely be followed by a long group of guards. Shen Miao naturally did not care. She was not really a 16-year-old girl. She liked peace and quiet to begin with, so it was not a problem for her to stay in the mansion. On the other hand, Luo Tan was extremely unused to this. As long as she heard that she could go out, she was wild with excitement.

Shen Qiu and Luo Ling instructed Shen Miao to bring Ah Zhi and Mo Qing along. Ah Zhi and Mo Qing were considered the best guards in the entire Shen family. Shen Qiu said, “You don’t have to put up with her. If you don’t feel comfortable being there, just leave.”

At first, when Shen Qiu found out that Shen Miao was going to meet Shen Dongling, he actually objected. For some reason, Shen Qiu did not have a good impression of Shen Dongling. Although Shen Dongling did not behave as outrageously as Shen Qing and Shen Yue and always kept a low profile, for some reason, Shen Qiu felt that Shen Dongling was not a good person.

Perhaps it was because people who had been to the battlefield had an instinct for danger. Shen Qiu did not want to have anything to do with Shen Dongling, so he naturally did not want Shen Miao to get too close to her either.

Shen Miao smiled and said, “I know. With Cousin accompanying me, I’ll be fine.”

Luo Tan smiled and said, “That’s right, that’s right. Cousin Qiu, if you’re really worried, you can come with us.”

Shen Qiu shook his head. "I still have something to do in the military. Moreover, why would a boor like me go to smell the incense? It irritates my nose." Just like how the civil servants looked down on the vulgar generals, the generals could not understand the weird hobbies of the civil servants. Shen Qiu did not understand what was so good about smelling the incense and didn't understand why anyone would spend hundred taels of silver for a fistful of incense.

Luo Tan said, "Don't worry, Cousin Qiu. I'll take good care of my little cousin."

Shen Qiu retorted, "With your lousy combat skills? Last time, who almost lost her life and was treated by Imperial Physician Gao for an entire month?"

Luo Tan was most annoyed at people mentioning this. She quickly stuck out her tongue and looked at Luo Ling for help.

Luo Ling smiled and said, "No matter what, you have to be careful. Come back early." When he said this, he stared at Shen Miao with a concerned gaze.

Previously, when the news of the crown prince wanting to marry Shen Miao came, Luo Xueyan was busy marrying Shen Miao off. The first person to propose marriage was Luo Ling. Luo Ling's character and family background were both good, and they were family. Luo Xueyan thought highly of Luo Ling. Later, because of Prince Rui's interference, the marriage was postponed. Luo Xueyan was no longer in a hurry to find a good husband for Shen Miao. However, Luo Ling had already expressed his thoughts to Luo Xueyan and Shen Xin, so there was no need for him to hide his affection anymore.

Facing Luo Ling's undisguised love, Shen Miao felt awkward. She could only avoid his gaze and say, "Thank you for your concern, Cousin Ling."

Luo Tan urged her to leave, "Alright, let's set off quickly. It won't be good if we're late."

Chapter 777 Kill (2)

Only then did the two of them get in the carriage.

In the carriage, Luo Tan said, "Little Cousin, what exactly is on your mind?"

Shen Miao turned to look at her in confusion. "What do you mean?"

"Your marriage." Luo Tan looked like she was very worried about her. "Even if the crown prince has given up on marrying you, you will one day get married to someone. I heard from Aunt that you have to be engaged this year. Otherwise, with your good background, it's inevitable that someone else will want to use you."

Shen Miao did not say anything. The status of the Shen family in Ming Qi was indeed very delicate. If it was used well, it would be a sharp sword. However, one thing was certain. The royal family of Ming Qi was afraid of the Shen family. What they wanted was the soldiers in Shen Xin's hands. As for the person who led the soldiers... It was dispensable.

Therefore, as the only daughter of the Shen family, her marriage meant a lot. Sometimes, she had no choice and could not decide for herself.

Involuntarily, what Xie Jingxing said to her that day appeared in Shen Miao's mind.

“Once this matter is settled, I’ll marry you, Shen Jiaojiao.”

He seemed to be making a promise. Most importantly, when the words came out of his mouth, they sounded irrefutable, as if he would definitely do what he said.

However, how was that possible? One was the daughter of the general of Ming Qi, and the other was Prince Rui of the Daliang Dynasty. The Daliang Dynasty was powerful. Even a princess of Ming Qi would be out of her league for Prince Rui, let alone Shen Miao. Moreover, if she really married Prince Rui, how would the Shen family survive? It was really a difficult thing.

Shen Miao thought with a dark gaze. She was nudged by Luo Tan. She came back to her senses and heard Luo Tan say, “What are you thinking so much about? You didn’t even answer my question.”

Shen Miao asked, “What did you ask me?”

Luo Tan looked at her helplessly. After a while, she said, “I was asking you among the people who proposed marriage, who do you like the most?”

Shen Miao was stunned. Luo Tan had already started counting with her fingers. “Cousin Ling is gentle and considerate, and we know everything about him. Su Mingfeng is deeply in love with you, and Mrs. Su likes you very much. Feng Zixian looks like he’s well-educated. With Feng Anning protecting you, you’ll have a good time after entering the Feng family. These three people are considered outstanding young talents.” Luo Tan leaned closer to Shen Miao and carefully observed her expression. “Don’t you like any of them?”

Shen Miao laughed. “No.”

Luo Tan sat up straight and persuaded patiently, “Cousin, you’re wrong. Although it’s good to pursue perfection in everything, it’s not good to set the bar too high. In my opinion, these three are already the top men in the capital. If they were in Spring City, I’m afraid the girls would fight to become their concubines. However, all three of them agree not to take in concubines after marrying you.”

She looked at Shen Miao for a while before shaking her head and sighing. “But on second thought, it makes sense. You don’t seem to be interested in these three people. I read in the novel that girls who are in love will blush and their hearts will beat fast when they see the person they like. The person who can stir your heart probably hasn’t been born yet, right?”

When Shen Miao heard Luo Tan’s nonsense, she found it funny and said, “What nonsense are you talking about? Why do you care so much about my marriage? Are you sick?”

“Speaking of that.” Luo Tan held her throat. “My throat has been especially dry for the past few days. I’m afraid I will catch a cold after going out today. I have been meaning to look for Doctor Gao to take a look at me, but I haven’t seen him for the past few days.” Luo Tan was a little unhappy. “He’s really a doctor with no medical ethics!”

Chapter 778 Kill (3)

Shen Miao was a little speechless. Not to mention that Gao Yang’s true identity was a court official of the Daliang Dynasty, even in Ming Qi, he was still an imperial physician. Only Luo Tan would go to him for something as minor as a headache.

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On the other side, Shen Dongling was dressing up. Today, she was dressed especially plainly, almost without makeup. She was wearing a pine-colored dress.

Xing Hua looked around and said, "Madam, why are you dressed so simply today? Although you're born beautiful, the more beautiful you look, the more they will respect you."

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"What do you know?" Shen Dongling looked at herself in the mirror. She was born good-looking and had the charm of Concubine Wan. Even dressed simply, she was still more beautiful than most women.

Shen Dongling looked at herself for a moment before pulling off the jade hairpin on her head and changing it into a plain silver hairpin.

Seeing this, Xing Hua wanted to say something but hesitated.

Shen Dongling said, "I'm not the protagonist today. If I dress up too flashily, I'll steal the limelight. I won't do such a stupid thing. There are plenty of opportunities to display my beauty."

When Xing Hua heard this, she said, "Madam, you are beautiful even in this simple outfit."

Shen Dongling was happy to be praised, but what made her even happier was not Xing Hua's flattery. Today was the day to make the Crown Prince of the State of Qin fall in love with Shen Miao "at first sight". She was just a foil. The more inconspicuous she was, the more Shen Miao could stand out.

Wang Bi would also be present. This way, he could constantly remind the crown prince that he had contributed the most to this matter.

Shen Dongling stood up. It was still early before 9. She said, "I will eat with my husband first. After that, we'll go to Yi Feng Pavilion."

She did not know that while she was still eating breakfast with Wang Bi, Huangfu Hao had already gone out.

Yi Feng Pavilion was located in a mountain on the outskirts of the capital. That place was built by the late emperor for the late empress. Sitting in the Yi Feng Pavilion, one could see a deep valley. People from rich families often liked to enjoy the incense in the Yi Feng Pavilion.

Although it was already winter, the valley below was covered with snow, looking especially picturesque.

Huangfu Hao looked at the exquisite invitation and smiled. It sounded good to fall in love with the daughter of an official "at first sight" in such a beautiful place. However, it was a pity that he was just helping someone else put on a show.

Huangfu Hao's guard rushed over and said that the carriage was ready to set off. Only then did Huangfu Hao frown and walk towards the entrance of the mansion. The time for the gathering written on the invitation was 7 in the morning. Huangfu Hao was annoyed that he had to get up this early.

Chapter 779 Kill (4)

However, no matter how dissatisfied Huangfu Hao was, he could only agree.

Yi Feng Pavilion was in the outskirts, some distance away from the capital. Huangfu Hao set off at dawn. When he arrived at the outskirts, there was still a long mountain road. Fortunately, the road up the mountain was smooth enough for the carriage to pass. Otherwise, it would take much longer to arrive at the pavilion.

Huangfu Hao asked his guards to stay halfway up the mountain while he walked on alone because the invitation specially instructed him not to bring guards. The more guards there were, the more unnatural this “love at first sight” would be. Moreover, the crown prince would arrive early and had something to discuss with Huangfu Hao. It would be inconvenient if there were too many people.

Huangfu Hao was not afraid of anything happening at all. Firstly, this place would definitely be filled with guards from the crown prince, so he did not have to worry about assassins. Secondly, the crown prince would not make a move on him. When he went out today, everyone in his mansion knew that he was going to meet the crown prince. If anything happened to him, the crown prince would not be able to explain himself.

Therefore, Huangfu Hao calmly left the guard behind and went up alone.

However, Huangfu Hao would soon regret his careless decision for the rest of his life.

When Huangfu Hao walked up the mountain, the crown prince was also walking towards Yi Feng Pavilion with his guards. The two of them happened to maintain a distance from each other, but because they were not on the same path, they didn't see each other.

Ten minutes later, Huangfu Hao arrived at Yi Feng Pavilion.

At this moment, there was already someone sitting in the pavilion. When that person saw Huangfu Hao, he immediately stood up. It was the crown prince.

Huangfu Hao was a little surprised. He did not expect the crown prince to arrive before him. This way, the time requested in the invitation did not seem to be that unacceptable. After all, the crown prince came earlier than him.

He looked around and said, “Why aren't the others here?”

If there was no one else, what was the purpose of putting up a show?

The crown prince smiled and said, “There's no hurry. I called you here so early today because I have something to tell you in private.”

Huangfu Hao felt that it was a little strange, but he wasn't particularly wary. His guards could rush over in time if he was in danger. Seeing that the crown prince's guards were all by his side, he asked, “Please tell me.”

The crown prince walked to Huangfu Hao's side and stood there. “Brother Huangfu, don't you find it strange that I asked you to come so early and especially instructed you to leave your guards on the mountainside?”

"I think there's probably something very important you want to discuss with me." Huangfu Hao was a little impatient with the crown prince. At this point, why was the crown prince still acting so mysteriously?

"Brother Huangfu, don't you think this looks like a perfect situation for murder?" The crown prince asked.

Huangfu Hao laughed out loud and said, "I never expected you to be so humorous."

The crown prince did not speak. Huangfu Hao turned to look at him and his heart skipped a beat.

The crown prince's expression was calm, but it was this calmness that suddenly made Huangfu Hao feel deeply uneasy. He suddenly felt a chill run down his spine. However... Why did the crown prince want to kill him? Unless the crown prince could kill all the servants in Huangfu Hao's mansion, the crown prince would not be able to get away with it. Moreover, Huangfu Hao couldn't figure out why the crown prince wanted him dead.

However, before he could hear the answer, he saw a glint in the crown prince's eyes. Huangfu Hao was shocked and subconsciously dodged to the side, barely avoiding a silver sword that stabbed at him from behind.

Chapter 780 Kill (5)

That was the crown prince's personal guard!

Huangfu Hao was shocked and afraid. At this moment, he finally realized that something was wrong. The crown prince had brought his guards, but his guards were left on the mountainside. Huangfu Hao shouted angrily, "What are you doing?"

The crown prince looked at him expressionlessly. "I'm sorry."

A few guards pounced at Huangfu Hao at the same time. Huangfu Hao shouted in despair, "Fu Xiuyan! If you kill me, the State of Qin won't let this matter rest! Fu Xiuyan!"

Fu Xiuyan was the crown prince's name.

His voice stopped abruptly when the sword went right through his chest. The blood that slowly seeped out was stuck to the thin ice on the ground.

Yi Feng Pavilion was next to the valley, and Huangfu Hao's high-pitched roar resounded through the valley.

It spread like ripples at the surface of the water.

On the other side, the crown prince and the others, who were rushing towards Yi Feng Pavilion, suddenly stopped. They were on their way up the mountain from the back side, so they couldn't hear the echo clearly. The crown prince frowned and said, "Was someone shouting my name just now?"

The guards looked at each other, not knowing what to say.

The crown prince thought for a moment and said, "I probably heard wrongly."

In the world, other than the emperor and the empress, no one dared to call him by his name. Moreover, at this moment, there should be no one in Yi Feng Pavilion. The time agreed on the invitation was nine o'clock. However, the crown prince had a habit of arriving early on every occasion, so he should be the first to arrive.

At the thought of this, he felt that he was mistaken. However, for some reason, the crown prince felt a little uneasy and couldn't help but quicken his pace.

When he arrived at Yi Feng Pavilion, he saw someone sitting in the pavilion with his back to him from afar. Judging by the back figure, it was clearly Huangfu Hao. The crown prince was a little surprised. He did not expect Huangfu Hao to come so early. He smiled and went forward to greet him. "I didn't expect Brother Huangfu to come so..."

Before he could say "early", the crown prince's hand had just patted Huangfu Hao's shoulder when Huangfu Hao fell to the ground with a bang. The crown prince was shocked and immediately reached out to pull Huangfu Hao. As he pulled, Huangfu Hao turned his face, facing him. The crown prince immediately screamed and let go.

Huangfu Hao's eyes and mouth were wide open, as if he was extremely angry and shocked. However, his clothes were wet and cold, because at his chest, his silver robe was already dyed red with large patches of blood.

"What's going on?" The crown prince panicked and was instantly stunned. Huangfu Hao was dead?

How was this possible!

Before he could react, a large group of people suddenly rushed in from outside. They were all dressed as guards. Seeing that Huangfu Hao was lying on the ground, they shouted angrily at the crown prince, "How dare you murder our master! Pay with your life!" Without a word, they pounced on the crown prince.

The crown prince also brought his guards, and his guards naturally would not let him be hurt, so they fought with those guards. Only then did the crown prince understand that these people who drew their swords at him were Huangfu Hao's guards. But where were Huangfu Hao's guards just now? Why did they rush out all of a sudden?

The crown prince explained and shouted, "Brother Huangfu was already dead before my arrival! I didn't do it!"

When one of the guards who looked like the leader heard this, he said hatefully, "Nonsense! Just now, we were waiting for our master's order at the mountainside when we heard him shout that you were trying to kill him! We couldn't arrive immediately because there was some distance. Now that we have caught you red-handed, we won't let you get away with it!" With that, he raised his sword and rushed over.