

Venomous 851

Chapter 851 Showdown (4)

"Father-in-law, you're thinking too much." Xie Jingxing smiled indifferently. "She knows my identity and understands the situation she's facing better than you. Perhaps you should think about the relationship between the Shen family and Ming Qi."

Feeling that Xie Jingxing was hinting at something, Shen Xin frowned and asked, "What do you mean?"

Xie Jingxing snapped his fingers and his gaze landed on the chessboard that had just been played. Most of Shen Xin's white pieces had been eaten, but Xie Jingxing's black pieces were still all over the chessboard. Shen Xin had lost badly, and this chessboard did not look too complicated. Xie Jingxing said, "I played this chess with Father-in-law as a member of the Ming Qi royal family. Father-in-law, didn't you notice anything?"

Shen Xin suddenly looked up and said angrily, "Nonsense!"

"We both know very well if I'm spouting nonsense or not." The smile on Xie Jingxing's face suddenly disappeared, and his lazy expression was immediately replaced by seriousness. "I don't believe you can't tell Ming Qi's attitude towards the Shen family. In fact, if not for Shen Miao secretly interfering, the Shen family would probably be down and out now. I'm not a kind-hearted person. I just don't want to see Shen Miao risking her life for the Shen family alone, but you don't know anything. She's just a little girl. I can't bear to see her being the villain."

Shen Xin was so angry that the beard on his lips straightened, but he still caught the crux of Xie Jingxing's words and asked, "What's with Jiaojiao? What did you mean just now? Explain it!"

"Father-in-law and Mother-in-law are stationed in the northwest all year round, so you are naturally too busy to take care of Jiaojiao. However, I'm lucky enough to know what the second and third branches did to her back then. They schemed against her and wanted to send her to Prince Yu's bed. How did Shen Yuan die? How did Ren Wanyun go crazy? How did Shen Gui and Shen Wan get into trouble? Jing Chuchu, Jing Guansheng... Not only did the Shen family scheme against her, but even the royal family of Ming Qi used her to their advantage behind your back."

"Back then when you retreated to Spring City, who do you think was paving the way? Do you think it's really a coincidence that Su Yu suddenly appeared and asked the emperor to forgive you to arouse his suspicion? Is the Shen family so blessed that you can escape unscathed every time?"

He looked at Shen Xin's stiff expression and mocked, "Two years ago, when you returned to the imperial court, it happened to be Old Madam Shen's birthday. The ancestral hall of the Shen family was set on fire. Don't you think it's Shen Miao who personally set it on fire just to let you see the ambition of the Shen family? She used her life to warn and remind you. General Shen, do you dare to say that you can still protect her?"

Shen Xin felt like he had been struck by lightning.

Ever since he and Luo Xueyan returned to the capital, he had suspected that something was wrong, but every time he investigated, he could not find anything. Later, there were many things to do in the Ministry of War, so he did not have much time to dwell on it and gradually put it to the back of his mind.

Now that Shen Xin heard the whole story from Xie Jingxing, he was lost for words.

“Shen Miao is the one who pushed the second and third branches of the Shen family to their demise. General Shen, don’t blame her for being ruthless. If not for her, I’m afraid you’ll long be six feet under.” Xie Jingxing said sarcastically, but his gaze was sharp and oppressive. He said, “You might be a good general to the world, but I think you are not a good father to Shen Miao. I don’t know why she shoulders all the burden, as if she owes the Shen family. However, in my opinion, General Shen, you are not a good father, but you are very lucky to have raised a daughter like Shen Miao.”

Chapter 852 Showdown (5)

“She’s doing everything she can to protect the Shen family. The future emperor of Ming Qi is also someone she wants to deal with.” He said coldly and mockingly, “Do you really understand Shen Miao?”

Shen Xin collapsed on the chair. At this moment, he suddenly felt ashamed.

“On the contrary, although I don’t have a deep relationship with Shen Jiaojiao, we’ve been through thick and thin together. We listened to each other’s stories and came up with ideas at night. I saved her life and saved her from danger.” Xie Jingxing said, “Why can’t I marry her?”

Shen Xin suddenly felt extremely tired. The Shen Miao Xie Jingxing was talking about was unfamiliar to him. He did not know anything about what Shen Miao had experienced. Just as Xie Jingxing said, he thought he doted on his daughter a lot, but he didn’t even know what she had been through. Then what had he done all these years?

He looked at the chessboard on the table for a long time. When his eyes started to hurt, he said softly, “Tell me everything.”

“Everything you know about Jiaojiao, tell me.”

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When Pei Lang woke up, he was in an unfamiliar place. There were many well-dressed maids serving him medicine. Pei Lang’s memory of before he fainted was in the dungeon of Prince Ding’s mansion. A masked man in black saved him from the fire.

He did not know who saved him, nor did he know why that person saved him. He asked the surrounding maids who came to serve him, but he was only told that this was Prince Rui’s mansion.

Pei Lang vaguely sensed that Shen Miao and Prince Rui might be friends, but he did not know how deep the friendship was. He thought that Prince Rui would not take him in for no reason. If he did, it must be because of Shen Miao. Shen Miao did not give up on him. At the thought of this, Pei Lang’s heart skipped a beat.

It was as if everything he insisted on was worth it at this moment, although Pei Lang did not understand where this strange thought came from.

Just as he was thinking, the door to the room opened and a young man walked in with a medicine box on his back. He walked up to him and sat down, as if he wanted to take his pulse.

Pei Lang did not look at the young man seriously at first, thinking that it was a doctor hired by Prince Rui. When he saw the doctor's face clearly, he was slightly stunned at first before shouting, "Imperial Physician Gao!"

He reacted so strongly that he accidentally pulled the wound and gasped in pain. Gao Yang quickly pressed down on his wound and said, "You don't have to be so surprised. Be careful not to pull on the wound."

Pei Lang looked at Gao Yang, and many thoughts flashed across his mind. Gao Yang was the youngest imperial physician in the Imperial Hospital. The royal family liked this young imperial physician very much, probably because he was very good with words and often made Emperor Wen Hui happy. In the eyes of the consorts, he was much more pleasing to the eye than the old men in the Imperial Hospital.

Since he was an imperial physician in the palace, he would not treat people outside the palace for no reason, let alone in Prince Rui's mansion. Pei Lang's first thought was that Prince Rui might have borrowed Gao Yang from Emperor Wen Hui for him, but this thought was quickly shaken by Pei Lang. Although Gao Yang was excellent, he was not the only physician in the capital. There was no need for Prince Rui to find Gao Yang to alert the royal family.

Then the second possibility was that Gao Yang and Prince Rui were friends in private.

This possibility was really shocking. He looked up at Gao Yang with a suspicious gaze, but he smiled gently and said, "Imperial Physician Gao, why are you here?"

Chapter 853 Showdown (6)

As Gao Yang took Pei Lang's pulse, he said, "Prince Rui summoned me over to treat you, so I came over." After taking Pei Lang's pulse, he said, "Your situation is almost stable. However, Prince Ding tortured your legs heavily. Your legs are injured, so I have to acupuncture you. Otherwise, your legs will be crippled soon."

Pei Lang was stunned. Fu Xiuyi was extremely ruthless to him. He seemed to hate the people who betrayed him very much. Although he did not take his life, that was probably because Fu Xiuyi was certain that he would die from the torture. In fact, if not for the fact he was saved, given the intensity of the torture, his kneecaps would have been dug out in the next few days.

Hearing Gao Yang's words, even Pei Lang, who had always been calm, couldn't help but feel like he had escaped the jaws of death.

"Fu Xiuyi is really ruthless." Gao Yang took out a row of golden needles from the medical box and asked Pei Lang to sit still. He rolled up his pants and slowly started to perform acupuncture on him. As he performed it, he said, "I can't tell from his appearance that he's so ruthless."

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Pei Lang's heart skipped a beat. Gao Yang was an official of Ming Qi after all, and he was an imperial physician who specialized in treating the royal family. However, he actually called Prince Ding by his name. Not only that, but when he mentioned Fu Xiuyi, his tone was not respectful at all, as if he was evaluating an unimportant person. With Gao Yang's status, this behavior was too strange.

Gao Yang did not even look up and was focused on performing acupuncture on Pei Lang. He suddenly said, "Do you want to ask what kind of relationship I have with Prince Rui?"

Pei Lang paused for a moment before saying with a smile, "Are you willing to tell me?"

"To be honest, I'm Prince Rui's man," Gao Yang said.

This time, it was Pei Lang's turn to remain silent. He was surprised by Gao Yang's identity, but what surprised him the most was that Gao Yang actually told him this secret so bluntly. Then what was Gao Yang now? A spy sent by the Daliang Dynasty to Ming Qi? What was the point of doing this? To poison Emperor Wen Hui?

Or was he bribed by Prince Rui and betrayed?

"Are you surprised and curious why I told you such a big secret?" Gao Yang continued, as if he could guess what Pei Lang was thinking.

"That's right." Pei Lang said frankly, "I indeed don't understand."

"What's so difficult to understand?" Gao Yang smiled. "Prince Ding's mansion is on fire. After the fire is put out, Fu Xiuyi will send people to look for your corpse. If they can't find your corpse, he will know that someone saved you. Fu Xiuyi is not a fool. The person who saved you even set fire to his dungeon. Fu Xiuyi naturally has to blame you for everything. At this moment, only Prince Rui can protect you in Ming Qi. Whether you like it or not, you're tied to Prince Rui. In that case, we're all on the same side. What secrets can't I tell you?" Gao Yang looked up and smiled at Pei Lang. "We're all in the same boat."

Pei Lang quickly caught the crux of Gao Yang's words and asked, "Did Prince Rui set the fire?"

Gao Yang said, "Of course."

Pei Lang was dumbfounded. That dungeon was considered the most hidden place in the entire Prince Ding's mansion. The people locked up there were also very useful to Fu Xiuyi. Pei Lang could easily guess that Fu Xiuyi must be burning with rage. Gao Yang was right. In the entire capital, only Prince Rui could make Fu Xiuyi afraid and only Prince Rui could protect him.

Pei Lang hesitated for a moment before asking the question he wanted to ask the most. "Did Prince Rui save me?"

"Otherwise, who would have the ability to save you?" Gao Yang said, "No one dares to take this risk."

"But why did he save me?" Pei Lang asked tentatively, "Because someone else asked him to do this?" He did not know if Gao Yang knew about Shen Miao, so he did not say Shen Miao's name, afraid that this would cause trouble for her.

Gao Yang looked at him meaningfully and stabbed a golden needle into his knee. Pei Lang frowned slightly and heard Gao Yang saying, "That's right, because our princess consort asked him to."

"Princess Consort?" Pei Lang was stunned. "Princess Consort Rui?" He had never heard of Prince Rui having a princess consort, nor did he know what kind of relationship he had with Princess Consort Rui. He asked, "Why did Princess Consort Rui..."

Gao Yang smiled. "It's probably because Princess Consort Rui was once your student."

Pei Lang said, "She's..."

"Shen Miao."

Chapter 854 Secret (1)

At the end of the year, the Shen family was both happy and unhappy.

The happy thing was that the family was gathered together, which was always a joyous thing. The unhappy thing was that after the new year, Shen Miao was going to marry into the Daliang Dynasty. As time approached, everyone in the Shen family was busy every day. They had to prepare Shen Miao's dowry, gather guards and servants Shen Miao was going to bring with her, and plan out the journey to the Daliang Dynasty.

Although the dowry Shen Xin prepared for Shen Miao was not as good as the betrothal gift Xie Jingxing gave her, it was still very generous. He did not include the shops and fields, because they were useless since Shen Miao was going to another country, and there was not much furniture either because it would be too heavy to carry. Apart from some rare jewelry, the dowry consisted mostly of money. In a foreign country, everything else was dispensable, but money was indispensable.

The money Shen Xin and his wife had prepared for Shen Miao was more than enough. However, Shen Qiu still pulled Shen Miao to the side and took out a thick stack of banknotes from his sleeve. He said, "These are the banknotes from the Tonghui Bank. They can be used in the Daliang Dynasty." He then said awkwardly, "Brother doesn't have anything else. I only have these banknotes for you. Sister, don't mind it."

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Shen Miao looked at the banknotes, and a warm feeling surged in her heart. Shen Qiu was a young man after all. The soldiers of the Ministry of War worked hard for him every day, so Shen Qiu naturally had to treat them to a meal every now and then. Shen Qiu's salary was not much. Most of it was rewards from his military achievements in the past. Shen Miao was touched and said, "Brother, the banknotes given to me by our parents can last me for the rest of my life. Why did you give me these?"

"Say no more." Shen Qiu stuffed the banknote into Shen Miao's hand and left without looking back. Shen Miao looked at his back and was caught between laughter and tears, thinking that she had to find a chance to get Mo Qing to secretly return it to Shen Qiu.

Just as she was thinking, she saw Shen Xin walk in and say, "Jiaojiao, I have something to tell you. Come, let's go to the study."

When Luo Xueyan heard this, she wanted to follow and said, "It just so happens that I have something to say to Jiaojiao as well."

"Madam, it won't be too late to say to Jiaojiao later." Shen Xin said, "Let me talk to Jiaojiao in private."

Luo Xueyan snorted, but she did not follow him in. She thought that Shen Xin was going to secretly give Shen Miao money or something, so she did not think too much about it.

Shen Miao followed Shen Xin into the study. Shen Xin asked the servants to guard the door outside and asked Shen Miao to sit down at the table in the room before getting some pastries and tea for Shen Miao to eat. He sat down opposite Shen Miao and sighed deeply. "Jiaojiao, you're going to get married in a few days. I plan to get Mo Qing to go with you." After a pause, Shen Xin continued, "Although Prince Rui is Emperor Yong Le's brother and has a lot of status in the Daliang Dynasty, the royal family is always complicated. Some things might not be as simple as they look. At that time, don't let yourself suffer. If anyone bullies you, tell Prince Rui. You're his wife. He will protect you. Don't take it on yourself. Leave it to him."

Shen Miao nodded.

"If Prince Rui can't protect you, don't be afraid. You still have us. I've chosen a few people from the Shen army. Although they're not as skilled as Mo Qing, they're not ordinary either. They'll dress up as guards of the Shen family and go with you. Just don't make yourself suffer."

Shen Miao thought for a moment and finally couldn't help but ask, "Father, have you and Mother... never thought of leaving Ming Qi?"

Chapter 855 Secret (2)

Shen Xin was stunned and looked at Shen Miao without saying anything.

Since she had already said it, Shen Miao might as well say it all. She continued, "Now that I'm married to the Daliang Dynasty, the emperor will definitely be wary of the Shen family. Although Father and Mother are still generals now, the emperor might not put you in an important position in the future. It's always difficult to guess what the emperor is thinking. If the emperor has ill-intentions... it's better to go to the Daliang Dynasty with me now. Military power is no longer that important, because if you stay in Ming Qi, it'll be taken back by the emperor sooner or later."

Shen Miao put it euphemistically. If it were before, after hearing Shen Miao's words, Shen Xin would definitely be confused. However, after having a long conversation with Xie Jingxing that day, when he heard it again from Shen Miao, Shen Xin immediately understood. He couldn't help but smile bitterly. It turned out that his daughter had already reminded him so many times. Why didn't he take what she said to heart at all? Was it because of the family teaching that one had to be loyal to his country? Or did he not trust Shen Miao at all?

Shen Xin said, "The royal family wants to suppress the Shen family and is afraid of my military power. They definitely won't let the Shen family leave Ming Qi so easily. Moreover, they want to use the Shen family to threaten you."

Shen Miao was stunned. All along, she had been afraid of making Shen Xin angry by saying these treacherous words. It was not that she felt that Shen Xin was stupidly loyal, but Shen Xin had been taught by Old General Shen since he was young to be loyal to the emperor. It was a long process to make someone abandon what they had believed in for decades. Some people would never be able to change in their lives. However, Shen Xin seemed to have seen through it.

Shen Xin said, "I know what you are worried about, but I still can't leave."

"If Father wants to leave, we can always come up with an idea to leave." Shen Miao said, "The royal family wants to use the Shen family to threaten me or use me to threaten the Shen family. Why don't we let them suffer a double loss." At the end of her sentence, there was a faint hostility in her tone, and her words became sharp.

Shen Xin laughed out loud. "I originally thought that you were too gentle and did not look like a daughter from a military family. Now that I see you, you look exactly like me. You have the demeanor of a heroine. You're not afraid of power and have a clear mind. Very good!" He took a sip of tea and said, "Jiaojiao, you're smart. I believe it's not difficult for you to find a way, but what will happen in the future?"

"In the future?" Shen Miao was puzzled. "What future?"

"Jiaojiao." Shen Xin suddenly said, "The Shen family is like a thorn in the side of the royal family. Even if Ming Qi becomes powerful one day, the Shen family will still be at the mercy of the royal family." Shen Xin sighed. "The Shen family is not afraid of being accused. Even if we die, we won't be afraid. It's just that I don't want your mother, your brother, and you to be implicated, nor do I want the loyal ancestors of the Shen family to be defamed."

Shen Miao's heart was pounding. She had guessed what Shen Xin was going to say, but she couldn't believe it.

The next moment, Shen Xin said, "I, Shen Xin, am done with being a loyal servant of the royal family."

Shen Miao suddenly looked up and said, "Father..."

"Jiaojiao, you don't have to persuade me." Shen Xin smiled brightly. "Although I'm loyal, I won't be loyal to a heartless person, nor will I risk the life of my entire family for them. As you can see, if everyone in the Shen family goes to the Daliang Dynasty with you now and one day, the Daliang Dynasty attacks Ming Qi, the people of Ming Qi will scold us for being treacherous and helping the wicked. We can't take the blame."

Chapter 856 Secret (3)

"If we stay in Ming Qi and one day, Ming Qi and the Daliang Dynasty fight, the people will understand that you are just a woman and can't do anything to reverse the situation, so they won't blame you. The Shen family is in Ming Qi, so it's even more impossible for us to collude with the Daliang Dynasty and be accused of treason."

Shen Miao shook her head. "If that happens, Father, are you going to fight the Daliang Dynasty for Ming Qi?"

"No." Shen Xin smiled. "Before that, the emperor will definitely make a move on the Shen family. Even if the emperor doesn't make a move, I have a way to get him to make a move on the Shen family." Shen Xin looked at the tea on the table. "The royal family is paranoid. As long as I spread some rumors, the emperor will definitely not be able to hold back from making a move." He said sarcastically. He had fought for Emperor Wen Hui for many years, protected the country, and risked his life many times. However, as long as Emperor Wen Hui heard these rumors about Shen Xin, he would forget Shen Xin's contributions and kill him without hesitation.

Once Emperor Wen Hui felt that his throne was threatened, he would not be merciful even to his sons.

“When that day comes...” Shen Xin’s eyes suddenly darkened. “The day the emperor raises his knife to our Shen family will be the day the Shen family rises up!”

He didn’t want the Shen family to be tarnished, but he also didn’t want his beloved to be sacrificed to the despicable royal family. Therefore, he wanted the people of the world to see clearly that the royal family was the one who was heartless to the Shen family first.

Perhaps compared to the royal family, the mighty general with outstanding military achievements would have a higher reputation among the people of Ming Qi. Shen Xin wanted to use this to compete with the royal family.

This was the Shen family’s counterattack against the royal family.

However, Shen Miao was not thinking about this at this moment. She was thinking that this was not Shen Xin’s style of doing things.

Shen Xin was straightforward and non-scheming. This was why ever since Shen Miao was reborn, she had been walking the path of revenge alone. Firstly, Shen Xin wouldn’t scheme against people. Secondly, she was afraid her father would think she was a sinister person.

However, what Shen Xin was doing now was secretly setting up a trap. It was impossible for Shen Xin to take the initiative to do this. He must be guided by someone. Shen Miao thought of someone almost immediately, Xie Jingxing.

She looked at Shen Xin and wanted to speak, but she was lost for words.

Shen Xin seemed to have seen through her inner turmoil. He smiled and patted her head. “I used to think that Jiaojiao couldn’t grow up. Later, while staying in the capital alone, you grew up. I originally thought that it was not good for a little girl to be too mature so early, but now, I’m very glad.” He smiled and said, “I believe that even if Father and Mother are not by your side, you can still protect yourself.”

Shen Miao said, “Father, if you can’t protect the Shen family, write a letter to the Daliang Dynasty. I’m the daughter of the Shen family. I’ll think of a way.”

Shen Xin laughed heartily. “My Jiaojiao is the best girl in the world.”

Shen Miao felt a lump in her throat. It seemed to have started at this moment that she clearly understood that in this life, she was about to leave her family.

“Although Prince Rui is a little cunning and ruthless, he’s still a trustworthy person. Since he agreed to marry you, he will protect you. If you like him, don’t worry about anything. Just do what you want.”

Chapter 857 Secret (4)

“I understand,” Shen Miao said softly.

Shen Xin looked at Shen Miao for a while before saying with a smile, “In a few years, in a few years, I promise you that I will come and look for you.”

Shen Miao smiled. “I’ll wait for you, Father.”

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Ever since that day when Shen Xin and Shen Miao had a long private conversation in the study, Shen Xin and Shen Miao seemed to have become closer. Shen Miao often watched Shen Xin practice martial arts in the courtyard, making Shen Qiu very jealous. He said, "Sister, you've been sticking to Father these days and even ignoring me."

Shen Miao felt that there was an unspoken mutual understanding between her and Shen Xin. Shen Xin had become the person in the Shen family who understood the most about her, so she did not hold back when she talked to Shen Xin. Most of the time, she advised Shen Xin to be wary of the royal family. She had been in the palace for so long in her previous life, so she had some understanding of the royal family of Ming Qi. When Shen Xin heard this, he was very surprised, not knowing where Shen Miao found out all this. Shen Miao naturally did not hesitate to push all the credit to Xie Jingxing, making Shen Xin more wary of him. Such a sophisticated person could not be underestimated. He had to be careful.

Speaking of Xie Jingxing, Shen Miao had also asked Xie Jingxing if he had said anything to Shen Xin. Xie Jingxing did not admit or deny it. When she asked him what would happen to the Shen family in Ming Qi in the future, Xie Jingxing said that with his help, the Shen family would be fine. With his words, Shen Miao was relieved.

In the blink of an eye, it was the night before the wedding.

The next day, Shen Miao was going to get married. She would sit in the sedan chair to tour the entire capital. Then, she would leave Ming Qi and go to the Daliang Dynasty in a grand manner.

She had brought everything she needed to bring, including Pei Lang. It was already very dangerous for Pei Lang to stay in the capital. Fu Xiuyi would definitely search the entire capital to find him. It was better to let Pei Lang join the wedding team and go to the Daliang Dynasty together.

Shen Miao used to think that Pei Lang would not agree to go to the Daliang Dynasty so easily, so she had to persuade him. However, she only mentioned it in the letter, and Pei Lang replied to her very readily, saying that he agreed to go to the Daliang Dynasty. This puzzled Shen Miao. She thought that Xie Jingxing might have threatened Pei Lang, but she felt that Xie Jingxing probably would not do such a thing. Whether Pei Lang was alive or dead, Xie Jingxing probably did not care at all.

Shen Miao was getting married tomorrow. Apart from the fact that it was a sleepless night in the Shen family, there were naturally others who were not in the mood to sleep.

The princess mansion was one of them.

Princess Rong Xin paced back and forth in the room. She was afraid that her abnormal behavior would arouse suspicion, so she dismissed all the servants.

Ever since she found out that Prince Rui was Xie Jingxing, although Princess Rong Xin had many questions, she had never taken the initiative to go to Prince Rui's mansion to ask Xie Jingxing in person. She knew that the royal family in the capital had many spies. Although she had stayed away from the imperial court for a long time, there might still be people who watched her every move. If someone found out something about Xie Jingxing's identity, what would happen?

Princess Rong Xin still had some feelings for Xie Jingxing. She was wary of him, suspicious of him, and on guard against him, but she could not forget the past. She could not forget that it was Xie Jingxing who came to talk to her and helped her through the difficult times of being a widow.

Human emotions were very complicated. There was no pure love and hate. If one could distinguish between love and hate, many things in the world would probably be much easier. The most difficult thing was that love was very mixed.

Chapter 858 Secret (5)

Tomorrow, Shen Miao would get married, and tomorrow, Xie Jingxing would leave Ming Qi's capital. When Xie Jingxing returned to the Daliang Dynasty and stepped into Ming Qi again, would he be leading troops to flatten Ming Qi's capital?

Princess Rong Xin was Xie Jingxing's former aunt, but she was also the princess of Ming Qi. Between her country and family, she had to make a choice.

After a moment, she walked to the table and sat down. She took out a pen and paper and dipped it in ink. Just as she was about to write on the paper, she stopped, looking very conflicted.

If she wrote this letter and sent this letter, no one would know what awaited Xie Jingxing. Perhaps he would be criticized by thousands of people, or perhaps his life would be in danger. However, one thing was certain. If this letter was completed, it meant that she had made a choice. Upon finishing this letter, the relationship between her and Xie Jingxing would be gone.

It was painful for both Xie Jingxing and Princess Rong Xin to be enemies with each other. Princess Rong Xin did not dare to imagine what would happen, but there was nothing she could do.

She did not expect that she, who had almost died when she heard the news of Xie Jingxing's death, would now personally push Xie Jingxing to his death.

She gritted her teeth and quickly picked up the pen to write.

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In the Earl of Pingnan's mansion, Su Yu and Mrs. Su looked at Su Mingfeng's tightly shut study door and looked at each other. This was the first time Su Mingfeng liked a girl. Unfortunately, this marriage was not fated. Previously, while the crown prince was still around, the Su family was willing to take the risk to make Su Mingfeng marry Shen Miao. Unexpectedly, after the crown prince was gone, Prince Rui appeared out of nowhere.

In the end, Shen Xin, who doted on his daughter, had no choice but to obey the imperial edict and let his daughter marry far away to the Daliang Dynasty.

Mrs. Su said with a sigh, "Now, we can only wait for Mingfeng to think it through and forget about Miss Shen."

"It's easier said than done." Su Yu shook his head. "Mingfeng is like me. It's not that simple for him to forget Miss Shen." He looked at Mrs. Su. "It's useless for us to stand here. Let's go back and let Mingfeng think for himself."

Mrs. Su glared at Su Yu. "He's my son. Seeing him sad hurts more than cutting off my flesh."

"Even if you tried to persuade him, he wouldn't listen." Su Yu felt aggrieved. Outside, Su Minglang walked over with a thick stack of calligraphy.

As Su Minglang grew older, he finally stopped being bratty and gradually became more like a second Su Mingfeng. However, compared to the gentle and polite Su Mingfeng, Su Minglang was more proud. Now facing his parents, he even liked to put on the airs of an adult, Su Yu felt that Su Minglang was becoming less and less cute.

Su Yu called out to him, "Minglang!"

Su Minglang stopped in his tracks and walked towards the two of them before greeting them.

"Your brother is not in a good mood. I have something important to ask you to do. Go in and talk to him for a while to make him feel better."

Although Su Minglang's personality had changed, he was still as close to Su Mingfeng as before. Thinking about it, it made sense. Su Minglang was slow on the uptake when he was young and was as round as a meatball. He was either mocked by his friends or reprimanded by Su Yu. Every time, Su Mingfeng would protect him. When Su Minglang grew up, he remembered how well his brother treated him when he was young.

Chapter 859 Secret (6)

Mrs. Su also said, "That's right, that's right. Minglang, get your brother to teach you how to write or let him play with you for a while. Don't let him be idle."

Su Minglang glanced at his parents and said in an adultlike voice, "Do you want me to persuade Brother not to be sad about Sister Shen's marriage?"

Su Yu and Mrs. Su were speechless.

Su Minglang glanced at the light in the study and said, "The two of us have something to say to each other. If there's nothing else, Father and Mother, you can leave first. I won't let Brother drown himself in the river."

After being stunned for a while, Mrs. Su said, "Thank you, Minglang."

Su Minglang walked towards Su Mingfeng's study. He pushed open the door with difficulty and saw Su Mingfeng sitting at the desk, looking a little anxious and fluttered. These days, he had always been like this.

Su Minglang climbed onto the chair very close to Su Mingfeng and sat down properly. Then, he looked at Su Mingfeng and said, "Brother, if you like her, go and fight for her."

Su Mingfeng was confused.

"As your brother, I will definitely support you. Since you like Miss Shen, snatch her over. Anyway, compared to that prince, you're much better." Su Minglang encouraged him with a serious expression.

Only then did Su Mingfeng understand what Su Minglang was talking about. Su Mingfeng laughed and shook his head. "What does it have to do with me who she marries?"

"Then why are you sad?" Su Minglang asked in confusion, "Don't you like Sister Shen anymore?"

"Don't listen to Mother. When have I ever liked her?"

"But you even sent someone to secretly investigate Sister Shen." Su Minglang complained, "If that doesn't mean you like her, then what is it?"

Su Mingfeng shook his head. "I didn't do it because I like her. It's just that..." He suddenly paused, and a complicated expression appeared on his face.

Su Minglang looked at him. "Brother, you're really strange now."

"Minglang." Su Mingfeng suddenly asked, "Do you still remember Xie Jingxing from the Marquis of Lin'an?"

"Brother Xie?" Su Minglang said, "Of course I remember him. Isn't he your best friend? Back then, you said that Brother Xie went to a far place and would never come back. You asked me not to mention him in the future. Why did you mention him today? Brother, has Brother Xie returned to the capital?"

Su Mingfeng shook his head. "No." He asked, "Do you also think he's my best friend?"

"Of course." Su Minglang said, "Although Brother Xie is very scary and always bullies me, he treats me very well."

Su Mingfeng fell silent.

Su Minglang looked at him curiously. "Did you quarrel with Brother Xie?"

Su Mingfeng stood up. "No, I'm going out for a while. Minglang, stay here and don't go anywhere."

The darkness of the night in the capital covered everything. In the princess's mansion and Earl of Pingnan's mansion, a storm that was enough to destroy everything was brewing.

In Prince Ding's mansion, Fu Xiuyi sat at the head of the table.

He looked a little haggard, making his handsome appearance less charming. Some time ago, the dungeon was burned to the ground, and Fu Xiuyi almost smashed everything in the entire bedroom. He was furious, and the news that followed made him even angrier. Pei Lang's corpse was not in the dungeon.

Obviously, Pei Lang had been brought away. It was obvious that this fire was set by the person who came to save Pei Lang.

Fu Xiuyi was determined to find out who did it. He thought that it was someone from the Shen family, but in the end, it turned out that it had nothing to do with the Shen family.

One could imagine how angry Fu Xiuyi was.

Tomorrow was Shen Miao and Prince Rui's wedding. After tomorrow, Shen Miao would go to the Daliang Dynasty with Prince Rui, so there was no time to find out Prince Rui's secret. Seeing that the opportunity was slipping away, how could Fu Xiuyi not be indignant.

At this moment, the guard Fu Xiuyi sent to investigate came in from outside and bowed to Fu Xiuyi. Then, he said, "Your Highness, there's something going on in the princess's mansion and the Earl of Pingnan's mansion."

Fu Xiuyi's eyes lit up and he said, "What is it?"

The guard took two steps closer and leaned down to whisper something into Fu Xiuyi's ear. Then, Fu Xiuyi was shocked for a moment before looking overjoyed.

"The heavens are helping me! Immediately send someone to follow the two of them. Don't let anything go."

The guard accepted the order and left. Fu Xiuyi leaned back in his chair and slowly smiled smugly.

"Prince Rui, Princess Rong Xin, the Earl of Pingnan, and Shen Miao." He said, "I want to see what shameful secrets you are hiding."

Chapter 860 Getting Married (1)

On the eighth day of the first month of the lunar year, which was auspicious for marriage and a long journey, Shen Miao was woken up by Jingzhe and Gu Yu to be dressed up.

Shen Miao originally thought that she would not be able to fall asleep the night before her wedding. Unexpectedly, when that day really came, she slept especially soundly. It was as if she had returned to her carefree childhood.

Because she had slept well, her face looked even more rosy and her complexion was extremely good. Bai Lu and Shuang Jiang brought Shen Miao some exquisite pastries. The pastries were all small. Bai Lu said, "Miss, eat something to fill your stomach first. The wedding procedure today is complicated. You can't go hungry on the way." She picked up a bowl of small porridge and said, "Madam woke up early and personally made porridge for you!"

Shen Miao picked up the bowl and slowly drank, feeling complicated.

In her previous life, she cried and threw a tantrum with her family, forcing Shen Xin to agree to let her marry Fu Xiuyi. However, in this marriage, there was more criticism than blessings. At that time, Luo Xueyan was so angry with Shen Miao that she fell ill. She barely managed to hold on and watch Shen Miao finish the wedding. How could she still be in the mood to make porridge?

Unlike now, everyone in the mansion was happy and did their best for her. Shen Miao suddenly felt that this marriage seemed to be extremely good.

Just as she was about to finish eating, Luo Xueyan came in, followed by a middle-aged woman. This woman did not look very outstanding, but she was able to attract people's attention, and she was also dressed very nicely.

“This is Miss Mei from the capital.” Luo Xueyan smiled and said, “She’s specially here to be your bridesmaid today.”

Shen Miao was a little surprised.

Miss Mei was a very famous person in the capital. She came from an official family, but from a young age, despite her parents’ objection, she started a business. The business she did was rouge, powder, clothes, and jewelry. There were countless daughters from official families in the capital who did not lack money.

Miss Mei’s clothes, jewelry, and rouge were the best and unique. Although she was doing business, no one would look down on her.

However, Miss Mei’s most outstanding skill was dressing people up. Once, a prince in Ming Qi married a consort. That consort was friends with Miss Mei, so Miss Mei agreed to be her bridesmaid. Later on, people said that the princess consort was probably the most beautiful bride since the founding of Ming Qi.

However, Miss Mei became the bridesmaid only because she had a relationship with the princess consort, and others were not so lucky. All these years, Miss Mei had never been the bridesmaid of others.

Shen Miao was surprised. She smiled and said, “I didn’t expect Miss Mei to do me the favor.”

Miss Mei smiled and said, “Princess Consort, don’t say that. When I saw you, I felt that we hit it off very well. I’ll be happy if you can let me be your bridesmaid.

These merchants had always been sharp-tongued. Shen Miao naturally did not believe that they hit it off. She thought that perhaps Shen Xin had given Miss Mei a lot of money, but on second thought, Miss Mei did not seem to be short of money.

As she was thinking, Miss Mei had already come forward and said with a smile, “Princess Consort, the wedding dress is very complicated. Please change into it first so that I can help you put on more makeup.”

She changed her clothes, coiled her hair, changed her jewelry, and put on layers of makeup.