

Venomous 941

Chapter 941 Giving Herb (4)

The Daoist priest casually picked up a willow branch and walked forward like a child, humming an unknown tune.

The Daoist priest walked for a long time. Afraid of angering him, Luo Tan did not dare to complain, and Shen Miao did not say anything. She did not know what time it was, but she felt that the sky was gradually getting dark. When the sun almost set, the Daoist priest suddenly stopped and said, "We're here."

Luo Tan and Shen Miao both took two steps forward and saw a huge valley in front of them. The flowers and plants filled the valley, blooming densely. Painted by the afterglow, this place looked like a paradise on earth.

"This place is so beautiful!" Luo Tan exclaimed.

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Daoist Priest Chi Yan looked at Shen Miao. "Madam, did you notice anything?"

Shen Miao only smelt a faint medicinal fragrance in the air. Looking at the flowers and plants everywhere, she hesitated for a moment and said, "Are they herbs?"

Daoist Priest Chi Yan laughed. "That's right. Although I can't save your husband or change his fate, my shifu has a herb valley. There's a herb inside that can remove all poisons, but this herb can save your husband's life."

Shen Miao did not tell Daoist Priest Chi Yan about Xie Jingxing's injuries, but Daoist Priest Chi Yan immediately pointed out that Xie Jingxing was poisoned. Luo Tan looked at the strange Daoist priest in admiration. Shen Miao had long expected this strange Daoist priest to be capable, so she was not surprised.

She said, "Daoist priest, please give me the herb that can save my husband."

Chi Yan smiled. "This herb was left behind by my shifu. It's been kept in this herb valley for a long time. There's only one in the world. If ordinary people eat it, they will live for a long time. If people who are poisoned eat it, they will naturally be cured... This herb is so precious. How can I give it to you for nothing?"

Luo Tan said, "If you want gold and silver, my little cousin can afford it."

Shen Miao also said, "As long as it's within my ability, I can give you anything."

"What if I want you to exchange your life for it?" Chi Yan said cunningly.

Shen Miao was stunned. Before she could speak, Luo Tan shouted, "You're too much. How can you do that?"

Chi Yan waved his hand. "I'm a Daoist priest, so I naturally won't do such a thing. I'm just joking. I have a question to ask you." He looked at Shen Miao, who was stunned for a moment. "Madam, can you enlighten me?"

Only then did Shen Miao come back to her senses. She was extremely surprised. The moment Chi Yan asked her if she was willing to exchange her life for it, a thought flashed across her mind. She was willing.

But how was that possible? She still had Shen Qiu, Shen Xin, and Luo Xueyan to protect, but now, she was willing to die for Xie Jingxing. Shen Miao suddenly felt a little afraid.

If she invested too much in love, she would be hurt more in the future. Everything in her previous life was a living example. She could try to love again, but she did not dare to and could not take the risk.

"Little cousin?" Luo Tan shook her arm.

Shen Miao composed herself and looked at the Daoist priest. "Daoist priest, please go ahead."

"Look." The Daoist priest squatted down and pointed at a small flower in the grass. "This is the Red Sleeve Flower. It's a spirit herb that can treat respiratory diseases. However, it hasn't bloomed much these days. Madam, what do you think is the reason?"

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What did this mean? Shen Miao was not a doctor. She didn't even know how to distinguish herbs, so how could she know the reason? However, she still squatted down and took a closer look. She saw some black spots squirming on the bud. Her heart skipped a beat and she said, "It's infested with worms."

"I think so too." Chi Yan looked troubled. "But this Red Sleeve Flower is the most delicate. It attracts insects and worms the most. If you want to get rid of these insects and worms, you have to use your hands to pick them out one by one. You have to be gentle. Otherwise, you will hurt the petals."

Luo Tan said, "But what does this have to do with us?"

Daoist Priest Chi Yan stood up. Seeing that Shen Miao also stood up, he smiled and said, "I'm a man and my hands are clumsy. I'm afraid if I'm not careful, I'll hurt the petals. These are all rare and precious herbs, so I want Madam to help me remove the worms on them."

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Luo Tan widened her eyes. Did this Daoist priest ask Shen Miao to come over because he wanted to use her as free labor?

Shen Miao asked, "After picking all these worms, will you give me the herb that can cure all poisons?"

Chi Yan nodded.

"Alright, I'll do it."

Luo Tan did not speak. She thought that it did not seem to be an unfair trade to earn a herb by doing some work.

However, Chi Yan shook his head and led Shen Miao and Luo Tan forward. He said, "It's the Red Sleeve Flowers here."

The two of them were stunned by what they saw.

It was a large area of herbs. Moreover, the herbs were not neatly arranged. Among Red Sleeve Flowers, there were all kinds of other herbs. It would take a lot of effort to just identify the Red Sleeve Flowers.

"Are you deliberately playing with us?" Luo Tan jumped up and said angrily, "It's not a task a person can carry out."

Chi Yan only looked at Shen Miao with a smile. "Madam, do you also think that one person can't do it?"

Shen Miao only looked at him deeply and said, "After doing this, will you really give me the herb?"

"Little Cousin!" Luo Tan was anxious. "He's clearly playing with you. If he had the intention to save Brother-in-law, why would he give you such an impossible task? He doesn't look like a benevolent person."

Chi Yan said, "Young lady, you're wrong. There's no such thing as a free lunch in the world. In this world, there are gains and losses. If you want something, you have to pay the corresponding price. If Madam wants my herbs, she has to get rid of the worms on the flowers for me. This is a very fair trade. Moreover, it's up to Madam whether she wants to take on this task or not."

He continued, "Fix the Red Sleeve Flowers and fertilize the herbs on this valley. Then, I'll give you the herb you want." He waved his horsetail whisk. "Don't try to fool me. I will check them in the end. If the task is not done well, I won't give you the herb. Also," he looked at Luo Tan, "this girl can't help. Madam, can you do it?"

"I can do it. I hope you can keep your promise too." After saying that, Shen Miao jumped into the herb bush, bent down, and started to pick up the worms seriously.

Who would've thought that Princess Consort Rui, a woman who grew up pampered, would be treated like a servant. If Shen Xin and Shen Qiu in the capital found out, they would definitely fly into a rage.

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Luo Tan gritted her teeth and wanted to go over to help, but she was stopped by Shen Miao. Shen Miao shouted, "Stop! If you don't want me to hate you, don't come down."

Luo Tan was taken aback by Shen Miao's reproachful words. She felt aggrieved and thought that if she had known that this would happen, she wouldn't have told Shen Miao what Ben Yue said. Now, she made Shen Miao suffer. She shouted, "This Daoist priest is clearly playing with you. Why do you fall for it?"

"I have never done anything for Jingxing." Shen Miao didn't even look up as she cleaned the flowers. "As long as there is a chance, I'll do it." She continued, "If you really want to help me, make a lantern for me so that I can see when it gets dark."

Luo Tan took a deep breath and turned around to see Daoist Priest Chi Yan walking to the other side with a smile. She quickly followed and said, "Daoist priest, listen to me first..."

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Shen Miao squatted in the bushes. It had been a long time since she did anything so tiring, so she was a little unaccustomed to it. She did not feel that it was humiliating to pick worms and fertilize the herbs. In this world, pride was not something to have at this time. When it was time to bend down and lower her head, she would bend down and lower her head. In her previous life, she had gone through many hardships to understand this.

If she had given up on competing with Consort Mei earlier, perhaps Consort Mei would not have targeted Fu Ming and Wanyu so much. Why did she have to make herself suffer because of her vain dignity?

If Chi Yan could keep his promise in the end, then it would be worth it for her to suffer. It was much more honorable to do some labor in this desolate mountain than to sit on the empress seat and be mocked by everyone.

However, Shen Miao really did not know how long it would take to clean all the Red Sleeve Flowers in this valley.

When Luo Tan sent the lantern over, the sky was already dark. At night, there was a cool wind, dazzling stars, the moon, and the chirping of cicadas in the valley, but Shen Miao was not in the mood to appreciate it. At night, holding the lantern, she cleaned the flowers one by one. Bitten by the mosquitoes and flies, her delicate skin was red and swollen, and her hand was pricked by the thorn. She did not rest for the entire night.

Luo Tan cried as she watched, but she could not help. She could only curse Chi Yan in her heart.

It was the afternoon of the next day.

Shen Miao wiped the sweat off her forehead and went to ask Daoist Priest Chi Yan to take a look.

Daoist Priest Chi Yan smiled. "There's no need. You did very well." He took out a box from his bag and handed it to Shen Miao. Shen Miao opened it and saw a herb lying inside.

"This is the herb." Daoist Priest Chi Yan smiled and said, "You helped me treat the Red Sleeve Flowers on the mountain, and as I promised, I'll give you this herb to treat your husband's injuries."

"Thank you for this." Shen Miao was in a hurry to rush back. The moment she received the herb, she felt extremely weak. She had not slept all night and had not rested well these days. Now that she relaxed, she felt dizzy.

"Thank you, Daoist priest." Luo Tan was very unhappy with the strange request made by this Daoist priest. Looking at Shen Miao's disheveled appearance, she felt bad. She was very indignant and said, "I also hope that the flowers won't be infested with worms in the future because no one will be as kind as my little cousin to do so much work for you."

Daoist Priest Chi Yan laughed out loud. "That's hard to say. Madam and I are fated to meet three times. We've only met twice, and there is one more time in the future."

Luo Tan pouted angrily. "Who wants to meet you?" She pulled Shen Miao and said, "Let's get out of here." She then said to Daoist Priest Chi Yan, "Hurry up. We need this to save life."

Daoist Priest Chi Yan followed behind. Looking at the two of them, his gaze landed on Shen Miao's slightly unsteady footsteps. His smile disappeared, and a trace of pity flashed across his eyes.

After a while, he shook his head and said,

"Futile."

Chapter 944 Consort Mei (1)

Shen Miao and Luo Tan returned to the original thatched house. Hui Xiang and Ba Jiao stood under a locust tree, looking around. Cong Yang and Mo Qing sat under the tree, hugging their swords and frowning.

Hui Xiang suddenly said, "They're here!" Ba Jiao quickly went up to them and saw Luo Tan and Shen Miao walking over. Luo Tan was fine, but Shen Miao seemed to have fallen somewhere. Her entire body was covered in mud, and her hair was disheveled.

Hui Xiang and Ba Jiao looked at each other and asked, "Madam, you..."

Just as Luo Tan was about to speak, Shen Miao tugged at her sleeve. Luo Tan looked up and saw Shen Miao shaking her head.

Shen Miao said, "Let's go."

Daoist Priest Chi Yan said, "Since you're in a hurry to go back, there's no need to take the way you came. I'll show you a shortcut." He led the few of them around and when they arrived, they saw an endless field with a path stretching out to as far as the eye could see.

It seemed that Ben Yue did not take the path Shen Miao and the others came from, but this one.

Chi Yan said, "Walk straight along this path and you'll reach the exit." He looked at Shen Miao and smiled. "Madam, do you remember that I once told you that you will face a calamity."

Shen Miao looked at him calmly. "Are you trying to say that the calamity is about to appear?"

"The timing of the calamity is a heavenly secret that can't be revealed." The Daoist priest smiled mysteriously. "However, it won't be long before I meet you again. At that time, I hope you will be as patient and serious as you were last night while cleaning the flowers. At that time, there will be a chance to resolve the calamity."

His words were ambiguous and hard to understand. The others were puzzled, and Shen Miao did not understand fully either. However, if memory served her right, today was already the sixth day. The Guiyuan Pill would at most last ten days. Moreover, according to the old imperial physician, Xie Jingxing's poison had already begun to spread. There was really not much time now.

After saying goodbye to Chi Yan, Shen Miao and the others walked on the path in the field. Just as Chi Yan said, this path was much easier than the forest they traversed the day before.

When they were about to get into the carriage, Hui Xiang couldn't help but ask, "Madam, what exactly did that Daoist priest ask you to do? What happened last night?" She looked at Shen Miao's disheveled appearance and didn't believe that nothing had happened.

Shen Miao said, "Nothing. It's more important to rush back." Shen Miao was the first to get into the carriage. Seeing that Shen Miao was unwilling to say it, although Hui Xiang and the others were curious, they didn't ask further. In addition, Xie Jingxing's injuries could not be delayed, so they quickly went back.

In the carriage, Luo Tan asked Shen Miao, "Little cousin, why didn't you tell them?" In Luo Tan's opinion, it was touching that Shen Miao had suffered so much for Xie Jingxing.

"I was not doing it to put up a show." Shen Miao said, "Besides, if word gets out that I was treated like a servant, it will embarrass Prince Rui. This matter will end here. Don't tell anyone else."

Chapter 945 Consort Mei (2)

Luo Tan asked, "Not even Prince Rui?"

Shen Miao nodded.

Luo Tan said, "Got it." She then said to Shen Miao, "Rest for a while. We'll be back in Long Ye tomorrow. You were busy all night last night and didn't rest at all. You look extremely haggard. Even if you want to hide it, people will still notice something by looking at your face."

Shen Miao nodded and leaned against the back of the carriage before closing her eyes. She was indeed tired and on the verge of collapse. There was no need to hang in there. She fell asleep almost immediately after closing her eyes even when the road was bumpy.

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That night, she slept very quickly. It seemed that she did not sleep for long before she was woken up by someone. When she opened her eyes, she saw Ba Jiao looking at her and saying, "Madam, Miss Luo, we're back."

The two of them jumped out of the carriage. It was already the next morning, and the sun was already high in the sky. Shen Miao rubbed her forehead. When she saw that the door of Prince Rui's mansion was unguarded, her heart skipped a beat.

Prince Rui's mansion had always been heavily guarded, and the guards were mobilized from the Black Feather Army, but at this moment, there was no one. Could it be that... something had happened?

When Luo Tan saw it, she had a bad feeling, but she was afraid of making Shen Miao worry, so she did not say a word. Mo Qing said, "Madam, let's go in and take a look first."

Cong Yang and the others were all Xie Jingxing's subordinates, so they were naturally worried. When they entered, they saw that it was also empty inside. They became more and more uneasy. Shen Miao walked in a hurry and almost bumped into someone.

This person was Uncle Tang.

Uncle Tang looked very disheveled and was no longer as high-spirited as before. Shen Miao hurriedly asked, "What happened? Why is there no one in the mansion?"

“Madam, why did it take you so long to come back? For some reason, the news that Master’s life is on the line was leaked. Over the past few days, many people have been probing openly and secretly. The mansion is simply in a mess. Madam Ji came to ask about your whereabouts a few times, and the emperor...”

Luo Tan said, “Little Cousin is also busy helping Brother-in-law find that expert. Speaking of which, we’ve already...”

“By the way!” Uncle Tang slapped his head. “I forgot to tell you good news. Master is awake!”

Shen Miao and Luo Tan were stunned. Shen Miao asked, “He is awake?”

“That’s right!” Uncle Tang said, “On the night you left, his wound suddenly burst open, and the poison couldn’t be controlled. The imperial physicians in the palace said that the Guiyuan Pills can no longer keep Master alive. They called Young Master Gao over, but Young Master Gao was also helpless. He said that in less than two days, Master would die.” Uncle Tang’s words made Luo Tan anxious. Luo Tan was an impatient person and couldn’t help but ask, “Then what happened?”

“Then, the news spread that Master was about to die. For some reason, it spread throughout the streets. Madam Ji was anxious. Seeing that everyone in Long Ye was going to know about it anyway, she put up posts on the streets, saying that if anyone could save Master, they would be rewarded very handsomely. Soon after that, someone came and gave us a herb. Young Master Gao refined the herb into a pill and gave it to Master. Master’s wound gradually healed, and he even woke up once this morning. Young Master Gao and the imperial physicians have checked Master. His injuries are gradually recovering and the poison has been removed.”

Chapter 946 Consort Mei (3)

After Uncle Tang finished speaking in one go, he paused for a moment and sighed. “Everyone says that Master is not destined to die. Two years ago, people said that Master was going to die, but he survived in the end. Now, it happened again. The late empress must be protecting Master from the heavens.”

When Shen Miao heard that Xie Jingxing’s poison had been removed, she heaved a sigh of relief. Ba Jiao and the others also patted their chests, feeling relieved.

Luo Tan looked at Shen Miao and thought to herself that it was not easy for Shen Miao to get the herb from that strange Daoist priest, but now, that herb was useless.

Uncle Tang continued, “When Master woke up, he asked us where you went. I was also afraid that Master would be worried about your safety and fall sick again, so I didn’t tell him.”

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Shen Miao said, “You did very well.” She did not want others to know that she went to look for Chi Yan. Firstly, she was afraid that others would take advantage of the situation to do something while she was away. Secondly, she didn’t want others to know that Xie Jingxing was her weakness. Otherwise, in the future, her enemy would continue to target Xie Jingxing just to deal with her.

“I’ll go and see him first,” Shen Miao said.

“Madam.” Uncle Tang stopped her and said, “Master just took the medicine and is already resting. It’s not good to disturb him.”

Shen Miao pondered for a moment and looked at Uncle Tang. “Why isn’t there anyone guarding the door? Why is it so chaotic in the mansion? What’s going on?”

Uncle Tang said apologetically, “Too many things have happened these days. I actually forgot to tell you this. Although everyone in Long Ye knows that Master was saved and that he was out of danger, Madam Ji and Young Master Ji are still worried and have been staying in the mansion for the past few days. I also hid from them where you went and only said that you went to look for a doctor to treat Master. On the other hand, the person who saved Master’s life is considered Master’s benefactor, so I arranged for him to stay in the mansion. Today, when Master woke up, Madam Ji and the others went to see him. That benefactor is sitting in the hall now. Madam Ji and Young Master Ji are both in the hall, saying that they want to thank him. However, he’s not a person who wants wealth and power. Previously, I wanted to give them a thousand gold and silver, but he rejected it.”

“Then what does he want?” Luo Tan asked.

Uncle Tang looked at Luo Tan and said, “I’m also puzzled. Madam Ji asked the benefactor and he said that he happened to pass by that day and saw the post. He thought of the herb that was passed down from his ancestors. It can cure all poisons. Thinking that this herb could save a life, he gave it away without hesitation.”

Luo Tan praised. “Good Samaritan he is. If it were me, I would have to think twice before giving something my ancestors passed down to save a stranger.”

Uncle Tang smiled. “That’s right.” Then, he looked at Shen Miao and said, “It’s good that Madam is back now. Let’s go and see what we can give to them as an exchange.”

Chapter 947 Consort Mei (4)

“Since he’s Prince Rui’s savior, I’ll go and see him first.” Shen Miao lowered her eyes. “Is he in the main hall now?”

“That’s right.” Uncle Tang said, “I’m about to go over too. Madam, let’s go together.”

Shen Miao nodded, and Luo Tan quickly followed.

Along the way, Uncle Tang seemed to have suddenly thought of something and said, “Speaking of which, those two benefactors seem to have just arrived at Long Ye and are not familiar with this place. They said that they’re here to look for their relatives.”

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“Two benefactors?” Shen Miao asked, “Why are there two?”

“That’s a pair of siblings.” Uncle Tang smiled and said, “They’re about the same age as Madam and are very outstanding. Madam Ji is very enthusiastic and wanted to introduce some young talents and young ladies to that pair of siblings. They are very friendly. After staying here for a few days, they’ve gotten along quite well with the servants.”

The servants in Prince Rui's mansion were mostly from the Black Feather Army. Some of them were not from the Black Feather Army, but they were all firm-minded.

It was not easy to get along well with this group of servants. Shen Miao did not know if she was overthinking, but she felt that the two benefactors were not simple.

Luo Tan was curious. "In that case, this pair of siblings are extremely good people."

"That's probably the case." Uncle Tang smiled and said, "No matter what, the fact that they saved Master will make them an honored guest of Prince Rui's mansion for the rest of their lives."

As they spoke, they had already walked to the entrance of the main hall. As soon as they entered, they saw the Ji family. Marquis Ji was talking to Madam Ji. Seeing Shen Miao behind Uncle Tang, Madam Ji stood up and quickly walked up, saying, "Jiaojiao, you're finally back!"

There were also some madams in the hall, but they were strangers that Shen Miao had never seen before. Shen Miao looked at Madam Ji in confusion. Madam Ji said in a low voice, "They are here to check in on Jingxing... It's not appropriate to ask them to leave, so I let them sit here."

Shen Miao understood that Xie Jingxing's status in Long Ye was very delicate. His life was related to many people in the imperial court. It was not easy for those court officials to show up, but they could get their wives to come and see how badly Xie Jingxing was injured, Shen Miao guessed that these madams must be instructed to come and see if Xie Jingxing was dead.

Madam Ji said, "Where have you been these days? Butler Tang said that you went to look for a doctor, but we couldn't find you no matter what. It's good that you are finally back." After saying that, she reproached, "I know you're worried about your husband, so you went to look for a doctor, but no matter what, you should stay by your husband's side. When he woke up this morning, he was disappointed that you were not around. Now, your identity is not that of an official's daughter, but Princess Consort Rui. Think about the consequences. Many eyes are on you."

Although her words were not pleasant to the ear, Shen Miao knew that Madam Ji said it for her own good.

Chapter 948 Consort Mei (5)

As soon as Madam Ji finished speaking to Shen Miao in a low voice, a woman in the hall looked at Shen Miao and said with a smile, "Princess Consort, we've been visiting Prince Rui these past few days, but we didn't see you. We were worried that you were heartbroken because Prince Rui was bedridden, so you didn't come out. Now that we see that you're fine, we're relieved."

In fact, they were all implying that Shen Miao was really not qualified to be the princess consort. As the princess consort, not only did she not stay by the sick bed, but she also did not come out to meet guests.

Shen Miao smiled and said to the madam indifferently, "My family is not peaceful these days. Sorry for making you concerned about us." In other words, Shen Miao was saying that she didn't need outsiders like them to meddle in her family's business.

Shen Miao had always been flexible when dealing with people. When dealing with an unfathomable person like Xie Jingxing, she had to give in, but when dealing with a brainless woman, she did not have

to hold back too much. Therefore, her words were especially sarcastic, making the madam unable to retort.

When she walked closer enough, another madam exclaimed, "Princess Consort Rui, what's wrong? Why are your clothes so dirty? Did you fall into a pit?" Then, she suddenly covered her nose and revealed a look of disgust.

Madam Ji and Marquis Ji were stunned, and so was Uncle Tang. Everyone in the hall focused their gazes on Shen Miao. Only then did they realize that Shen Miao's clothes were covered in mud and dust. They were really dirty. Her hair was also messy. Although it had already been tidied, she still looked disheveled. She smelt lie... fertilizer.

Those madams did not like Princess Consort Rui, who was a foreigner, to begin with. Now that they had something to say, they immediately started gossiping, saying that Shen Miao was in a hurry to come and accidentally fell into a gutter.

Luo Tan was furious when she heard that. Only she knew how Shen Miao was in such a sorry state, but Shen Miao had warned her not to tell anyone.

Uncle Tang was stunned. When he saw Shen Miao just now, he was too focused on telling her that Prince Rui had woken up and didn't notice her dirty clothes. Moreover, Shen Miao had always been dignified and graceful, and she was always dressed meticulously. When had she ever been so careless with her appearance?

Amidst the mocking laughter, Shen Miao's expression was the calmest. She did not think there was anything wrong with this. These madams were xenophobic and did not treat her as one of them. No matter how expensive she wore today, those people would not change their opinion of her. Therefore, when her disheveled appearance was seen by everyone, she did not feel embarrassed.

Just as Madam Ji was about to say a few words to smooth things over, she suddenly heard a man saying from the outer hall, "Brother Li, you're really talented. I can't solve the ring puzzle, but you did it in less than half an hour. Apart from my third brother, no one else can do it faster than you."

It was Ji Yushu's voice.

Right on the heels of that, another voice sounded. It seemed to be a young man's voice. It was a little hoarse. That person said, "Brother Ji, thank you for letting me win. I don't dare to compare myself to Prince Rui."

Chapter 949 Consort Mei (6)

Shen Miao's heart skipped a beat. Involuntarily, her heart tightened. That clear and low voice sounded very familiar, but she could not remember who it belonged to. However, at this moment, her body was trembling. She lowered her head to look at her hands. Her sleeves were long, and only her fingertips were exposed. However, her fair fingertips, which were dirty, were trembling violently.

The next moment, Ji Yushu said, "Don't say that. When my third brother wakes up, I will definitely let the two of you compete. He likes smart people the most and will definitely admire you."

The curtain of the main hall was lifted, and two people walked in. Ji Yushu was walking at the front. When he suddenly saw Shen Miao, he was stunned. Then, ignoring the presence of the madams, he walked forward and called out, "Sister-in-law!" Then he said in a low voice, "You're back. I asked Tie Yi many times to tell me where you went, but he refused to say a word. Where exactly did you go?"

Shen Miao did not answer him. She stared at the person walking behind Ji Yushu.

It was a young man who looked to be in his early twenties. His facial features were very ordinary, but he was able to attract people's attention because he exuded the aura of a "smart person". He was wearing a pine-colored robe and green boots. His eyes were like the summer sun, warm and passionate, but with a faint fanaticism.

Shen Miao wobbled and she almost fell down. Luo Tan quickly held her from behind, thinking that she was too tired from the night before and couldn't hold on anymore.

Madam Ji said, "This is one of the people who saved Jingxing, Young Master Li."

The young man bowed to Shen Miao and smiled. "I..."

"Li Ke!"

Shen Miao shouted in her heart. She would never forget this name and this pair of seemingly warm eyes! This official who was promoted to be Fu Xiuyi's right-hand man in just a few years and was almost on par with Pei Lang, this biological brother of Consort Mei, Li Ke!

She did not expect that in this unfamiliar country, in her mansion, and in a room full of people, Li Ke would appear in front of her again.

Her face suddenly turned pale. On one hand, she was rationally reminding herself not to do anything strange in front of these madams, but on the other hand, she stared at Li Ke fiercely, wishing she could rush up and tear this person into pieces, drink his blood, and eat his flesh!

The reason why she ended up in such a tragic state in her previous life was because of this pair of siblings. Consort Mei won Fu Xiuyi's heart, and Li Ke relied on his sister to get promoted. The siblings joined hand to gain a foothold in the palace. Consort Mei thought of a way to get Wanyu to marry into the Xiongnu, and Li Ke thought of a way to persuade Fu Xiuyi to abolish the crown prince. Consort Mei caused the entire first branch of the Shen family to be eradicated while Li Ke had a deep relationship with Shen Gui and Shen Wan.

Shen Miao knew that she had to face this pair of siblings sooner or later! However, she did not expect to meet them here, and nor did she expect them to be Xie Jingxing's benefactors.

Shen Miao's fierce gaze stunned Madam Ji for a moment. Madam Ji asked, "Jiao..."

"Where is the other benefactor?" Shen Miao smiled and slowly looked away. Her tone was strange.

"Just now, the maid accidentally spilled tea on her. I asked her to change her clothes and come over," Madam Ji said.

As she spoke, Ji Yushu looked at the door and said, "she's here."

The woman had a good figure and she walked gracefully. As the curtain was lifted, the noon sun shone on her face, making her look ethereal. She had a gentle smile and was dazzling.

Shen Miao stood in the room, her clothes disheveled and her face pale. She stared at the woman like a hungry wolf, a fierce tiger, and a poisonous snake and beast waiting for an opportunity to attack.

That person wore her clothes and came to her mansion. She saved her husband and was now mounting the high horse.

Shen Miao was again pushed to comfort her mortal enemy of two lifetimes.

"Greetings, Your Highness," the woman said.

This was Shen Miao's sworn enemy, Consort Mei.

Chapter 950 Encounter (1)

Madam Ji smiled and said, "Jiaojiao, this is Li Mei. She was the one who gave us the herb to save Jingxing."

Shen Miao stared at her.

The reason why Consort Mei could be favored by Fu Xiuyi for so many years meant that she was not easy to deal with. Those who were more beautiful than her were not as smart as her, and those who were smarter than her were not as beautiful as her. When it was time to make a move, she would make a move, and when it was time to retreat, she would retreat. She was scheming, but she knew her place well and would not push her luck. She was beautiful, and she knew how to make use of her beauty. The consorts in the palace used to say that if she wanted, all the men in the world would submit to her.

For example, at this moment, she came in wearing Shen Miao's clothes. Even the simple and conservative clothes looked good on her. Naturally, by contrast, Shen Miao looked even more miserable.

Consort Mei had an extremely charming pair of eyes, like a cat that had just woken up in the afternoon. When she met Shen Miao's gaze, she was stunned. The way Shen Miao stared at her was too strange.

However, in the next second, Shen Miao lowered her head. When she looked up again, her eyes were full of smiles.

"You are beautiful," Shen Miao said softly.

Luo Tan sighed in her heart. Previously, Uncle Tang said that the pair of siblings were very outstanding. When she saw Li Ke, she didn't think too highly of him. She felt that at most, he was good-looking, but when she saw Li Mei, she knew what it was like to be outstanding. Luo Tan had always felt that among the women she knew, Shen Miao was the most unique. Apart from her looks, Shen Miao had a dignified aura that no woman could compare. Li Mei, on the other hand, gave people a completely different feeling. If Shen Miao was a peony, the queen of flowers, this woman was a poppy, an extremely tempting, charming, and gorgeous existence.

Shen Miao said, "Miss Li, are you from the Daliang Dynasty?"

“That’s right.” Li Mei looked at Shen Miao in surprise and smiled. “I just came to Long Ye.”

“Miss Li and Young Master Li are from Qinzhou.” Madam Ji smiled and said, “When they arrived in Long Ye, they saw the post at the city gate and immediately came to give us the herb.”

“You saw the post as soon as you arrived in the city?” Shen Miao looked at Li Mei with a faint smile.

“Should I say that His Highness is lucky or Miss Li is lucky?”

This time, almost everyone in the room could hear Shen Miao’s hostility. Li Mei was also stunned. Li Ke took a step forward and bowed to Shen Miao with a smile. “Since Prince Rui is recovering, my sister and I will take our leaves first. Sorry for disturbing you these days.”

Li Ke’s attitude was neither servile nor overbearing. Madam Ji was stunned. Without asking Shen Miao what was going on, she subconsciously grabbed Li Ke and Li Mei and said, “What’s the hurry? You saved Jingxing’s life. Speaking of which, we haven’t repaid you...”