

Venomous 991

Chapter 991 Previous Life (5)

"These fireworks are really beautiful." Shen Miao's voice was low and had a hint of drunkenness. "When can I watch the full show?"

She suddenly smiled bitterly. "Probably never will."

As she spoke, she heard footsteps behind her. The boots stepped on the snow, making a rustling sound.

Bai Lu was shocked and said, "You..."

Shen Miao turned around and saw someone walking out of the bushes.

The person was tall and wore a purple robe and green boots. His eyes reflected the fireworks in the night, looking especially bright and beautiful.

"Young Marquis of Lin'an?" Shen Miao narrowed her eyes at him.

That person seemed to be a little surprised. He clicked his tongue and said, "So the empress is actually an alcoholic."

The guard behind him said, "Master, it's time to leave."

Bai Lu was also a little nervous. She did not know why Xie Jingxing was still in the palace. However, if the empress and the official were seen standing together, a rumor might spread, especially since Shen Miao had been having a hard time in the palace these days. Once she was caught with another man, she would naturally be slandered. At this moment, the further the Young Marquis of Lin'an stood, the better.

Bai Lu did not dare to speak too loudly, so she whispered, "Young Marquis, the empress is a little drunk. I'm about to help her back. Please pretend not to see us."

Xie Jingxing glanced at Shen Miao and chuckled. He was not interested and turned to leave.

"Wait!" Shen Miao called him.

Bai Lu was stunned and was so anxious that she wanted to cover Shen Miao's mouth. Shen Miao stared at Xie Jingxing. She was a little drunk. Ever since she went to the State of Qin, she had never drunk as much as she wanted. However, it was true that when people were drunk, they would feel relaxed and would do many things that they would not normally do.

She said, "I heard that you're going to the northern border?"

Xie Jingxing crossed his arms and said with a faint smile, "Your Majesty, what can I do for you?"

Tie Yi and Bai Lu both stared at Shen Miao. Shen Miao smiled and grabbed the bowl she had just drunk from the table. She poured a large bowl of wine from the jar and showed it to Xie Jingxing. She said, "Young talent, an eternal figure. You are peerless in the world!"

Xie Jingxing raised an eyebrow. Bai Lu was so embarrassed that she wanted to drag Shen Miao away.

"The northern border is a very bad place." Shen Miao patted his shoulder. She was petite, so when she patted his shoulder, she had to stand on her tiptoes. She looked at Xie Jingxing and said seriously and drunkenly, "I heard from my father that flowers don't grow there. The terrain is treacherous, and there are many poisonous snakes, insects, and worms. It's very easy to fall into a trap. It's full of danger."

"Thank you for your concern, Your Majesty," Xie Jingxing said casually.

She raised the wine bowl in her hand at Xie Jingxing and downed it in one go.

Bai Lu and Tie Yi were both shocked. The former did not expect Shen Miao to drink it just like that, and the latter was surprised that the empress was so straightforward.

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Shen Miao wiped her mouth and burped. She said, "This is a toast to you. You have to return triumphantly!"

Xie Jingxing stared at her. There was still wine on her lips that had not been wiped clean. Under the moonlight, with the pretense of an empress, she looked delicate and beautiful.

Chapter 992 Previous Life (6)

He curled his lips and smiled evilly. He said slowly, "It seems like the emperor has neglected you."

Bai Lu widened her eyes. Xie Jingxing was too presumptuous, but she did not dare to drag Shen Miao away, in case Shen Miao made a sound and alarmed others.

After Shen Miao finished drinking, she picked up the wine jar and filled a large bowl. She handed it to Xie Jingxing and said, "You drink too!"

"Why should I drink it?" Xie Jingxing was puzzled.

"Because we are fellow sufferers!" Shen Miao said.

Xie Jingxing found it funny, but Shen Miao had already raised the wine bowl and fed it to him.

Bai Lu was shocked. This interaction was too close! Tie Yi was also extremely surprised, but without Xie Jingxing's order, he wouldn't make a move rashly.

Xie Jingxing was suddenly fed a bowl of wine. When he pushed Shen Miao away, a lot of wine spilled on his clothes. Shen Miao, on the other hand, smiled in satisfaction. She said, "We are bound to each other by this bowl of wine. When you return triumphantly, come and watch the fireworks with me!"

Xie Jingxing felt that today was really strange. It turned out that women were so sentimental when they were drunk. Even the dignified empress was like a different person when she was drunk.

"Your Majesty, you should look for the emperor." He tidied his clothes.

Shen Miao said sadly, "I've never watched fireworks with him."

Xie Jingxing stared at the woman opposite him. She lowered her head slightly and looked like she was about to cry. For some reason, his heart softened and he said, "Alright, alright, alright. I promise you."

Shen Miao's eyes lit up. She looked at him and said, "Deal!"

Xie Jingxing nodded.

Shen Miao thought for a moment and shook her head. "Words are useless. We need to exchange tokens." She started to touch the hairpin on her hair.

Bai Lu was stunned. If the empress's thing was with Xie Jingxing, it would be considered adultery. She was afraid that Shen Miao would give him a handkerchief or a hairpin. Suddenly, she saw the red string on Shen Miao's wrist and had an idea. She said, "Your Majesty, that red string of yours is a very good token!"

Shen Miao's gaze landed on the red string. She quickly untied it and tied it to Xie Jingxing's wrist.

Xie Jingxing's gaze landed on her slightly curled eyelashes. They were wet from the snow and cute.

Shen Miao smiled at him. "This is my token. I'll wait for your return!"

"Thank you for giving me this, Your Majesty." Xie Jingxing smiled casually. "However, I don't have a token to give you. How about I give you a wish?"

"Wish?" Shen Miao looked at him.

"If we meet again in triumph, I will do my best to fulfill one of your wishes."

Shen Miao said, "It's a deal!"

"It's a deal."

With a bang, a corner of the sky was illuminated by the dazzling fireworks again. The two of them looked over at the same time. They seemed to have a tacit understanding and were abnormally compatible.

Bai Lu was also stunned.

The fireworks disappeared in an instant, but some things would not disappear, such as this night.

When Shen Miao woke up again, she felt a splitting headache. As she rubbed her forehead, she stood up and walked to the table, saying, "I didn't expect to sleep for so long."

Bai Lu brought her stomach-warming soup and said, "Your Majesty, you drank too much yesterday. Sober up first."

"Too much?" Shen Miao paused. "I didn't drink much at the palace banquet."

Bai Lu felt a little guilty and said, "It's probably because the wine at the palace banquet is too strong."

Shen Miao nodded and sighed. "My habit of being unable to remember anything when I'm drunk hasn't changed after so many years, but it is true that I haven't drunk wine for a long time."

Bai Lu nodded. Shen Miao looked at her empty wrist. "Why is the red string gone?"

Bai Lu said in a low voice, "It's probably... lost."

Shen Miao sighed. "What a pity."

The sun was hanging high, and the troops were marching towards the city gate.

The young man in the lead was high-spirited. He had a lazy smile on his face, but his eyes were so cold that people did not dare to look at him directly.

"Master, everything is ready," Tie Yi said.

Xie Jingxing looked behind him. After leaving this city gate, his future would be completely different from before. It also meant that he would have to cut ties with his past.

However, he had to leave eventually.

"There's nothing left to miss here." The white-robed man beside him waved his fan and said, "It has nothing to do with you anymore."

"Maybe the royal family of Ming Qi are all hoping that Third Brother won't be able to return alive." The young man in the green robe smiled and looked ahead. "No matter what, we're finally going home."

"Not necessarily."

Hearing that, the two of them looked at the purple-clothed man.

Xie Jingxing lowered his head. His gaze landed on his wrist. There was a red string tied there. The knot at the end of the red string was done neatly and carefully.

"Isn't this something women wear?" Ji Yushu asked, "Why are you wearing this?"

"I owe someone a wish after drinking the farewell wine." Xie Jingxing said, "I'll return it when I come back."

He retracted his gaze and looked ahead. "Let's go."

Chapter 993 Previous Life (7)

Time passed like an arrow. The sun rose and set as usual.

The flowers would bloom and wither. Everything in this world would change, let alone humans.

For example, the Shen family was declining, and the empress was getting neglected, like an old woman on her last breath.

Princess Wanyu died of illness on the way to the Xiongnu. Empress Shen couldn't recover from this setback. Although she still assumed a dignified aura in front of others, one could feel that there was a death aura lingering around her. The death aura would only disappear when she saw the crown prince.

The beautiful woman looked at the green-robed man in front of her with a smile and said, "State Preceptor, it's not difficult for you to take a drop of the Empress's blood, right?"

Pei Lang looked at the woman in front of him. She was as enchanting as a wild cat in the night, smart and beautiful. Otherwise, the high and mighty emperor would not be infatuated with her.

As a woman, she was charming and was able to win a man's heart. As a schemer, she also did a good job.

She never took the initiative to ask for anything, but she could make people willingly give her what she wanted. Not only that, but she also snatched what others wanted. She instructed others to fight, relied on the support of the emperor, and relied on her brothers to slowly gain an upper hand.

She looked like a charming flower, but she had a vicious heart.

In comparison, the empress was not as vicious as Consort Mei. Perhaps because she came from a family of generals, no matter how her personality changed, she still had the tendency to be honest and kind.

However, it was precisely because of this kindness that she was destined to always lose.

Seeing that he was in a daze, Consort Mei called out, "State Preceptor?"

Pei Lang came back to his senses. He thought for a moment and asked, "Why do you want the blood of the empress's fingertip?"

"You don't have to know why." Consort Mei smiled like a flower.

She said, "State Preceptor, I think you know very well what kind of situation the empress is in." She pointed at a vine that was sandwiched between two trees outside the window and smiled. "When this vine just sprouted, it was sandwiched between two trees. It doesn't have to choose anything and can live very well. However, when it gradually grows up, it has to choose a tree to cling to." She looked at Pei Lang. "Whether it is the right one or the left one, the vine can only choose one."

"There's only so much land. Eventually, one tree will definitely be cut down."

"The vine has to choose carefully. If it clings up the tree that's about to be cut down, it'll die together with the tree." Consort Mei looked at Pei Lang with a smile. "State Preceptor, if you were that vine, what would you choose?"

Pei Lang looked at the two trees outside for a while before looking back and saying, "I understand."

Consort Mei smiled in satisfaction.

After Pei Lang left, a palace maid walked out from behind and poured tea for her. She said softly, "Your Highness, will State Preceptor really go and get the blood from the empress's fingertip? He and the empress seem to be on good terms."

Pei Lang had known Shen Miao for much longer than he had known Consort Mei.

Chapter 994 Previous Life (8)

"State Preceptor is a smart person." Consort Mei picked up the tea and took a sip. She smiled and said, "Otherwise, he wouldn't have stood by and watched when the princess was sent to the Xiongnu. He's so rational that he won't allow himself to make a mistake. I'm helping him. He can't wait to accept it."

The palace maid nodded as if she understood and said, "However, is what the monk said about being able to borrow the empress's fate true?"

"Whether it's true or not, I'm definitely going to replace her." A trace of ruthlessness flashed across Consort Mei's eyes. "After borrowing her fate and making my son the crown prince, I'll be merciful and get some monks to chant scriptures for them."

Shen Miao fell seriously ill.

Fu Ming had just come to see her and chatted with her for a while. Shen Miao wanted to find someone to ask about the recent situation in the Shen family. Just as she was about to leave the courtyard, she saw Pei Lang.

Pei Lang bowed to her, but Shen Miao treated him with coldness.

On the matter of Wanyu's marriage, Pei Lang chose to take a neutral stance, which disappointed Shen Miao. After all, they had been friends for so many years. Wanyu even used to regard him as her teacher. Her hatred for Fu Xiuyi was gradually redirected towards Pei Lang. She did not even want to look at Pei Lang.

"I heard that Your Majesty is sick." Pei Lang handed her a box. "This... might help."

Shen Miao glanced at him and opened the box. It was a herb that looked inexplicably familiar. Shen Miao took it out to take a look and suddenly felt a pain on her fingertip. When she looked again, she realized that her fingertip was pierced by the thorn on the herb. Blood flowed down her fingertip.

Bai Lu exclaimed and was about to bandage her wound when Pei Lang stared at her fingertip and said, "This is the Red Sleeve Flower. It can help you recover."

Shen Miao smiled instead. She threw the herb into the box, closed it, and returned it to Pei Lang. She said coldly, "There's no need. I once had one, but it withered in the end. Moreover, the one I had didn't have thorns on it." There was a hidden meaning in her words. "If you don't want to give me something, then don't. You don't have to intentionally make fun of me. Please take it back." With that, she turned around and left without looking at Pei Lang.

Pei Lang held the box tightly in his hand and stared at Shen Miao's back with a complicated gaze. Her health was getting worse and worse, and she had to stop and rest for a while every few steps.

However... Pei Lang looked at the box. The higher he climbed, the less choice he had. He was also helpless.

It was obvious which of the two trees would be cut down.

What did Consort Mei want this blood for? It could not possibly be something good. He was helping the evildoer.

He turned around and walked in the other direction.

That fire lasted for three days and three nights.

Chapter 995: Previous Life (9)

The Cold Palace was burned to ashes. The sorrowful mood, the crying accusation, the curse before death, and the deep despair all dissipated with the fire, leaving only shocking ruins and the rumors passed from people to people.

After the Shen family was executed for treason, after the crown prince was deposed and committed suicide, after Consort Mei was made the empress, after Fu Sheng became the new crown prince, the

desolate Cold Palace suddenly caught fire at night and burned the deposed Empress Shen to ashes. People sighed at the mention of this incident. The emperor of Ming Qi was benevolent. On account of the fact that she was the empress, he did not execute her along with the Shen family for treason. He spared her life and sent her to the cold palace. However, she still died in the fire.

History was written by the victors.

After the fire, all traces of Empress Shen's life were destroyed. She did not have anything left, and there was no one in the first branch of the Shen family anymore.

The new crown prince's mother, Empress Li, had abandoned her gentle self and adopted a ruthless way of doing things. She supported her brother wholeheartedly and coaxed Fu Xiuyi into submission, looking like the de facto ruler in the imperial court.

Some court officials vaguely sensed that something was wrong and wanted to secretly remind the emperor. Unfortunately, before they could do anything, they were either demoted or exiled for some strange reason.

Pei Lang looked at everything coldly, feeling a little tired.

In less than half a year after Shen Miao died, the situation in Ming Qi almost changed completely. He was right. Consort Mei and her brother were extremely capable. It was hard to say if Ming Qi would fall into Consort Mei's hands in the future. He was loyal to Fu Xiuyi and should have reminded him, but after a few failed attempts, he stopped trying.

People were changeable. A wise emperor could become a stupid emperor, and loyal officials would also betray.

Every night, when Pei Lang slept, he would always be woken up by a pair of eyes in his dream. That pair of eyes were black and white, and there were no tears in it, but it terrified him.

It was Shen Miao's eyes.

Pei Lang used to think that what he did was right. He just followed the trend and sought advantages and avoided disadvantages. This was his instinct and the best choice. However, the longer time passed, the more he couldn't lie to himself.

Shen Miao's death was not the trend. He didn't want Shen Miao to die just like that.

When did he start to have other feelings for Shen Miao? Pei Lang did not know either. He was her teacher in Guangwen Hall. He watched as Shen Miao went from an arrogant and ignorant girl to marrying Fu Xiuyi. He watched as she became the princess consort, the empress, and the deposed empress.

She was not very smart. She was slow at learning things, but she was terrifyingly stubborn. In the harem, she was benevolent to others. Sometimes, Pei Lang felt that Shen Miao was ridiculous, but sometimes, he felt very envious of Fu Xiuyi.

Later on, he would subconsciously pay more attention to her. Even he didn't realize that when Shen Miao asked him questions, he would answer her especially patiently.

However, Pei Lang was a smart person, and a smart person would not allow himself to make a mistake.

Therefore, when he realized that he was having thoughts that he shouldn't have, he was determined to stop this mistake. Therefore, he was the one who suggested sending Shen Miao to the State of Qin as a hostage. However, five years later, when Shen Miao returned, his feelings towards her remained unchanged..

Chapter 996: Previous Life (10)

He looked coldly at Shen Miao fighting with Consort Mei in the harem. He looked at her listless eyes and haggard face helplessly.

In the end, when Fu Xiuyi asked him how to deal with the descendants of the Shen family, he said the word 'elimination' without hesitation.

What he wanted to eliminate was the feeling that was growing wildly.

However, he did not expect Fu Xiuyi to kill Fu Ming too. Even a tiger would not eat its cubs, but Fu Xiuyi was so cold-blooded that he laid a hand on his children.

Pei Lang remembered Shen Miao's eyes when she found out about Fu Ming's death. Her clear eyes were wide open. There were no tears, but she was so miserable that Pei Lang could not bear to look at her.

That fire burned for three days and three nights, and it also aroused the deep regret in Pei Lang's heart.

He went to look for the abbot of the Putuo Temple and asked him how to make peace with himself.

The abbot was an old monk. He looked at him and shook his head. "You need to untie the knot in your heart yourself."

Pei Lang asked the eminent monk for guidance. The monk said, "Benefactor, the reason why you often dream of your old friend is because you owe her someone. She haunts you in your dream because she has resentment. She is unwilling to die, so her soul is trapped."

Pei Lang was terrified and asked if there was a solution.

The monk asked, "Yes, and that is go back to the past and undo the wrong. If what it takes is your life, are you still willing to do it?"

Pei Lang said, "Yes."

The monk said, "Benefactor, go back."

"Why do you want me to go back?" Pei Lang was puzzled.

"Benefactor, even if you are willing to sacrifice your life, you still have to wait for that opportunity."

"That opportunity... What opportunity do you mean?" Pei Lang asked.

"Benefactor, the person you owe has an unfulfilled wish. When her wish is fulfilled, you might be able to sacrifice your life and give her a new chance." The monk said, "That's all I can say."

Pei Lang thanked the monk and returned to the palace.

What was Shen Miao's unfulfilled wish?

Shen Miao's life was miserable. Her children were dead, and her family was gone. What she wanted to see was probably her enemy going to hell and justice for the Shen family.

There was a chance to do it all over again, but you had to wait. Would you wait for it?

Pei Lang made a decision to wait.

"Tilling the field for 1 year for the millet harvest"

Winter passed and spring came.

When a dynasty was about to fall, the aura of decline would shroud it.

Ming Qi was no longer the same as before. There was harsh taxation and conscription, and the people were struggling to make a living. The imperial court was in chaos, and the emperor was muddle-headed.

The crown prince, on the other hand, was busy forming alliances all day long, wishing he could ascend the throne as soon as possible.

Ming Qi was a piece of fat meat that everyone wanted to take a bite of.

The Daliang Dynasty attacked and annexed the State of Qin and finally launched an attack on Ming Qi. The victory was easily won and they marched smoothly all the way to the capital of Ming Qi.

After the Daliang Dynasty set up tents outside the capital, the people were scared out of their wits. The doors of the houses were tightly shut, and the atmosphere was filled with the aura of a country being destroyed.

In the big tent, someone sat there, wiping his sword.

"Ming Qi is coming to an end." The white-robed Young Master walked in with a folding fan, his voice emotionless. "I heard that the palace is cleaning up tonight."

The women, consorts, palace maids, and even the princesses of the royal family had to be cleaned up. Instead of being humiliated by the enemy, it was better to kill them all first..

Chapter 997: Previous Life (11)

How many of those people actually did not want to die?

The man looked up, revealing a beautiful face. He said, "Oh, have you found

Empress Shen's corpse?"

Ji Yushu opened the door of the tent and walked in. When he heard this, he said, "I've asked around, but there's nothing. A fire in the Cold Palace burned everything down, leaving not even a piece of clothes."

Gao Yang mocked, "Fu Xiuyi made sure no one could find anything because he is guilty of doing it."

Ji Yushu sighed and said, "If the Shen family was still around, she wouldn't end up like this."

Xie Jingxing glanced at the red string on his wrist.

The color of the string had already faded a little, but it was still firmly tied to his wrist. Later, he had been to the battlefield many times, but this red string

had never fallen off.

Thinking of the woman's words that night, Xie Jingxing shook his head. That promise would eventually be broken. Who knew that in just a few years, Ming Qi would fall so quickly? Even without the Daliang Dynasty launching an attack, it would fall apart on its own.

He had indeed returned triumphantly, and he planned to watch the fireworks with her. However, she was already gone and there was no chance that he could fulfill his promise in this life.

He said, "Tomorrow morning, we'll attack the city."

The flag of the Daliang Dynasty fluttered. The weather in June was ever-changing. Black clouds pressed down on the capital of Ming Qi, and a strong wind blew, as if it was going to rain in the next moment.

There was no one in the palace anymore. There were corpses everywhere. There were women who had "hanged" themselves, and there were also servants who had been beheaded by the Daliang Dynasty's soldiers.

Blood flowed everywhere, and there were millions of corpses.

Pei Lang sat in the hall and poured himself tea. He poured slowly, and the green smoke rose from the incense burner, emitting a fragrance that was as intoxicating as the whisper of a beauty.

He glanced out of the window.

The day Shen Miao died, the weather was also like this. The sky was dark, and suddenly, it rained heavily.

He had waited for a long time for this day.

The Daliang Dynasty's army had arrived, and Ming Qi was about to fall. Fu Xiuyi and Consort Mei were about to die, and Shen Miao's wish would soon be fulfilled.

There was finally a chance to undo the mistake he had made.

He poured the thing in the small bottle into the wine pot on the other side and filled his cup.

"Your wish is about to come true. Unfortunately... I'm not the one who helped you fulfill your wish," He muttered to himself.

On the city tower, the emperor and the empress were tied to the flagpole with their hands behind their back.

For the sake of their own survival, they would sacrifice the lives of others. This was something Consort Mei and Fu Xiuyi often did. Now, it was their turn to have a taste of it.

The officials kidnapped the emperor and the empress to express their willingness to surrender to the Daliang Dynasty, hoping that their lives could be spared.

At this moment, no matter how favored Consort Mei was, it was useless.

Oh, there was also the new crown prince, Fu Sheng. He had long been beheaded by Xie Changwu and Xie Changchao, who loved to suck up to him.

Below the city tower, the man sitting on the tall horse narrowed his eyes lazily. The black clouds had dissipated at some point, and gradually, golden light shone across the entire city.

His clothes were gorgeous, stained with blood, but he still looked noble and untainted, exuding a natural pressure. He formed a sharp contrast with the emperor who was tied up on the platform..

Chapter 998: Previous Life (12)

“Xie Jingxing!” Fu Xiuyi gritted his teeth.

The heir of the Marquis of Lin’an, the son of Xie Ding, the brother of Xie Changwu and Xie Changchao. No one expected that the young man who had long died on the battlefield would appear in front of the world like this many years later.

He was the younger brother of Emperor Yong Le of the Daliang Dynasty, Prince Rui, and the young general of the terrifying army called the Black Feather.

“Long time no see,” Xie Jingxing greeted him.

Everyone knew that the younger brother of Emperor Yong Le of the Daliang Dynasty was the most gallant. He helped his brother conquer the world and was heroic. Such a hero was actually the heir of the Marquis of Lin’an.

Consort Mei stared at the man.

She was extremely afraid. She had always relied on men to get what she wanted step by step. At this juncture, all her tricks were useless. She blamed Fu Xiuyi for being useless. In contrast, the man below the city tower was handsome and noble. She couldn’t help but stare at him with admiration in her eyes.

Xie Jingxing frowned and asked Ji Yushu, “Shen Miao lost to this woman?”

Ji Yushu said, “That’s right.” He added, “She looks ordinary. I wonder if Fu Xiuyi is blind to be infatuated with her.”

When the soldiers heard them talking, they burst into laughter. Consort Mei’s face was red with anger. Fu Xiuyi was also angry. He looked at Xie Jingxing and said in a low voice, “If you want to kill me, kill me. There’s no need to waste your breath!”

“Why are you still pretending to be tough at this moment?” Ji Yushu said disdainfully, “Third Brother, the emperor of Ming Qi seems to be in a hurry to die.”

Xie Jingxing smiled lazily and said, “I originally didn’t want to kill you myself because I couldn’t be bothered to do it. However, I owe your wife a wish. Coincidentally, this ending is also something you prepared for me many years ago, so I have to return it to you.”

He reached out his hand. Gao Yang handed him the longbow and the silver arrow. Xie Jingxing put his hand on the bow and arrow and then there was a whoosh!

Consort Mei, who was on the city tower, was shot!

At the sight of blood gushing out of Consort Mei, Fu Xiuyi panicked.

The most terrifying thing in the world was not death, but waiting for it.

Xie Jingxing smiled and reached out his hand. Gao Yang handed him two more silver arrows.

He nocked the two arrows on the longbow and whistled.

Then, the tens of thousands of soldiers of the Daliang Dynasty drew their bows and aimed at the two of them on the city tower!

The wind made the flags on the city tower flutter, like the cry of a ghost. When the last black clouds dissipated, it was the golden sun that scorched the land.

The man's purple clothes fluttered in the wind. His smile was cold, but his eyes were as mischievous as a young man's. He stood under the city tower and looked at the two of them with panic in their eyes, laughing loudly.

"I'm sorry. I'm entrusted by a girl to take your life!"

"Release!"

Tens of thousands of arrows shot out like ferocious beasts, covering the sun and devouring the two of them instantly.

In the palace, the man in green had already fallen asleep on the table.

At his feet, a lantern was tilted, and the candles inside fell down. In less than half an hour, the flame had already spread out, burning past the throne room.

"Eh, Third Brother, the palace is on fire." Ji Yushu looked into the distance and said in surprise, "Shall we send people to put out the fire?"

"There's no need." Xie Jingxing stopped him.

"Ming Qi's palace is not clean. It's good to burn it down." He raised his eyebrows. "Are you around? Take this as the fireworks I promised to watch with you."

"What are you talking about?" Ji Yushu did not understand.

Xie Jingxing looked at the corner of the sky that was dyed red by the fire, and the figure drinking alone under the clear moonlight appeared in his mind.

"If this dynasty lets you down, I'll wipe out this dynasty for you." He said in a low voice, "This is probably your wish, right?"

However, he did not notice that the red string that had been tied to his wrist for a few years suddenly broke off and floated to the ground, turning into ashes.

"It's raining." Gao Yang put away his fan. "The summer days are really strange."

Xie Jingxing smiled. "Let's enter the city."

"What for?"

“Overthrow Ming Qi..”

Chapter 999: Waking Up (1)

Shen Miao had a long dream.

That dream seemed to be very, very long. She watched as a bystander as she went from a baby to a naughty little girl, from a naughty little girl to a graceful girl, to a young woman, to the unattainable empress, and finally to the deposed empress in the cold palace, turning into ashes in the raging fire.

She watched as she fell in love with Fu Xiuyi and begged Shen Xin to allow her to marry Fu Xiuyi. She shouted at her younger self that this path was going to lead her to hell, but to no avail. No one could hear her, so she could only watch helplessly as it happened again.

From the perspective of a bystander, Shen Miao finally understood how stupid she was. The most terrifying thing was to experience the heart-wrenching pain again. Her girlhood ended after she married Fu Xiuyi. Those carefree days, even if she was treated as a fool, were free and happy. When she was called Princess Consort Ding, her carefree days were gone and she was forced to be involved in the power game.

The people around her left one by one, and the first branch of the Shen family was gradually declining. The former prosperity was like flowers that bloomed in the spring, but as soon as the autumn wind blew, they withered, looking even more desolate.

In that dark life, she saw Xie Jingxing.

He was not that mischievous young man, nor was he that hero who died on the battlefield. He was as arrogant as he was in the next life. He rode a tall horse and carried a longbow. With a smile, he overthrew an empire. Under the bright moonlight, he drank the farewell wine she gave him. On the day of the invasion, he returned her the wish that she had made.

They had only met once and were clearly strangers, but through some freak of fate, they established a bond that was harder to break than anything.

Her wish was fulfilled because of him, and she was reborn because of him.

However, the fate of that life was really too short. Such a beautiful fate that made people look forward to ended tragically. It was a pity, which was why there was another life to continue the fate.

Shen Miao slowly opened her eyes.

As far as the eye could see, there was a tent. An exquisite sachet hung in one corner of the tent, probably to reduce the bitter medicinal smell.

Shen Miao looked up at her side.

The young man lay on the head of the bed, one hand still holding her hand tightly. His eyes were closed, and there was stubble on his chin. It was not obvious, but it was different from his usual neat appearance.

His hand was well-defined, slender, and warm, completely covering her hand. Shen Miao only moved a little, and Nie Jingxing woke up.

Seeing that her eyes were open, Xie Jingxing was stunned for a moment, as if he had yet to react.. After a pause, he suddenly said, "You're awake!"

Chapter 1000: Waking Up (2)

Shen Miao nodded.

"Do you feel any pain?" Xie Jingxing asked, "Should I get Gao Yang to take a look at you?"

He usually looked lazy and indifferent to everything, but now, he looked anxious. Shen Miao said, "No need. I'm fine." Then, she asked, "How is Mr. Pei?" Xie Jingxing's face immediately darkened.

When Shen Miao saw his expression change, she was stunned for a moment before coming to a realization. She did not know how to explain. Was Pei Lang hateful? Of course he was. In her previous life, he took the blood from her fingertip and gave it to Consort Mei. Although she did not know if Consort Mei's "borrowing her fate" was true, he helped the evil doer nonetheless.

Shen Miao's feelings for Pei Lang were very complicated. She could forgive Pei Lang for what he did to her, but not what he did to Fu Ming. However, in the end, Pei Lang used his life to give her a chance to start over.

Shen Miao couldn't quite describe her feelings. She didn't want to own Pei Lang anything, nor did she want Pei Lang to owe her anything. It was time to let go of what happened in her previous life. She remembered very clearly that when the child-like assassin pounced on her, it was Pei Lang who took the blow for her. If Pei Lang died because of her, she would never be able to say goodbye to her previous life.

However, looking at Xie Jingxing's expression, Shen Miao knew that he had misunderstood.

She quickly stroked his face and explained, "He saved my life. He's my savior after all. If he's dead because of me, I'll be tormented by guilt."

Only then did Xie Jingxing's expression soften. He said, "Gao Yang has checked him. He woke up once last night. He's lucky that he's fine." He glanced at Shen Miao. "On the other hand, you've been unconscious for a long time. If you still won't wake up, I think I'll go and cut off that Daoist priest's head."

"Daoist priest?" Shen Miao was stunned. "Are you talking about Daoist Priest

Chi Yan?"

Xie Jingxing said disdainfully, "He's just a charlatan." The so-called "Daoist priest" left Prince Rui's mansion early this morning. Before he left, he even took the top-grade antique vase in the hall as a reward.

After hearing from Xie Jingxing that the Daoist priest had taken a vase away,

Shen Miao was a little puzzled. That long dream solved many of her questions. As a matter of fact, the dream might not necessarily be true, but for some reason, Shen Miao felt that everything that happened in the dream was the complete story of her previous life.

She had indeed met that Daoist priest on the way back to Ming Qi from the

State of Qin. She thought that he was a refugee who had disguised himself as a Daoist priest to beg for a living. She was kind and gave him water and food, but she did not expect him to be involved in so many things.

If she had really listened to that Daoist priest in her previous life and did not set foot on the road back to the capital, she probably would not have had to go through all that pain. However, if she had to do it all over again, even if she knew that it was a path to hell, she would still do the same, because her children were both in the palace..