

## Divine 1421

### Chapter 1421 Third Lady 1

In his opinion, the Phoenix Girl was always in the Gu Family, so it did not matter which one it was, as long as it was his daughter. So all he needed was to keep the Gu Family's position and status. Also, he hoped that the Phoenix Girl could open the door to enchantment as soon as possible, so everything would be settled. Otherwise he would always feel unsure, and if any mistakes happened, he would be so embarrassed, together with the Gu Family.

Therefore, he was trying his best to suck up to the Crown Prince. If the Crown Prince liked anyone from his family, he could take her, including Xiuying.

Anyway, the Gu Family had to stay the same as before.

Gu Zhenkang was anxious too. He guided Zhou Huailing directly to the Third Concubine's home instead of informing them of anything.

Third Concubine was very confused when they arrived at the yard.

She had not seen her Old Master for ages, so what was going on here?

The Third Concubine had not yet responded, when she saw the Crown Prince approaching her.

Third Concubine was just on her way to fetch some food for Xiuying and could not believe what was happening in front of her. She rubbed her eyes, trying to make sure that she was not making a mistake.

Seeing that she was not delusional, she turned to the maid behind her. "Is the Old Master here?"

"Yeah, it is him!" The maid sounded excited, as she answered her.

They had not had a good time during the past period, neither the master nor the servants. Now the Old Master was here and they expected the situation might change. If the master lived a better life, the maids would definitely live better as well.

When it was confirmed, Third Concubine could not conceal her happiness, but kneeled down and said, "Greetings, Old Master, and Long live the Crown Prince!"

"Just get up now." Zhou Huailing sounded gentle.

He would normally never daign to speak with any concubine from the back yard. He found them so filthy that his eyes might be ruined, but today was different.

He knew that this concubine's daughter might be the Phoenix Girl, who would be useful for him, so he should not look down on people like them, in case anything happened unexpectedly.

That was why he behaved so gently.

Gu Zhenkang wasn't a very smart person, but he more or less understood how to behave according to the leaders' facial expressions. So he did not show much emotion either.

Without saying a word, he approached Third Concubine and helped her up. He stressed. "It is very cold these days. Why are you not at home, but out here? You might get sick from getting cold."

Third Concubine was dumbfounded. Clearly she had no idea what was going on.

She spent decades at the Gu Mansion and it was the first time for the Old Master to treat her so nicely. What happened all of a sudden?

Third Concubine was dumbfounded.

"I will be careful." Third Concubine answered quietly, but honestly, it was not at all warm inside her home.

"Where is Xiuying?"

Chapter 1422 Third Lady 2

Gu Zhenkang looked into the room and asked.

He seemed to care about Third Concubine, but he really did not care. He was just acting because of Xiuying's usefulness.

Third Concubine, when asked about her daughter, relaxed.

"She is in the room. She hasn't eaten much lunch, and is starving now. So I am fetching some food for her from the kitchen," Third Concubine said.

She was really living very badly. She guessed that Mrs. Gu must have made sure it happened.

That was why the kitchen only served them cold food, and cold food just did not work on this kind of day.

There was really no other way, but to spend some money and buy some hot food from the kitchen. She would go there in person, but she was really worried about these servants, their money was running out, so they had to save it, in case the servants betrayed her, and she would have a lot of losses.

However, Third Concubine did not dare to make any complaints right now.

No one knew what happened for Old Master and the Crown Prince to suddenly treat her well.

She was very cautious about making any mistakes. And she was worried about revenge from Ms. Gu who always caused them a lot of trouble.

Third Concubine showed Gu Zhenkang in.

Gu Zhenkang let Zhou Huailing go in first, while the servants all waited outside. The room was too small to hold many people unlike other rooms in the mansion.

Zhou Huailing frowned as he walked in, looking displeased. "Why is it so cold here? Are there no braziers?"

He had been at the imperial tombs very early in the morning. It did not snow at the imperial tombs, but he headed directly to Gu Mansion after he left the tombs without a break. He had decided to take a break here to do some real business, but he felt even worse after he stepped in. Zhou Huailing could not stand it any more and shouted out angrily.

Gu Zhenkang had no idea what was going on. Each room would have at least one brazier.

He turned to glare at Mrs. Gu. She must have done it.

He looked at Chen Fu and said, "What are you staring at? Go and prepare a brazier and hot tea. Third Concubine is still a master, how can she be treated like this?"

He did not dare to say that it was the Crown Prince's intention, but defended Third Concubine from his point of view anyway.

Third Concubine was shocked.

She had not expected that so many things would happen within such a short period of time.

Instead of staying, she added. "I will go and fetch Xiuying. She is still lying in bed since it is too cold here. Maybe she has been infected with a cold."

Gu Zhenkang nodded and Third Concubine hurried away.

Gu Xiuying was still looking really annoyed as she walked in. "Did you get the food?"

She just could not stand days like this – coldness and hunger. It was her mother who was so incapable that they had to suffer this much. So she did not show a good expression towards her.

"Xiuying, get up and get changed. The Crown Prince is here, we may have a different future now!"

Gu Xiuying gasped.

### Chapter 1423 Third Lady 3

Gu Xiuying felt the coldness flying out of her. She lifted the blanket, got up and grabbed her dresses, with Third Concubine's help.

When dressed, she put on makeup too.

Third Concubine helped with the makeup, rather than letting the maids do the work.

She knew that today was the time for them to have a different destiny in life. So they had to be cautious.

She combed her hair and said, "Your father and the Crown Prince were talking with me in a very friendly tone, and the Crown Prince asked your father to fetch a brazier. Don't worry, I think that you are going to have a very good life from this moment on!"

Gu Xiuying looked extremely impatient.

She would have thrown her temper at her mother if she had not needed her help with her hair.

This concubine was just slowing her down, she was totally useless.

When they were done with her hair and makeup, Gu Xiuying got up directly. She was not going to make someone as noble as the Crown Prince wait, especially for someone with a low status like her. She understood that point directly.

"Greetings, Crown Prince, and father." Gu Xiuying greeted them both.

Gu Zhenkang was about to say something when Zhou Huailing stopped him. He helped Gu Xiuying up and said gently, "Third Lady, don't worry about the greetings, come and sit with me."

"..."

"Concubine just said that you are starving. I have asked the kitchen to prepare some food for you, is that fine? I will talk with you when you are done eating," Zhou Huailing said gently, as if Gu Xiuying were one of his favorite consorts.

Gu Xiuying was extremely shocked.

She knew that something good must have happened, but she had not expected that the Crown Prince would treat her so nicely!

That was how the Crown Prince treated Gu Ruxue back then.

So...

Gu Xiuying did not dare continue to think about it.

"Crown Prince, just tell me directly what you need, I can't let you wait," Gu Xiuying mustered her courage and said.

Zhou Huailing smiled briefly.

He liked Gu Xiuying to this point.

Ruxue was a very arrogant person and always talked down to him. He tolerated her because she was considered to be the Phoenix Girl, but he never liked her personality.

However, the Third Lady seemed more gentle.

She knew who was more important.

He was very satisfied by that.

He helped the girl to his side, then he said, "Ruxue did a test at the door to enchantment, but she could not open it. Destiny Monk said that maybe she isn't the Phoenix Girl. If she is not the Phoenix Girl, some other lady from the Gu Mansion might be, you are the only other choice. So, could you please, Third Lady, follow me to the imperial tombs and do the test?"

"..."

"If you are the one, Third Lady, you are going to have great responsibilities!"

What?

Gu Xiuying's eyes widened.

She might be the Phoenix Girl?

Gu Ruxue wasn't the one?

Well...

## Chapter 1424 Care 1

Gu Xiuying cheered out of delight inside her heart. She almost could not imagine how much she could benefit from this wonderful thing – Mrs. Gu and Gu Ruxue were so arrogant just because she was assumed to be the Phoenix Girl!

If Gu Ruxue was not the Phoenix Girl, but she, Gu Xiuying was, then Gu Xiuying could override Gu Ruxue directly!

During these days... she had suffered so much.

And she was not reconciled with the bitterness she had suffered, because she knew how much it hurt.

If she was the Phoenix Girl, she was going to pay back the bitterness, little by little, in a more ferocious way!

She was going to take revenge on these two evil women!

Gu Xiuying almost forgot about what position she was in, due to the sudden ecstasy.

Zhou Huailing did not care.

He smiled gently and said to Gu Xiuying, "Third Lady, it is not certain yet, but you need to do the test anyway. You don't need to be afraid. I will keep you company personally tomorrow. Early in the morning, people from the Ministry of Rites will come and help you dress up."

"..."

"But at the moment, there is food on the table, so you should eat and have a good rest. I heard from the concubine that you are not feeling well? I already called the imperial doctors to check on you and you can eat the supplementary medicine, so that you can get better," Zhou Huailing said with care.

Gu Xiuying nodded and said bashfully, "Thank you, Crown Prince."

She was aware of what was going on.

At this point... She already understood one thing –

The Crown Prince was going to marry her if she turned out to be the Phoenix Girl.

Well...

As long as the Crown Prince had the plan to marry her, she would definitely say yes. The Crown Prince was the most noble man after the King, and he was going to take the throne in the future. She deserved a noble man like him!

As for Gu Ruxue... she was going to come up with some ways to settle her.

Gu Xiuying nodded slightly and started to eat.

Zhou Huailing observed Gu Xiuying with a gentle look. Seeing that she was already eating the food, he turned to Gu Zhenkang, saying, "Officer Gu, get me a room for tonight. I will spend the night here. I will accompany the Third Lady to the imperial tombs early tomorrow morning!"

"Okay!" Gu Zhenkang did not dare to delay, so he ordered Chen Fu to settle the arrangement.

It got really busy inside Gu Mansion again.

Almost everyone was busy in the yard, whilst the others were helping to arrange a room for the Crown Prince.

Mrs. Gu wasn't pleased.

Since when did the Third Concubine become so important?

She really hoped that the Third Concubine and her daughter would fail...

Mrs. Gu clenched her teeth, took a deep breath and left directly.

The Crown Prince spent all of his time with Gu Xiuying, which made Third Concubine really cheerful. She intentionally left them alone.

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The following day...

The dawn had just arrived when it became noisy at Gu Mansion. People from the Ministry of Rites were already there, taking care of Gu Xiuying.

A set of dresses was tailored overnight for the girl.

For Gu Xiuying.

When everyone was well-dressed, they headed to the imperial tombs together.

Zhou Huailing had already been standing outside Gu Xiuying's room, waiting for her to come out, so Gu Xiuying spotted him immediately.

Chapter 1425 Care 2

Feeling delighted, she smiled.

She was really glad to be so carefully looked after by the Crown Prince. It seemed as if something changed suddenly overnight. She had been a bitter girl living a bitter life the day before, but today, she had a nice, gentle Crown Prince who was waiting for her outside the room.

Gu Xiuying pinched herself, and found that everything was real. She smiled even more brightly as she approached the Crown Prince.

Third Concubine followed behind. She called out to her as she was worried about something. "Xiuying!" She wanted to stress something to her daughter, because Xiuying always shared her ideas with her before she started doing something. Xiuying had not shared any ideas with her today, so she was worried and wanted to tell her something.

However, Gu Xiuying turned around at Third Concubine impatiently.

This woman was not helping her, and instead kept giving her trouble.

Gu Xiuying was very annoyed.

She turned around, pretending as if she did not hear Third Concubine's calling.

She put on a smiling face as she headed towards the Crown Prince. "Crown Prince, thank you for coming!"

"Third Lady, it is fine!" Zhou Huailing smiled and took Gu Xiuying out.

Zhou Huailing was still showing great care as they were getting on the wagon. He personally helped Gu Xiuying up to the wagon. Gu Mansion had a wagon prepared for Gu Xiuying, but Junyi removed it, and let Gu Xiuying take the Crown Prince's instead. It was big enough for two.

Before Gu Xiuying was confirmed as the Phoenix Girl, the Crown Prince could not express his intention of marrying Gu Xiuying, but the wagon with two people inside was demonstrating to the world that the Third Lady was exactly whom he wanted. With that as the prerequisite, no other noble families in the capital would want to have a hand in it.

Well...

Gu Xiuying did not understand any of this. She was just really happy at the moment.

The wagon was heading directly to the imperial tombs.

The officers and ministers were already there, waiting for the Crown Prince and the Third Lady of Gu Family to come.

As they came to the imperial tombs...

Zhou Huailing got out of the wagon, reached for Gu Xiuying and helped her to get off.

Then Gu Xiuying walked towards the door to enchantment shoulder to shoulder with him, passing the officers and ministers.

Gu Xiuying was feeling really excited. She was waiting for the greatest moment to arrive.

Zhou Huailing kept her company at the door to enchantment.

The King and Destiny Monk were already waiting at the door to enchantment.

Gu Xiuying tried to greet them, but the King waved it off.

"Third Lady of the Gu Family, no need to greet me, you can greet me anytime you want in the future," the King said.

"Okay, My King." Gu Xiuying's voice shivered with excitement.

Zhou Huailing had no patience. He turned to Destiny Monk, who nodded and said that they could open the door to enchantment.

Zhou Huailing pulled Gu Xiuying to the lotus pool in front of the door to enchantment.

The magical ball was still there. He looked at Gu Xiuying, and suddenly had a serious look on his face. This was the moment for him to find out the result.

And he wished that the door to enchantment could be opened as soon as possible.

“Third Lady, put your hands on the magical ball, and if you are the Phoenix Girl...”

Chapter 1426 Lady Chaoyan

“The door to enchantment will open,” Zhou Huailing said as he sounded really nervous.

Gu Xiuying looked at this magical ball and the door to enchantment, feeling even more nervous. It seemed that her life was going to be overturned tremendously at the moment.

She really hoped that she was the real Phoenix Girl.

Although she did not notice Gu Ruxue’s annoying face, yet she could notice Gu Chaoyan from the corner of her eyes. Her heart was pounding. She was mixed with different emotions.

She stretched out her hands to take the magical ball, shivering slightly.

Zhou Huailing did not have much patience. He grabbed her hand and put it on the ball.

Time passed by, and the door to enchantment was still closed.

There was not even any reaction from it.

Everyone had a strange expression on their faces.

“Try blood, Crown Prince!” Junyi whispered.

Zhou Huailing nodded. “Yeah, blood!”

He grabbed the dagger and sliced Gu Xiuying’s finger. Blood poured out and dropped onto the magical ball. Then he looked at the door to enchantment.

There was still nothing.

Not only Zhou Huailing, but also Junyi looked really twisted.

The Third Lady was not the one either? Then what should they do? Who could it be?

“Destiny Monk, what is going on?” Junyi interrogated excitedly. The Phoenix Girl was going to determine the Crown Prince’s destiny, and his too. He had the dream of becoming the King’s strategist! He must not be affected by this!

He lost his composure completely.

Zhou Huailing was confused. “If neither Ruxue nor Third Lady is the Phoenix Girl, who else could it be? Is there anything wrong with the door to enchantment?!”

The King was silent. He turned to Destiny Monk.



Destiny Monk was much calmer than the rest of them, because everything was going according to his conjectures. There was no trace to the answer, but that was good, right?"

"The Phoenix Girl is definitely the one that can open the door to enchantment, and as I predicted, she is from the Gu Family, but you must not forget that the Crown Prince Consort and Third Lady are not the only ladies from the Gu Family. There is still one lady who was driven out of the family, namely Lady Chaoyan." Destiny Monk reminded them.

Although they had totally forgotten about Gu Chaoyan who was driven out of the family, yet judging from the situation, Gu Chaoyan was apparently the one.

The King and Zhou Huailing suddenly turned pale.

Gu Zhenkang immediately got agitated as he tried to deny the speculation. "That is impossible!"

"..."

"Gu Chaoyan can't be the Phoenix Girl, never!"

"..."

"Her mother was a low-class businesswoman, and Gu Chaoyan herself is not well-behaved. She has been driven out of the family now! How can someone like that be the Phoenix Girl? Impossible!" Gu Zhenkang looked totally resolute. He did not believe it, nor did he want to believe that! It was not possible!

Gu Zhenkang was especially agitated.

Gu Chaoyan was still standing there peacefully, as if she did not care what was going on.

Destiny Monk looked at Gu Zhenkang, saying, "Officer Gu, it doesn't depend on you whether or not she is the one."

#### Chapter 1427 Not Third Lady 1

Destiny Monk did not sound as hollow as before. He even became slightly angry when speaking with Gu Zhenkang about this. He put on a very heavy tone.

Gu Chaoyan had broken through his array formation and sometimes embarrassed him, but Gu Chaoyan was the only person who was ever able to break the array formation. After a few conversations with Gu Chaoyan, Destiny Monk had subconsciously regarded Gu Chaoyan as his friend. Since they were friends, Destiny Monk could not stand Gu Zhenkang humiliating Gu Chaoyan and her mother in front of him.

He had a very sharp look in his eyes, as he said to Gu Zhenkang directly. "The Phoenix Girl was born in the Gu Family, but that has nothing to do with you Gu Zhenkang. The Phoenix Girl has her incarnation here, only because the Phoenix Girl's mother was lucky to have such fortune. So you are not qualified enough to judge who is the Phoenix Girl or not." Saying that, Destiny Monk pointed at the door to enchantment and said seriously, "The door to enchantment will tell us the truth."

"..."

"And the other two ladies from the Gu Mansion failed to open the door to enchantment, so Lady Chaoyan should be our last hope."

“ ... ”

“She is most likely to be the Phoenix Girl!”

Destiny Monk had never expressed his ideas, but now...

He was almost confirming the truth. And that was also because he was confident enough to make the confirmation.

Most of the people present just did not believe this truth, but that was what the truth was now.

Gu Chaoyan might most likely be the Phoenix Girl.

Hearing Destiny Monk's words, Gu Zhenkang could not counter him even though he disagreed with him. He kept shaking his head to express his disbelief.

He did not think that was possible.

Gu Chaoyan...

That was totally impossible!

If Destiny Monk said that the Phoenix Girl should be related to the fortune of her birth mother, then Ruxue was the only one who had a mother born in the official family. She should be the one who had the most noble status. The Phoenix Girl should be born by someone like that!

On the other hand, Gu Chaoyan was different.

She was born to a businesswoman. How could a girl with that status be the Phoenix Girl?

He just did not believe that. He really did not want to believe that either.

It must be false!

Gu Zhenkang was mumbling as he kept denying to himself.

Whilst Gu Zhenkang kept denying to himself, the King had a terrible expression on his face as well. He did not think Gu Chaoyan was the Phoenix Girl. Nor did he want that either.

Gu Chaoyan was engaged with his Eighth Son.

If she was the Phoenix Girl... then what should they do in the future?

He could not pay attention to this son of his, who had the Jiang Family's blood. He just could not keep a person related to the Jiang Family alive.

He must have made a mistake before.

He should not have kept him alive for Jiang Shuang's sake.

Well...

If that was true, they would be pushed into a very embarrassing situation.

What should they do?

The King was totally startled.

Seeing the situation, Destiny Monk stepped forward and made the arrangement. "Third Lady of the Gu Family failed to open the door to enchantment, meaning that the Third Lady is not the Phoenix Girl. So please, everyone. Come here at the same hour tomorrow, so that Lady Chaoyan can try opening the door to enchantment."

"..."

"It is time for the door to enchantment to be opened."

## Chapter 1428 Not Third Lady 2

When Destiny Monk was done speaking... no one from the imperial family had any reactions. They were busy thinking about their own interests.

However, every officer and minister below sighed. Whether it was the Crown Prince Consort or the Third Lady it would be the same for them – the Crown Prince won and the Gu Family won. And what they needed to do was to suck up to the Crown Prince and the Gu Family. Neither of which would be a good thing for them.

However, if Lady Chaoyan was the Phoenix Girl...

Things were different. She was engaged to Lord Huai.

Lord Huai might obtain some benefits from this point.

It was quite a lot of fun to see the Crown Prince and Lord Huai fighting with each other.

So it made those ministers and officers more relaxed. They could just take a side when either of them offered some interests that might benefit them.

Those people exchanged looks with each other and understood what they should do. Some inexperienced ones even smiled at this situation.

When Destiny Monk was done with the arrangement for the next day...

People started to leave the imperial tombs.

The King was still making plans in disbelief. He did not even have time to place an order for the next day.

Since he had no order to give, they all dismissed.

Gu Chaoyan and Zhou Huaijin walked downhill with the rest of the ministers and officers.

Gu Chaoyan showed no expression on her face. She looked calm and totally composed.

Zhou Huaijin had neither become happy or unhappy because of this unexpected news.

However...

As they walked downhill, a few ministers passed by Zhou Huaijin and started to suck up to him. To that, Zhou Huaijin just responded with a single nod.

Zhou Huailing became extremely annoyed as he saw what was going on.

"How ridiculous!" Zhou Huailing snapped. "The Phoenix Girl is not yet settled, and yet some people are already trying to suck up to the candidate. I am still here!"

Zhou Huailing did not sound as angry as he looked.

Junyi was, after all, calmer than him. He could not accept the result, but he soon adjusted himself, trying to figure out what he could do so that he could maximize his own interests.

He interrupted the Crown Prince who was still standing at the imperial tombs. "Crown Prince, you had a bad sleep yesterday, so let's go back to the mansion for a longer break. The door to enchantment won't be opened until tomorrow."

He even gave him a few suggestions about his expression.

Zhou Huailing swallowed down the words he wanted to snap out.

Most of the people here at the imperial tombs were still working for his father. If the words were spoken wrongfully, he might get himself into bigger trouble.

"Let's leave!" Zhou Huailing snapped, ready to leave the imperial tombs.

His followers did the same.

Seeing that, Gu Xiuying followed. "Crown Prince, I am still here. Let me leave with you!"

When the Gu Family were leaving, she did not join them. She wanted to wait for the Crown Prince to keep him company. He had forgotten about her existence because he was busy with something, so she had to remind him herself.

### Chapter 1429 Not Third Lady 3

Gu Xiuying shouted as she followed up, coming to Zhou Huailing's side.

Zhou Huailing had totally forgotten about Gu Xiuying, but he was reminded of her again when she came to pester him.

She wanted to leave with him? How ridiculous! Who did she think she was?

And she had even humiliated him in front of the public. She did not deserve a look from him at all!

The more he thought about this, the more furious Zhou Huailing became. He became disgusted by Gu Xiuying and out of total fury, he kicked Gu Xiuying directly on her chest, shouting, "Get off me!"

Having said that, they hurried away.

Gu Xiuying was totally shocked when she was kicked. She felt both hurt and confused. She had no idea why this was happening to her.

She wiped the blood from the corner of her lip. She was about to ask Zhou Huailing when he was already gone.

The wagon darted towards the Crown Prince's Mansion, causing water to splatter all over.

Zhou Huailing angrily went into the mansion without putting on a cloak. It was still snowing outside, but no one dared to offer him an umbrella either.

Junyi hastened behind him.

Even he was no longer as calm as before. He was feeling quite disturbed.

He had already made a very thorough plan. He had expected that everything would go smoothly. He had not predicted that such a thing would happen at this point.

His plan had been disturbed and his thoughts were gone. He needed to make a new plan.

He was again postponed in the dream of becoming a King's strategist.

He was not less angry than anyone else around.

In the study.

Zhou Huailing swept away all the books on the table, smashed everything inside. The noise did not quiet down until a long while later. It was a total mess inside the room.

Junyi did not pick up the books one by one like before. He walked over those books directly.

The Crown Prince was really angry at the moment. He could not calm himself down, but he was working for the Crown Prince, so he needed to calm himself down.

Junyi approached him and said orderly, "Crown Prince, there is no need to irritate yourself like this. Nothing is settled yet, is it?"

"..."

"Gu Chaoyan might be the Phoenix Girl, so what?"

"..."

"Lord Huai and Gu Chaoyan are not married. They have not shared a bedroom and they have no child of their own."

"..."

"None of these has happened, right?"

"..."

"In that case, there will always be the possibility that something will change."

"..."

"The King is still by your side. If she can open the door to enchantment tomorrow, you can think of some ways to make Gu Chaoyan marry you, especially if Lord Huai is gone."

This was the Crown Prince's mansion, and they were in the Crown Prince's study. There was no need to worry about eavesdropping, so Junyi said whatever that was in his mind.

Even if they had shared a bedroom, they had not had a child yet, so everything could be turned around.

Couldn't they?

"Crown Prince, we have run into accidents nowadays, but what we need to do is to make some efforts. We still have ways out."

"..."

"Nothing is easy on the way to the throne. Otherwise anyone could acquire the world as long as they want it."

Chapter 1430 Gu Chaoyan? 1

Junyi spoke calmly, trying to persuade the Crown Prince.

Then Junyi started to pick up the books lying next to him, and placed a couple onto the table. He wasn't that anxious any longer.

Zhou Huailing also became much calmer after hearing what Junyi said. He had been too angry to control himself a while ago. He was like a furious lion that was tormenting the weak ones.

"What do you think, anyway?" Zhou Huailing asked.

Junyi let out a sigh of relief.

It seemed that his consoling words had worked.

He was feeling really anxious, as a matter of fact. He was not as calm and confident as he pretended to be. The Crown Prince was already panicking, but he could not be like this. He needed to change the situation.

He was a strategist. He did not care who he was serving, but he had made observations since the trip back from the imperial tombs. He could either choose the Crown Prince or Lord Huai. Lord Huai seemed to have walked a step further towards the advantages, yet it was very difficult for him to overturn his status. He should continue with the Crown Prince, who was still in an advantageous status.

He swept away the books on the chair, making himself a seat and sat down.

He was thinking carefully.

Things happened too suddenly for him to be totally calm. He did not have many solutions available right now, when the Crown Prince asked him. He needed to take it slow, but whatever he said just now was important.

He followed up, saying carefully after some consideration. "Crown Prince, we can take one step after another."

"..."

"Gu Chaoyan is not yet married. Her engagement can be broken off, just like how her last one was."

"..."

“She never looked up to you, because you have Gu Ruxue with you, of course she would not like it, but if Gu Ruxue is not the Phoenix Girl, you can just promise her the position as the Queen.”

“ ... ”

“Also, you should speak with the Gu Family, especially Gu Zhenkang. You can tell him that you promise Elder Miss a position of Queen, so he could, as the father, try to get her back to defend her reputation.”

“ ... ”

“That is the condition you can offer to her. What women want most is the best things that can be offered to them.”

“ ... ”

“I have spoken with Gu Chaoyan before. She is quite smart, but she is just a woman, after all. Women are the easiest to deal with.”

Junyi sounded casual, as he spoke.

He disliked Gu Chaoyan, but he needed to accept her since he was pursuing his own interests.

That was the best solution for the moment.

When everything was settled well, they could continue like before.

He was still confident about the Crown Prince. He might not be an ideal man, but he had an ideal status.

Junyi soon cleared his mind after he spoke. He felt confident again.

Hearing that...

Zhou Huailing nodded and agreed with what Junyi said.

Well...

He liked Gu Chaoyan, though she was very cold, that made her interesting.

His original plan was to steal Gu Chaoyan when he took the throne.