

## **Divine 261**

### **Chapter 261: Riding and Shooting Contest 1**

The first test was Riding and Shooting.

All the participants were asked to carry out the test on the same pitch.

What surprised Gu Chaoyan was that on the way to the pitch, Gu Chaoyan ran into Li Yuanxiang who was also there for the Riding and Shooting. That startled Gu Chaoyan – so Li Yuanxiang was capable of Riding and Shooting? She was not looking down at Li Yuanxiang, but thought of what Zhang Mingyuan said earlier – few girls and even guys born in ordinary families got to learn how to do Riding and Shooting.

Li Yuanxiang thought that Li Yuanxiang was from an ordinary family since she had no maids with her. So what made her capable of Riding and Shooting?

She started to connect Li Yuanxiang and Liu Hanxiang, but she did not look into the confusion – that was not her business.

As they came to the pitch many people were already there.

Gu Chaoyan spotted County Princess Anxi from a distance away, and next to her was her sister Gu Ruxue and Huo Wei.

A brief smile hovered on Gu Chaoyan's face as she started to walk towards them.

Gu Ruxue started to curse Gu Chaoyan at the sight of her. "Honestly, sister, what are you doing here on the pitch? Are you even aware of what item we are competing with each other for? We are doing Riding and Shooting, are you able to do that at all? Don't think about blaming Saint College if you fall off the horse, or are you trying to get Saint College to accept you just because you get injured? Truly, sister, you are so cheeky thinking in this way!" Gu Ruxue kept mumbling and nagging.

County Princess Anxi was very satisfied. Someone helped her to curse this girl before she even needed to say anything.

"Elder Miss, don't cry when you lose." County Princess Anxi said to Gu Chaoyan from a commanding view.

"Same to you, County Princess Anxi." Gu Chaoyan replied calmly. She did not think any of these participants were of any importance, not even Gu Ruxue.

County Princess Anxi's face sank.

What a wild person! She was looking forward to seeing if she was still going to be so wild on the horse! This girl was not at all qualified to even start a competition with her! She turned to Huo Wei who nodded back at her.

Gu Chaoyan noticed what these people were doing, but she didn't show it. She was especially capable of horse riding.

The teachers in charge of the test had arrived. They asked each participant to pick a horse and put on the uniform for Riding and Shooting.

Everyone rushed forward to get the best breeds.

When it was Gu Chaoyan and Li Yuanxiang's turn, only one date-color horse and a white pony remained. Gu Chaoyan thought for a while and picked the white pony and spared the better one for Li Yuanxiang, because she did not know how capable this girl was when it came to horse riding – that girl got the better breed.

Li Yuanxiang was about to say something when Gu Chaoyan continued to get changed.

She followed suit.

County Princess Anxi, Huo Wei and Gu Ruxue were all out on the pitch. The three girls were dressed in tailor-made uniforms and looked extraordinarily radiant among the crowd.

The three of them had crossed their arms and waited for Gu Chaoyan to come out so that they could have a laugh.

Gu Ruxue knew that Gu Chaoyan had never prepared any uniform and she had no idea what Riding and Shooting was. Now it was time for her to have a laugh at this sister of hers. How dare she even think about competing with her! Stupid girl!

The door of the room opened and Gu Chaoyan walked out.

She was dressed in the red uniform given by Zhou Huaijin. She had lost some more weight during the past few days, so the uniform became a little oversized on her, but the slightly baggy-looking uniform made her look not only radiant but also gently beautiful.

## **Chapter 262: Shining**

Her skin became even fairer against the red uniform. Her eyes were large and clear and she was wearing a flat look on her face, making her look unapproachable and distant, mysterious and noble.

She had a small red birthmark on her face, but that made her anything but ugly. Instead the birthmark created a kind of uniqueness for her.

All the well-dressed participants turned to her and let out a deep sigh – she was beautiful!

County Princess Anxi, who had been ready to have a laugh, stiffened at the sight of Gu Chaoyan. A terribly low expression hovered over her face as she tossed the whip on the floor. Huo Wei was also amazed by what Gu Chaoyan looked like, but she still bent down and picked up the whip and passed it to County Princess Anxi's maid in a flattering way.

Gu Ruxue was totally dumbfounded. She was gazing at Gu Chaoyan as she shook her head – that was impossible!

What made this ugly girl so beautiful!? What was going on!?

Gu Chaoyan should be tanned, chubby and ugly, so when did she become someone with a face like this?

Gu Ruxue just could not think of when this ugly b\*\*\*h started to change – maybe since one month ago, or two? Damn she had no idea!

That was not going to work!

Why was she becoming so beautiful? Gu Ruxue got so angry that she clenched her fist.

Gu Chaoyan, at this moment, walked past them calmly and headed towards her own horse, as if she had not noticed their expression.

As she heard the voices of discussion, County Princess Anxi became fierce. Her original plan was to punish this annoying woman, but now, she was going to make sure that she was not going to live on in this world. A smile hovered over her face, and then she followed with a flat look.

Riding and Shooting... As the name mentioned, it was about riding and shooting on horseback.

Since the contest was for women, the standards of the contest were lowered – the riding and shooting were divided into two separate items.

So the first test was about horse riding.

The rules of the contest were simple – it was about speed. Those who took the lead would be considered to have passed the contest. So Gu Chaoyan was not stressed at all.

It was, unexpectedly, a female teacher who was in charge of the riding contest. It was said that this female teacher had once been on the battlefield before and should have been granted a title of Woman General. However, she turned down the offer and came to Saint College instead. Therefore, the King considered her as a very important person in the court, but this female teacher kept a low-profile and did not even step into the court after entering Saint College.

Gu Chaoyan learned of the story from Sword One.

She had no idea what kind of person this teacher was at the moment, yet Gu Chaoyan was confident that she was able to win the match. She mounted the horse.

And County Princess Anxi came past her and said to Gu Chaoyan. “Take care.”

“You too.” Gu Chaoyan replied in composure.

County Princess Anxi looked displeased but said no more. Following her were Huo Wei and Gu Ruxue who also threw a disdainful look at Gu Chaoyan.

Gu Chaoyan did not respond to their behavior.

As the horn rang out everyone rushed forward, including Gu Chaoyan who did not seem to spare any effort

### **Chapter 263: Accident 1**

After they rode for some time, Huo Wei suddenly appeared in front of Gu Chaoyan as if trying to block her way.

She was trying to interfere with Gu Chaoyan so that she could not rush forward.

Huo Wei did not care if she entered Saint College. What she cared about was whether she was able to befriend County Princess Anxi and the Elder Princess. That was why she could sacrifice her own role to stop Gu Chaoyan, so that strictly speaking, Gu Chaoyan would have nowhere to make an appeal if Huo Wei succeeded with her tricks.

However, Gu Chaoyan simply could not be stopped. She would very much like to know if Huo Wei dared to do the trick she had planned.

Instead of slowing down, Gu Chaoyan waved the whip and sped up.

Huo Wei was shocked hearing the scurrying sound of horse hoofs. Startled, she moved away and what Gu Chaoyan did was to hurry off through the narrow space Huo Wei had made for her.

Huo Wei got so frightened that it took her ages before she was again able to get control of the horse.

When she intended to carry out the trick once again, Gu Chaoyan was nowhere to be seen. How frightening! She had thought that trick would be easily done, since Gu Chaoyan was disgraced and lived in a shabby room all her life, so she never learned to ride. Even if she was able to ride horses, she might have picked up the knowledge these days and she could not be too skillful. How dare she rush up at such a rate – wasn't she scared that she would run into an accident?

Huo Wei was frightened and surprised.

Gu Chaoyan was riding at such a high rate that when Gu Ruxue saw her, she was shocked. She knew how capable Huo Wei was at riding, and she had been confident that she was able to deal with Gu Chaoyan.

So Huo Wei had been distracted?

Gu Ruxue was just thinking as she rushed towards Gu Chaoyan, who did not spare any mercy to her interference. Gu Ruxue had to change direction at a distance away. She did not want to get killed just because of this contest.

She was almost at the finishing line and Anxi was not far away from her.

County Princess Anxi frowned. Seeing Gu Chaoyan next to her, she found this woman extremely annoying, so she took out the dagger and tossed it at the horse's back. The horse got stabbed and let out a scream, rushing forward wildly.

Gu Chaoyan tried her best to control the horse. She had not expected that County Princess Anxi would have done such a mean thing, but she had no other way at this moment other than to make sure the horse was running in the right direction.

Her horse was a small pony, and normally the pony would not be faster than that of County Princess Anxi, but when the pony was stimulated, it rushed forward so fast that it went past County Princess Anxi directly, rushing at the finishing line at full speed.

County Princess Anxi got so angry as she was left behind.

The horse she stabbed should have been rushing randomly and throwing the person on it off – all kinds of accidents would occur here!

How could she!? How could she keep control of the horse!? Damn it! What made her capable?

Dressed in the red uniform, Gu Chaoyan came rushing to the finishing line. Zhou Huaijin was greeting her there with a smile, but Gu Chaoyan did not get off the horse as she passed by the finishing line but continued to hold the rope with great force.

Zhou Huaijin had thought about greeting her with celebratory words, but now, he realized that something was wrong.

## **Chapter 264: Accident 2**

The horse was not in the right state.

Zhou Huaijin's smiling face sank directly. Such an evil trick was happening at the examination of Saint College. Since when did Saint College become like this?

County Princess Anxi had just reached the finishing line.

Seeing Zhou Huaijin standing over there, she showed a bright smile, hopped off the horse and rushed towards Zhou Huaijin. "Brother Lord Huai, are you here watching me ride the horse, because you are worried about me?"

That was County Princess Anxi's first thought.

Zhou Huaijin did look at her this time, but he showed total disdain in his eyes. The next second, he hopped off the ground and came to Gu Chaoyan's side and landed upon her horse, carrying Gu Chaoyan directly off the horse whilst Fu Bao took hold of the crazy horse and went away into the distance.

The two figures in purple and red landed on the ground, creating a wonderful scene in front of everyone.

Zhou Huaijin looked at Gu Chaoyan nervously and sized her up. He was slightly assured when he made sure that she was not injured.

As he moved his eyes away from Gu Chaoyan, he again showed a cold look on his face. He threw a look at Anxi and then at the teacher in charge of the examination. "Officer Ming, since when did Saint College accept this kind of filthy trick?"

In the Saint Divine Land, this woman was the only woman who was addressed as Officer Ming.

She looked very serious. She already noticed that something was wrong. She had intended to show some skills when she noticed the excellent skill of this student. That was why she stood still and continued with the observation. Unexpectedly, Lord Huai appeared and confronted her, but Lord Huai was not wrong. Saint College never allowed such filthy tricks in the examination process, and the cheaters would be eliminated directly when discovered.

County Princess Anxi suddenly found that something was wrong.

She did play the trick, and she did not even hide the trick. After all, she did not care if she was accepted by Saint College. What she cared about was that Lord Huai saved that b\*\*\*h who went through the whole process safe and sound.

County Princess Anxi was extremely annoyed.

"I will definitely look into this matter!" Officer Ming said with a serious expression on her face.

County Princess Anxi did not care.

So what? Could this Officer Ming dare reveal her identity? That could be a joke! She was County Princess Anxi, and her mother, as well as the Reigning Queen would not possibly allow this Officer Ming to do anything.

County Princess Anxi threw a look at Huo Wei.

Huo Wei was shivering. She had been worried that County Princess Anxi would ask her to take the blame when some accident happened. Now Gu Ruxue was engaged to Lord Ling, and she was the only free person to use. Sure enough, she was asked to do what she was afraid of doing. Huo Wei felt dizzy yet she still stepped forward with trembling legs. "Officer Ming, Lord Ling, greetings. It was my fault! I should not have used such a filthy trick. Luckily, Gu Chaoyan is doing fine, what we have lost is nothing but a small pony."

Although she was supposed to take the blame, Huo Wei still stressed a different topic – As long as the girl was doing fine, she would not be seriously punished.

Officer Ming frowned and stayed silent, then she threw a look at Huo Wei and County Princess Anxi who showed a nonchalant look.

## **Chapter 265: Anxi Was Out**

In the horse riding process, Ming Yue noticed exactly what these people had been doing. It was County Princess Anxi who stabbed the horse. She saw that with her own eyes.

However, Huo Wei, who had been left behind, stepped out to take the blame. Apparently, she became the scapegoat. Honestly, County Princess Anxi could make anyone do this kind of thing for her.

She could ignore this mistake if it had been another occasion, but they were at Saint College and Ming Yue was not going to let this kind of thing continue.

"You did that?" She looked at Huo Wei with a pair of sharp eyes.

Huo Wei trembled and nodded. "Yes."

Ming Yue still showed a flat look on her face. Instead, she said seriously, "According to the result of the test, you were the last one to arrive, while Gu Chaoyan came to the finish line before everybody else. How did you make it from such a distance away? Saint College doesn't accept liars, so you can go home now."

As she was speaking Ming Yue turned to County Princess Anxi.

She was about to say something when County Princess Anxi jabbed at Liu Hanxiang next to her. Liu Hanxiang had been one of the first ones, after all. She had intended to make Gu Ruxue take the blame, but Gu Ruxue was going to marry her Brother Lord Ling, so her mother stressed that she should not only avoid bullying her but should also take care of her. That was why County Princess Anxi did not turn to Gu

Ruxue. Liu Hanxiang, on other hand, was from a family with a very low rank, and she had just tried to flatter her. So she was definitely willing to take the blame for her.

Liu Hanxiang's face changed as if she was stabbed. She never expected that she would become the person that had to take the blame.

She was more than willing to flatter County Princess Anxi, but taking the blame would not only stop her from entering Saint College, but also her potential marriage arrangement in the future. There were many sisters in her family, and if she was down, her younger sisters were definitely going to take over. So she did not dare to take the blame.

So what she did was to stand still as if she got no signals.

County Princess Anxi looked annoyed. B\*\*\*h! How dare she refuse to help her! She was going to pay for that!

"County Princess Anxi, you don't have to find a scapegoat for yourself. I saw you playing the trick." Ming Yue said straightforwardly. "You are eliminated from the examination since you are hurting others here. Please leave, County Princess Anxi."

"What?!" County Princess Anxi's eyes widened. She was asked to leave? What happened? She was disqualified from entering Saint College?

"Do you know who I am?" County Princess Anxi interrogated.

Instead of throwing a look at her, Ming Yue asked the staff to remove her directly.

There were rules that were applicable for every participant. County Princess Anxi's maid was not around, so County Princess Anxi was totally alone and she was pushed away directly.

She was struggling as she shouted at Zhou Huaijin. "Brother Lord Huai, help me!"

"Just wait and see, the Reigning Queen is going to punish you all!" County Princess Anxi shouted loudly.

Ming Yue did not show any reaction. Suddenly, Gu Chaoyan found that Saint College was indeed somehow different.

"The calligraphy test is held over there. The participants, please go and do the test over there," Ming Yue said with a cool tone.

## **Chapter 266: Acquaintance**

The moment Officer Ming made the decision, a discussion started to arise among the participants.

Riding and Shooting consisted of riding and shooting, but what did Officer Ming mean by asking them to take the calligraphy test directly? Did she mean that none of them passed the test?

Some people stood still. They were participants with different skills – some did badly in riding and expected to gain some more grades through shooting. However, no one was willing to be the first person one to ask the question.

A long while later, Liu Hanxiang stepped forward and asked. "Officer Ming, what do you mean that we are taking the calligraphy first? We still have a shooting test to do? County Princess Anxi might have done a filthy trick, but we are all fair competitors. You can't limit us because of what she did."

Liu Hanxiang had no choice but to step forward to ask the question.

When County Princess Anxi asked her to step out for her, she did not. That would definitely make County Princess Anxi angry.

Since she already offended her, she had to make efforts to enter Saint College, because only by entering Saint College would she become someone of importance in the family which might help her when County Princess Anxi tried to trouble her.

Officer Ming showed no expression on her face, but she still answered Liu Hanxiang's question. "Something happened at the riding test, so I have to deal with the remaining problems. You will be informed of the exact time for the shooting test, don't worry."

With these words spoken everyone let out a sigh of relief.

There were many noble ladies in the capital, but most of them were burdened with family pressure. So they came to participate in the examination and hoped to obtain a great result.

Hearing that they were not given up, they were all assured. Then they started to walk out of the pitch.

No one dared to approach Lord Huai or look at Lord Huai, even though he was there.

Honestly, Lord Huai was as ferocious as a demon. So who would dare to irritate him to have their arms removed?

Calligraphy was one test that Gu Chaoyan had chosen so she was one of the participants too.

Zhou Huaijin followed along.

Then suddenly a figure rushed out and came to Gu Chaoyan. She looked at Gu Chaoyan with a worried face. "Chaoyan, are you okay? I found something was wrong with you, and wanted to help! But..." Li Yuanxiang looked very guilty.

She did want to offer some help, but Liu Hanxiang stopped her and did not allow her to do anything. So she had no choice but to watch Chaoyan being thrown out.

Gu Chaoyan shook her head. "It is fine."

Li Yuanxiang continued to chat with Gu Chaoyan, but she felt someone staring at her in dissatisfaction. Only now did Li Yuanxiang understand what she had done.

She smiled honestly and said, "Chaoyan, go and do the test, I am off..."

She greeted Zhou Huaijin, then hurried away.

Zhou Huaijin smiled brightly and was quite pleased with what this girl had done.

Gu Chaoyan also understood what happened. She struck him on the chest and asked, "What are you scaring her for!"

“Don’t worry, she is not easily frightened by me.” Zhou Huaijin said calmly as if he knew that girl well.

Gu Chaoyan was curious. “You know who she is?”

### **Chapter 267: So Excellent?**

Li Yuanxiang had always been dressed in very plain clothes, which apparently had been washed numerous times and the color of which had faded. Also, Li Yuanxiang was bullied by Liu Hanxiang as she walked into the college, so she did not seem to be someone who might have befriended someone like Zhou Huaijin.

However, when Li Yuanxiang saw Zhou Huaijin a moment ago, she did not seem to show any fear. She seemed to have knowledge of what Zhou Huaijin was like. So?

Zhou Huaijin touched Gu Chaoyan’s head and pointed at the calligraphy test as he said gently, “Just go and take the test now. Then I will tell you the story.”

Gu Chaoyan showed a helpless look, but she still nodded. “Alright then, you can get down to your own business as well.”

Zhou Huaijin nodded and ceased his steps instead of going forward.

The calligraphy test was much simpler than the other tests. The participants were asked to write a poem at the calligraphy pavilion and pass the work to the teacher when they were done.

So there were a couple of participants who already started the test at the pavilion.

Instead of thinking about anything more, Gu Chaoyan started to walk towards the pavilion when a figure stopped her. Gu Ruxue was a head taller than Gu Chaoyan, so every time she looked at Gu Chaoyan, she was giving her a commanding look. She said with a mocking tone, “You are taking the calligraphy test? Can you even write?”

“...”

“I suggest that you should not humiliate the Gu Family, otherwise dad will drive you out.”

“...”

“Have you forgotten the words dad told you? You just offended County Princess Anxi at the pitch and she is not going to forget about this. At that time, dad will not help you at all, so what is the point of you taking this test?”

Gu Ruxue was laughing. She was so pleased by how Gu Chaoyan offended County Princess Anxi. Now her purpose had been fulfilled and she did not have to deal with this annoying girl any more.

Gu Chaoyan rolled her eyes at Gu Ruxue. “Sister, do you mean that we should all bear the offence done upon us?”

Having said these words, she turned around and walked into the calligraphy venue instead of waiting for Gu Ruxue’s answer.

Gu Ruxue stomped in displeasure, but now Gu Chaoyan was already in the pavilion and she could say nothing more. If the teachers of Saint College caught her cursing, she might not even have the qualification to complete the test.

With her teeth clenched, she started to work on her paper.

Gu Chaoyan hesitated a little bit at this point. The calligraphy test was not only about writing characters, but also about making a poem. She was terribly bad at writing poems, so she had to borrow some lines from classical figures who were not yet available in this era. Otherwise she would have lost in this section.

With that idea in mind she started to write quickly and finished a poem very soon. Then she passed her paper to the teacher.

The other participants were staring at Gu Chaoyan with surprise. How could she be so fast? Even though they had not thought of a single thing yet, she had finished her work already?

A man dressed in a green blouse asked Gu Ruxue who was next to him. "Miss. Gu, how did your incapable sister finish her work so fast?"

Gu Ruxue sneered. "She knows nothing about poetry. I believe that she just scribbled and she is definitely going to lose. Let's just wait and see."

#### **Chapter 268: Li Yuanxiang's Tale**

The man in the green blouse had no idea that Gu Chaoyan was first at the riding test, so he trusted what Gu Ruxue said.

Well, it sounded quite reasonable. She was a disgraced miss who had never been tutored to do anything. So she would not be able to write any poetry at all.

The man in green continued to work on his own paper as he ignored Chaoyan's behavior.

Gu Ruxue, however, got totally angry as she held the brush tightly. Damn Gu Chaoyan, she was totally annoying.

Lots of thoughts went on in her head and she could not come up with any lines.

Gu Chaoyan, who already walked out of the pavilion, had no idea what was going on inside. She was in a good mood. The whole test seemed quite easy for her. If everything went well, she was definitely going to be accepted by the Medical Department. By that time, she could finally stand by Zhou Huaijin's side and feel equal. After she went into the Medical Department, she was going to achieve something great with her own abilities. Only in this way would she become someone excellent enough to be Zhou Huaijin's wife.

What Gu Chaoyan was thinking was to survive in this society the moment she arrived here. However, she had not expected that Zhou Huaijin had become one of her biggest motivations.

"What are you thinking for you to smile like that?" Zhou Huaijin asked as he came to her side.

Gu Chaoyan was startled.

With her eyes upon Zhou Huaijin's handsome face, she asked, "What... are you doing? Didn't you leave?"

Zhou Huaijin shook his head and pointed in one direction as the two started to walk there.

"I don't have much to do today, so I am waiting for you here. You finished your work quickly!" Zhou Huaijin said, thinking that it was lucky that he did not leave, otherwise he would not have been able to see her again.

Gu Chaoyan felt a little bit guilty as he spoke with her. She had borrowed the ancestors' poetry which did not originally belong to her.

She chuckled. Instead of continuing with the topic, she asked Zhou Huaijin curiously as she thought of how Zhou Huaijin spoke about Li Yuanxiang. "You said that you know who Li Yuanxiang is, how come?"

Zhou Huaijin found an empty pavilion and asked Gu Chaoyan to take the seat next to him.

Zhou Huaijin was never surrounded by anyone, either because Fu Bao stopped all the potential visitors or because no one dared to take a step forward. As far as she remembered, only County Princess Anxi dared to approach Zhou Huaijin but most of the time, she ended up being in a terrible situation.

Zhou Huaijin had never been interested in gossip, but Li Yuanxiang and her mother were so different that they drew his attention.

He said straightforwardly when Yan asked him to tell the story, "Actually, many people in the capital city should be aware of Li Yuanxiang's story."

"Her mother used to be the madame of the Liu Mansion, the lineal son of the Liu Mansion, namely Liu Zongyuan, is an intelligent man with integrity. He made many efforts to find a position for him in the capital, since he was born in a very poor family. Unfortunately, however, after he married Li Yuanxiang's mother, he also got many concubines. And he favored his concubines too! So both Li Yuanxiang and her mother suffered a great deal."

Then he even thought about getting one of his concubines, namely Liu Hanxiang's mother, to replace the position of legal wife. That disappointed Li Yuanxiang's mother deeply," Zhou Huaijin said.

"What happened then?" Gu Chaoyan asked curiously. Zhou Huaijin was not someone who cared about other people's family affairs, but if he did know so much, it basically meant that the whole thing must have been quite unique in his eyes.

## **Chapter 269: Principles**

"Then Madame Liu proposed a divorce with Liu Zongyuan." Zhou Huaijin said. He sounded quite impressed by this Madame Liu.

Gu Chaoyan understood that it was very difficult for a woman to propose a divorce in that era. That was probably why Zhou Huaijin admired that woman.

"But Liu Zongyuan could not afford to continue with the divorce, so he turned that proposal down. He was an officer so Madame Liu could do nothing if he rejected. Since Madame Liu and the Jiang Family are distant relatives, she begged to come to the Jiang Mansion. When Madame Jiang heard about what

happened to Madame Liu, she decided to help her,” Zhou Huaijin said. “The law says that concubines are allowed, but only one legal wife is allowed.”

“ ... ”

“However, some people want to have several legal wives and their first legal wife will just pass it on since their husbands are in power.”

“ ... ”

“Madame Liu was different. She did not want her and her daughter to be bullied in the mansion, so she spared no efforts to continue with the divorce. Now she has established an individual household in the capital and with the help of the Jiang Family, she is running a small clinic in the capital where she is treating commoners. She may not live a very luxurious life as she used to at the Liu Mansion, but she is doing very well. At least, she is able to help her daughter against the enemies inside the mansion.”

“ ... ”

“You can befriend Li Yuanxiang. She is quite honest, so just help her if you can.” Zhou Huaijin said.

It was not easy for a woman to live a single life with her daughter.

If she was able to make it into the Medical Department at Saint College, she would be able to work for the imperial hospital, then she would get established on her own and her mother would not be looked down upon by anyone from the Liu Family.

Gu Chaoyan nodded. After hearing what Zhou Huaijin said, she felt that this man was nicer than she expected.

In this era, what Li Yuanxiang did would normally get looked down by the public, but Zhou Huaijin supported them totally instead of judging them for that.

She could totally understand why Li Yuanxiang’s mother would do something like that.

Liu Hanxiang had tried to set up Li Yuanxiang a while ago, so Li Yuanxiang must have been quite worried all the while back at her own mansion.

The original host of her body was the sacrifice of the rivalry in the mansions, wasn’t she?

Li Yuanxiang was, relatively speaking, lucky

“Don’t worry, she and I are friends.” Gu Chaoyan said.

Zhou Huaijin smiled.

Instead of saying anything more about Li Yuanxiang, he started to worry about what County Princess Anxi might do after getting humiliated here. The Reigning Queen could do nothing about Ming Yue, but she might blame it upon Yan. So he decided not to go anywhere during this period, but guarded her instead.

However, Zhou Huaijin still said to her, "County Princess Anxi has been driven out of Saint College, and Queen Mother might have some negative opinions against you. I will stand by your side, but you have to watch out for this matter too."

"Okay." Gu Chaoyan nodded.

She was pretty aware of this matter. County Princess Anxi was well defended by someone with power. Since she did not give up her own principles just because of her low-class social status, that basically meant that she was going to fear nothing in the future.

Zhou Huaijin gave her a tour after their talk, then he pointed at one spot and said, "Look over there."

## **Chapter 270: Together**

Gu Chaoyan looked in the direction he pointed at, and then she noticed a yard hidden in some large trees. The yard was simply-embellished, looking quite tasteful. Gu Chaoyan had not been to this yard before, since she had not been in this world for too long. So she had no idea what that place he pointed at was.

"That is the Medical Department. In the era of Daqi, the Queen guarded that place personally. From that time onwards, women started to be hired as staff at the imperial hospital. However, now the situation is getting more and more like how it was before the Queen founded this place."

"..."

"Those who are really interested in medicine can't get into the Department. Those who are here tend to be the noble ladies like County Princess Anxi, but how would they ever be able to cure anyone?" Zhou Huaijin said with a worried look.

Hearing what Zhou Huaijin said, Gu Chaoyan now understood why when she was trying to examine the patients, she was not stopped from doing any treatments just because she was a girl.

That was because in history there had been an excellent Queen who made all of this possible.

Gu Chaoyan understood why Zhou Huaijin told her the story today – he also believed that she was able to make some different contributions to the Medical Department.

Gu Chaoyan took a few steps forward and stopped in front of Zhou Huaijin. Then she pinched his face and said, "Don't worry, I will work hard for that."

Zhou Huaijin stiffened. He looked at Gu Chaoyan with disbelief and pleasure.

At this moment, some ginkgo leaves fell and landed on Gu Chaoyan's hair. Zhou Huaijin smiled gently, picking the leaves from her head with his long, slender fingers.

The two of them exchanged a look and smile.

It was such a beautiful scene where a purple and a red figure were standing under the ginkgo tree.

The two did not leave until the evening.

Zhou Huaijin accompanied her to a place not far from the dormitory instead of taking one more step forward. There were many people active at Saint College these days, and he did not want to cause any trouble for Yan.

As Chaoyan was walking towards her room and was about to open the door, a hand stopped her. Li Yuanxiang was looking at Gu Chaoyan with a look of sympathy. "Chaoyan, are you Lord Huai's friend?"

A complicated expression hovered over Gu Chaoyan's face as she heard what Li Yuanxiang asked, but she still nodded.

"Lord Huai treats you so well. Are you together?" Li Yuanxiang asked straightforwardly and honestly.

Since it was Li Yuanxiang standing in front of her Gu Chaoyan did not try to hide a thing but nodded directly.

Li Yuanxiang's expression turned even more complicated as she patted Gu Chaoyan's shoulders. "Then you must watch out for yourself."

Haha. Gu Chaoyan chuckled.

Zhou Huaijin might be cold and distant, but he was a handsome, noble man who intimidated everyone. Nevertheless, ladies could not help but take another look at him because of what he looked like. If not for this factor, they would all throw themselves at him! Li Yuanxiang, on the other hand, did not seem to like this man that much. She might be the only person in the entire country who might not like him.

She suddenly understood why Zhou Huaijin was telling her to befriend Li Yuanxiang. She was indeed a distinguished woman!

After asking the question, Li Yuanxiang turned around and went back to her room. So did Gu Chaoyan.

The moment she closed the door she heard chaos and sharp noises arising all of a sudden.