

Divine 511

Chapter 511: Qing was Home

What Sword One said did make sense.

Yuanxiang was a very nice girl and she would not dwell on that.

When Qing came home...

Ten days had already passed.

When Gu Chaoyan learned of her arrival time, Gu Chaoyan was greeting Qing outside the mansion personally with a coat on. Just like before when Qing was waiting for her to return every time she came home.

The wagon pulled over as it came to the Gu Mansion, and Qing hopped off the wagon happily.

The moment she spotted Elder Miss at the gate, Qing felt like crying. "Elder Miss!"

Gu Chaoyan reached out for Qing's wrist, sized her up from head to toes and then nodded with satisfaction. "Looks nice, just a little fatter."

Qing stomped her feet. "Elder Miss!"

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"Alright, alright, let's go in." Gu Chaoyan smiled briefly and guided Qing back to the mansion.

Qing did not have much luggage apart from some dresses. So she put down the package and came to Gu Chaoyan directly.

Gu Chaoyan had gotten the pastries and snacks ready for her ahead of time.

She asked Qing to take the seat.

Gu Chaoyan did not have many rules between maids and misses. Only when they were outside the Qiong Pavilion would they have to behave like the maid and the mistress, but back at the Qiong Pavilion, Gu Chaoyan did not care. Sword One and Qing were allowed to sit as they wanted.

So Qing naturally took the seat.

"Is everything going well in the mansion?" Gu Chaoyan asked.

That was the private mansion Gu Chaoyan bought in the capital. The name was not yet settled and it had been vacant all along, so Gu Chaoyan called it the mansion for the time being.

Qing nodded.

"Everything is well. Since I came home to you, Xiu Jie will take over the errands. He is very obedient. Apart from dealing with the errands at the mansion, he also learns things with Manager Song at the Yellow Crane every day. He does that every day! Manager Song doesn't need him to be there, but he is

very devoted so he insists on being there. Well, we have to let him do it!" Qing said. She was worried and admiring Xiu Jie at the same time.

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Gu Chaoyan nodded. She did find the right person. Xiu Jie was indeed an excellent man.

Qing nagged about what happened at the mansion to Gu Chaoyan, then she mentioned the Adulthood Ceremony.

Qing had never expected that the Elder Miss' Adulthood Ceremony would become so grand.

Gu Chaoyan asked Qing to take a break when they finished the conversation.

The first snow of the Saint Divine Land fell unexpectedly.

Gu Chaoyan felt that the days became so cold during the evening, and she woke up from the cold very often. She tossed around and could not fall asleep.

So when the day broke, Gu Chaoyan woke up and drank a cup of hot tea and then felt slightly better.

Qing screamed as she opened the door. "Miss, it is snowing!"

Gu Chaoyan went out to take a look at it as well. She had not seen snow for years.

Sword One put on the coat for her. "Elder Miss, the wind is blowing, let's go back to the room."

Gu Chaoyan nodded and returned to the room.

Sword One got the fire basin and Qing got the fireplace ready. Both of them were aware that Gu Chaoyan was afraid of the cold.

In this way she felt slightly warmer.

Gu Chaoyan did not turn down the basin when the snow fell.

"Chaoyan!" Zhou Huaijin walked in hurriedly.

Chapter 512: Not Her

The moment he walked in, he removed his coat and put it on her.

He did not come to Gu Chaoyan directly, but warmed himself in front of the basin first, so that he would not bring in any cold air to Chaoyan.

He did not come in until after he regained the warmth.

Seeing Gu Chaoyan, he frowned slightly. "Why are you so scared of the cold?"

Winter was quite cold in this land. It was only early winter and Chaoyan was already getting chilly. What was she supposed to do when the real winter arrived?

And he found that Chaoyan was more scared of the cold than others. She could not even stand the cold even in autumn. He found that something was not right about her, but maybe it was because of her physical quality.

It was the Gu Mansion's fault for not taking good care of her, and that's why she was feeling cold all the time.

"They are just exaggerating," Gu Chaoyan said with a smile.

Zhou Huaijin took hold of her hands – he did not think that the girls were exaggerating. He sighed.

"Chaoyan, from today on, I will always stay by your side whenever the snow falls." Zhou Huaijin said with a heartache. How he wished that they could get married as soon as possible.

After they got married, she did not have to stay at this shabby Qiong Pavilion, because Lord Huai's Mansion would be good enough for her not to get cold any more.

Gu Chaoyan smiled.

No more snow fell after the first time, but it was never sunny, just extremely cold.

However, the sun arose on the two days of Gu Chaoyan's Adulthood Ceremony.

There was a touch of warm sun that shone in through into the yard.

On the Adulthood Ceremony day, Mrs. Gu showed a look of unwillingness. Although Zhou Huaijin already had everything ready for the Adulthood Ceremony, there was still an organizer that was needed for the Adulthood Ceremony.

It was normally the Mother of the family that should do the organizing. Or some elderly ladies in the family.

Since Madame Gu could not even stand, she could not possibly be the organizer. And the concubines in the mansion were not at all qualified. Only Mrs. Gu was somewhat qualified.

Yet it was Gu Chaoyan's Adulthood Ceremony, so even if Mrs. Gu was willing to do it for Princess Yunxi and Princess Xunyang's sake, she was still very displeased about this mission.

Seeing that Gu Chaoyan was standing not faraway, Mrs. Gu said directly, "Isn't she so capable? She said that I am not the madame of the family because she never served me tea! So why am I asked to do the organizing right now? I am not at all qualified. Anyone else can do it, but not me, or yourself."

Mrs. Gu did not show any fear right now, since Gu Ruxue's identity as the Phoenix Girl was revealed, she had nothing to hide.

Gu Zhenkang could not say a thing as he looked at Mrs. Gu.

"Of course I can't. I am a man, no man can be the organizer of an Adulthood Ceremony!" Gu Zhenkang turned it down directly – it was against tradition and he did not want to get laughed at.

"Then don't get me to do it either," Mrs. Gu said arrogantly.

Gu Zhenkang felt his head spinning. He did not care either, but the Lord was here, and he had to do something for the Lord's sake! The Lord attached great attention to this ceremony and now they did not even have any organizer to make it go smoothly. What was he supposed to do?

Gu Zhenkang was so annoyed.

He snapped at Gu Chaoyan. He wasn't happy as he saw her just standing there. "Just flatter Mrs. Gu, so that she can be the organizer! Otherwise how can the Adulthood Ceremony continue?"

Chapter 513: Madame Min

Gu Chaoyan threw a look at Gu Zhenkang and then at the arrogant-looking Mrs. Gu.

Asking Mrs. Gu for help? That was not possible.

Also, since when did she say that she needed Mrs. Gu to organize the Adulthood Ceremony?

She would rather ask Sword One to do that than ask Mrs. Gu to touch her Adulthood Ceremony.

"I have not served her, so she is not the madame. She is not qualified enough to organize my Adulthood Ceremony either. So, why should I beg her for help?" Gu Chaoyan countered Gu Zhenkang.

Hearing these words, Mrs. Gu got very annoyed. She was trying to make Gu Chaoyan bow to her, but she threw the words back to her instead!

Well, well, well! Well, well, well!

"If that is the case, you can do whatever you want. I won't be your organizer even if you beg me later!" Mrs. Gu snapped angrily.

Everyone was treating her politely during this time. Even those ladies who did not like her were behaving well in front of her, but Gu Chaoyan... This bi*ch was snapping at her like this!

She was going to see what she was going to do about this situation!

"What about me?" Madame Min walked in with the aunt-maid.

Hearing these words, everyone turned to Madame Min's direction.

Gu Chaoyan was surprised too at the sight of Madame Min, who returned with a warm look and nodded.

Gu Chaoyan felt assured instantly. She had never had any experience with an Adulthood Ceremony before, so she had no idea that an organizer was so important on this occasion.

So even if she was just being stubborn, she did not have any idea who to turn to. Luckily Madame Min was here to save her.

Gu Zhenkang was surprised too.

Madame Min? Sure, of course!

Madame Min had control of the whole Min Family in the capital and even the King treated her politely. Few families were able to establish any relationship with Madame Min, and all of them were noble families, but now she was here for the Gu Family...

It basically meant that she treated the Gu Family as one with the other noble families!

"Madame Min, it's great that you can be the organizer, but you are also the host, wouldn't it be too much for you?!" Gu Zhenkang asked with a look of flattering.

Madame Min did not look at him at all. Madame Min heard what they were talking about a while ago either.

She did not like Gu Zhenkang much. He was even asking his daughter to beg her stepmother for the Adulthood Ceremony! Therefore...

However, just because she liked hanging out with Gu Chaoyan did not necessarily mean that she liked hanging out with the Gu Family.

She passed Gu Zhenkang and came to Gu Chaoyan. "Chaoyan, what about me organizing the event?"

"Madame Min, thank you so much, I feel honored," Gu Chaoyan said with a look of honesty. She could feel that Madame Min was a kind and friendly lady.

They barely talked with each other before, but Madame Min helped her many times, like right now, she truly had no idea what to say.

Madame Min smiled elegantly. Then she got ready to do the organizing errands.

At that time, Chen Fu came in a hurry. "Madame Jiang is here."

Madame Jiang?

"Madame Jiang from the Jiang Mansion?" Gu Zhenkang looked excited and then walked forward instantly. "Madame Jiang, what are you doing here?"

Madame Jiang frowned.

Chapter 514: Mrs. Lin

This man was so strange. Chaoyan was a girl she liked, and she was going to marry Huaijin as the Princess Consort – apart from the Queen, she was the only person remaining at the Jiang Family, so of course she had to be here. It embarrassed Madame Jiang completely.

She nodded and ignored Gu Zhenkang. Instead she came to Gu Chaoyan with a smile and took her hands. "Good girl!"

"Hey, Madame Jiang!" Gu Chaoyan replied.

"I know you like books, so I have picked some books for you from the study. I am not sure what to bring to you, but the contents are a lot of fun. You can read them when you have time," Madame Jiang said with a smile.

Gu Chaoyan was so delighted. It was way too cold in winter, and she barely had the motivation to go out. Now she had got something to kill the time.

"Thank you, Madame Jiang!" Gu Chaoyan said with a smile.

Since Madame Jiang and Madame Min were good friends too, the three of them were talking and chatting happily.

Gu Zhenkang looked quite embarrassed. As for Mrs. Gu... she was even less pleased.

She had intended to organize Gu Chaoyan's Adulthood Ceremony, since the Princesses were going to be present. She had intended to humiliate Chaoyan on the occasion, yet...

That was why Mrs. Gu was so annoyed.

"Madame Min is going to be the host so she has no time as the organizer! Just talk with her so that I can be the organizer." Mrs. Gu jabbed at Gu Zhenkang.

Gu Zhenkang was confused. "Didn't you say no just now? Madame Min had just offered to be the organizer and now you are asking me to replace her! I don't want to offend Madame Min. She is not to be offended!"

Gu Zhenkang was slightly displeased. He was not stupid enough not to sense Madame Min's way of looking at him. He should not turn to her for nothing good.

Mrs. Gu glared at him. She went intending to find an opportunity to speak about this matter.

Gu Zhenkang went to deal with other stuff.

At the Lin Mansion.

Lin Jiaying had received the invitation too. He should be at Gu Chaoyan's Adulthood Ceremony as her Uncle.

He had intended to go there alone, but when Mrs. Lin heard the news, she called Lin Jiashu and got dressed. They then came to Lin Jiaying.

Mrs. Lin was very excited. "It is time to leave now!"

Lin Jiaying frowned as he looked at Mrs. Lin.

Well, he had no intention to bring them there. They had hurt Chaoyan before and they were just going to cause Chaoyan trouble at the moment.

"Why are you going there? I can go there alone." Lin Jiaying snapped.

Mrs. Lin was not delighted by his words.

When Gu Chaoyan had a bad time at the Gu Mansion a while back, they did not treat her badly. So when Gu Chaoyan was doing well now, they were not allowed to do anything at all? That was so unreasonable.

However, Lin Jiaying was a stubborn person. She understood that well after being married to him for so many years. Therefore, she did not dare to confess what she was thinking inwardly.

So she argued. "I am her Aunt and one of the elders in the family. Do you think that Mrs. Gu would be sincere enough to be the organizer for her? She is just a stepmother!"

Chapter 515: Changed

"You are a man and your presence would not work! It is always women who make the calls at the Adulthood Ceremony. Even if you are there, you would not be able to organize the event at all."

"..."

"If I am there, I can at least be devoted enough to organize the Adulthood Ceremony. I am the aunt, and that Mrs. Gu is just a stepmother. She has her own daughter who wants to exceed Chaoyan. I am not like that, at least, I am better than Mrs. Gu. I don't have a daughter."

"..."

"Also, the Gu Mansion is not treating Chaoyan well. They would never pay attention to the ceremony. I am taking her side!" Mrs. Lin said confidently.

Hearing what she said, Lin Jiaying believed that those words did make sense. His sister passed away when she was still young, and the whole Gu Family was not nice at all. They were the girl's family and they should be present to back her up!

As he thought it through, Lin Jiaying nodded. "Then let's go there together."

"..."

"Don't expect to get everything from Chaoyan. She has gained nothing from us either. She cured Jiashu, but you all misunderstood her. Now we are just trying to make some compensation," Lin Jiaying said.

Ms. Lin did not agree with this point, but she would not deny the point now. They could talk about this later...

Being at the Adulthood Ceremony was the most important thing. Nothing else mattered.

"I got it, let's go now, it is better not to be late." Mrs. Lin reminded them.

Lin Jiaying nodded. Then the whole family got into the wagon together.

The Lin Family were living in the outskirts whilst the Gu Family were residing in the center, so the trip took some time.

The Lin Family had no idea what happened these days, and they had thought that the Gu Family would have no guests. So Mrs. Lin was very startled by the wagons parked outside the Gu Mansion one after another.

"The Min Family's wagon?" Mrs. Lin's voice was shivering.

Lin Jiaying was not surprised. He knew that since Gu Chaoyan was marrying Lord Huai, the noble families from the capital would be here. Those who were present might not like Chaoyan, but they were present for Lord Huai's sake.

He threw a look at Mrs. Lin. "Keep your mouth shut, and go in, don't cause any trouble for Chaoyan!"

As he finished saying these words, Mrs. Lin stopped talking. She felt quite expectant of what was happening.

She always got sneered at by some ladies of the business families. If she could get in touch with Mrs. Min, then she would be able to have a better position in life. Lin Jiaying was unaware of any of this!

Chen Fu received the Lin Family since it was Elder Miss' mother's home. Then he led them to the hall of the Gu Mansion.

Gu Chaoyan and the others were there as well. Hearing what Chen Fu said, Gu Chaoyan smiled. "Hey, Uncle and Aunt."

Lin Jiaying smiled and Mrs. Lin noticed Madame Min. She was absolutely shocked.

She thought that it was Mrs. Min who was here, but it was Madame Min! Oh man, it was Madame Min!

Madame Min barely made friends with anyone in the family, and yet she was here!

Mrs. Lin was shocked. Lin Jiashu, on the other hand, noticed Gu Chaoyan.

She had changed. She had changed a great deal.

Chapter 516: Replacing Madame Min?

She stood there in composure, not as chubby as she was before when she came to the Lin Family. She looked so skinny. Dressed in a white blouse, she was wearing a coat with white fur. Thanks to the Adulthood Ceremony, she had put on some blusher which made her look quite energetic, and her eyes were large and clear.

She did not show any dislike towards the Lin Family when they met each other. She did not feel like the Lin Family were displeasing her. She was such a nice woman. A woman with a broad mind.

Suddenly, Lin Jiashu would like to find a place to hide himself, somewhere she could not see.

Her eyes put many people into shade, like Lin Jiashu himself. How ridiculous he had been. He believed that she approached him with a purpose, but that was not her purpose. She had a noble man like Lord Huai next to her.

He even considered taking the imperial examination.

So that he could stand in the same place as her and let her look at him with a pair of straight eyes, but he was wrong. No matter how hard he tried, nothing worked.

He had expected that she would look at him with some care, since she cured him before, but that was not the case.

Suddenly, he felt like leaving.

Gu Chaoyan, however, had no idea that Lin Jiashu had been going through so much.

The Lin Family were her mother's home, so she needed to treat them well.

"Chen Fu, please take my uncle to the guest seats." Gu Chaoyan said. She would have received them personally, but it was her Adulthood Ceremony today and she truly had no time to receive them. So she had to trouble Chen Fu for this favor.

When Chen Fu heard that, he came forward politely. He was about to lead them there when Mrs. Lin said, "Chaoyan, you don't have an organizer for the Adulthood Ceremony, do you? Well, I am free, I can help you with it."

Lin Jiaying did not stop Mrs. Lin from saying those words. He thought that if Chaoyan needed their help, they could stay, but if not, they could just be ordinary guests. That was what Mrs. Lin told him back at home.

Mrs. Gu snorted.

She threw an sarcastic look at Mrs. Lin. If even she was not qualified, the Lin Family would not at all be qualified. How stupid!

Hearing Mrs. Gu's sneer, Mrs. Lin replied unhappily. "What are you sneering at? You think that you are better than me? You are just a stepmother. I am her aunt, I am better than you!"

Mrs. Gu sneered again as she looked at her.

"So what?" Mrs. Gu said ironically. "Madame Min is the organizer. You think you are better than her?"

What? Mrs. Lin was shocked. She thought that Madame Min was here as one of the guests, but she was... the organizer?

Alright then, Mrs. Lin was aware that she was not as good as Madame Min, but she was not going to leave when Madame Min was the organizer. She had to stay.

If she was present she might be able to hang out with Madame Min! Then everything would become better! Mrs. Lin just could not believe that there was a pie falling from the sky.

"Then I can be the host, the host, yes!" Mrs. Lin snapped.

Chapter 517: Something

"The host? Madame Min is the host too!" Mrs. Gu snapped.

Lin Jiaying had not expected that Mrs. Lin would behave so embarrassedly at the moment. She had promised that she was here to offer Chaoyan's help, but now she was trying to steal the show. He stopped her directly. "Stop it!"

"What do you mean?" Mrs. Lin was displeased. She had just been countered by Mrs. Gu, but her husband was not defending her and even asked her to stop. She was not doing anything wrong, it was Mrs. Gu who was being impolite!

Lin Jiaying looked at her. It was Chaoyan's Adulthood Ceremony, and she as the aunt should not behave so recklessly.

Mrs. Lin did not blink.

It made Lin Jiaying feel helpless. He pulled her away and then said to Chen Fu politely. "Please, Housekeeper Chen, show us the way."

Chen Fu nodded. He was about to show them the way when a voice arose. "Princess Yunxi is here."

Mrs. Lin, who had decided to leave, stopped. What? Was that really Princess Yunxi? So Princess Yunxi was here too?

How honored Chaoyan was! Even Princess Yunxi was present for this event.

As the girl walked in, Mrs. Lin saw her and was shocked. Oh, this girl was indeed a princess. She had such great manners and was the most elegant girl she had ever seen.

Then she spotted Lin Jiashu... What if...

As she thought about this, Mrs. Lin started to go through a plan actively. She had not considered such matters before, but now things were different.

When Gu Chaoyan married Lord Huai, her mother's home, namely the Lin Family, would be raised to a higher social status as well. The match seemed to work!

Lin Jiaying tugged at her, and suggested that she should leave, but Mrs. Lin flung away Lin Jiaying's hand – damn, her husband was so stupid!

"Oh, you are Princess Yunxi right, you are so elegant!" Mrs. Lin said as she took a step forward.

Princess Yunxi looked confused. She looked at Gu Chaoyan briefly.

Gu Chaoyan introduced her calmly. "My aunt."

Aunt? So Princess Yunxi stopped the cold look and smiled for Gu Chaoyan's sake. "Greetings, Mrs. Lin."

The way she addressed Mrs. Lin made her feel so happy. She was so polite...

That basically meant that the Lin Family was indeed enjoying a relatively okay social status. Her plan would work, definitely!

Mrs. Lin was thinking inwardly...

When she was about to exchange a few words with Gu Chaoyan, another voice arose. "Princess Xunyang is here."

Princess Xunyang?

Mrs. Lin was more than surprised. She was actually shocked! She looked at Gu Chaoyan in disbelief.

It had not been long since they last met and now, this girl had befriended two princesses and got Madame Min as her host and organizer for the Adulthood Ceremony! She was doing well.

She was blaming Lin Jiaxing inwardly as well – it had been a great opportunity and she almost missed it, when he stopped her from coming to the Gu Mansion. Damn, her husband had almost ruined Jiashu's life!

When the princess arrived, the greetings were conducted. Everyone greeted her politely.

Princess Xunyang was a very easygoing person and she did not like it when people greeted her in such a grand manner. So she waved her hands and said, "I am here to be Chaoyan's assistant, don't greet me so formally."

Ms. Lin looked at Gu Chaoyan and then said, "Chaoyan, can you come here, I have a few words."

Gu Chaoyan was confused for a while, but then she nodded. She spoke to the others briefly and then followed her aunt out.

"Aunt, what is it?" Gu Chaoyan asked.

Chapter 518: Help Jiashu

Mrs. Lin looked about cautiously and made sure that no one was around or heard what she was speaking. Then she said to Chaoyan with a small voice. "Chaoyan, your cousin Jiashu is not young anymore. And he has passed his twentieth birthday. I was wondering if you can help him with his marriage."

Gu Chaoyan looked at Mrs. Lin.

The way she was was still the same, but Mrs. Lin had not been this modest earlier. Instead, she was talking arrogantly in front of her. "Your cousin Jiashu is still young, and has just passed his twentieth birthday, and he is not ready for marriage, don't ever think about him!"

It had been just a few months since that happened, but now everything had changed.

Gu Chaoyan was not a very generous nor a narrow-minded person. She could ignore what the Lin Family had done to her for her mother's sake, but that did not mean that she had forgotten what happened back then.

Mrs. Lin had once hurt her before, and Gu Chaoyan was pretty aware about that.

That matter might have more or less slipped out her mind, but when she saw her face, she was reminded of that thing again.

Mrs. Lin did not notice Gu Chaoyan's changing expression. What she was thinking was that since Gu Chaoyan was Ms. Lin's daughter, then she was definitely going to help the only son of the Lin Family.

So before Gu Chaoyan answered her, Mrs. Lin said happily, "Princess Xunyang is too high in social status, and only someone with a better background would be able to marry her. But I think Princess Yunxi is a very great match in background. She is a great suitor for Jiashu."

"..."

"Since Princess Yunxi is here for your Adulthood Ceremony, then I believe that you two are good friends. So help Jiashu and set them up. If Princess Yunxi falls for Jiashu, the marriage would work out easily!"

“...”

“You don’t have to do anything, you just need to set them up and leave them to talk with each other. Chaoyan, you are helping Jiashu right?” Mrs. Lin said gladly.

Gu Chaoyan frowned and a touch of anger hovered over her face. It was not a helping hand, it was a killing hand!

It was a hand to kill her, and to kill Princess Yunxi.

“Aunt, you are old enough to know about etiquette, right?” Gu Chaoyan almost snapped at her. She might tolerate her because she was her uncle’s wife, if it were for some other things, but not for this.

“What etiquette? It is such a simple move for you to do.” Mrs. Lin was displeased. She was the elderly of the family and Gu Chaoyan was one generation after her. How could she speak like this?

A simple move? Gu Chaoyan laughed ironically.

“Aunt, you know what you are asking me to do? You are leading me to set up Princess Yunxi so that she could get personally engaged with Lin Jiashu!” Gu Chaoyan snapped. “I may be alright throughout the whole process, but Princess Yunxi is a princess and she is an unmarried girl! How would she keep her reputation?”

“...”

“If you think Princess Yunxi is a great suitor for Lin Jiashu, then sure, go and make a proposal with gifts and if Princess Yunxi’s family are okay with your proposal, then they would think about it!” Gu Chaoyan said.

Mrs. Lin had a bad look on her face.

Of course she knew about this, but the point was that the Lin Family was a business family and they would be driven out of the mansion, if they made the proposal at the lord’s mansion.

Only by forcing Princess Yunxi to marry him would the plan work, otherwise why would she need Gu Chaoyan?

“So you are not helping Jiashu?”

Chapter 519: Seen Through

“No.” Gu Chaoyan answered sharply without hesitation.

“Princess Yunxi offered to be my witness and that is because she is kind enough to take me as a friend. Aunt, you are telling me to frame Princess Yunxi!” Gu Chaoyan glared back at Mrs. Lin. “If you insist on this point, I will have to drive you out of the Gu Mansion.”

What?

Hearing what Gu Chaoyan said Mrs. Lin got rather annoyed.

Driving her out of the mansion?

"You!" Mrs. Lin looked furious.

She was about to say something, when some people came in their direction.

Gu Chaoyan did not recognize them, but judging from the way they were dressed, she knew that they were from a very grand family.

Gu Chaoyan was about to say something...

When the lady said, "I did not have the intention of letting Yunxi come to such a mansion to be your witness, but now I realize why she is so willing to, Lady Chaoyan! You are worth being Yunxi's friend!"

Hearing these words, Gu Chaoyan guessed that it was Princess Consort Zuo, namely Princess Yunxi's mother.

So she heard the conversation.

Gu Chaoyan said with guilt. "Greetings, Princess Consort Zuo, I am sorry to have let Yunxi come to such a demeaned place, but don't worry, I won't allow anything bad to happen to her."

Princess Consort Zuo smiled with satisfaction. Then she turned to Mrs. Lin with a pair of sharp eyes.

Prince Zuo's Mansion was a family that already ran into people like Mrs. Lin. But Prince Zuo's Mansion was not an easy going place. Anyone who had the intention of setting up Yunxi would have to pay.

However, today was different.

Princess Consort Zuo glared at Mrs. Lin and said, "You have to be grateful for being Lady Chaoyan's aunt, or I would crush you like ants."

Mrs. Lin turned pale.

It was such a private matter which should only be discussed in private, but she had not expected that Princess Consort Zuo would be here and would overhear the conversation. She completely regretted that she had not had the conversation somewhere more hidden so that no one around would run into their conversation.

Mrs. Lin did not dare to say a thing and just cringed in the corner.

Gu Chaoyan shook her head. She even thought of how grandfather gave up the social rank as the imperial businessman, since he was too old to take care of the Lin Family. That was why he made uncle do the job, which was definitely giving him a great deal of trouble. Her uncle was not a very decisive person and would always get misled by someone, like Mrs. Lin.

They were just gathering trouble for themselves when they decided to become an imperial business family.

When the Lin Family were only involved with their family properties, nothing happened. However, now that they ran into people like Princesses, something serious happened.

So Gu Chaoyan of course had to spare some extra thoughts.

When they walked into the hall, Princess Consort Zuo took the lead.

Princess Yunxi got excited at the sight of her mother. "Mom, what are you doing here?"

Princess Consort Zuo looked at her with adoration, but didn't mention anything about what just happened.

Lin Jiaying also noticed the pale-looking Mrs. Lin and then asked, "What is wrong? You look horrible."

Mrs. Lin shook her head. She did not dare to admit that she had offended Prince Zuo's Mansion!

The Princess Consort Zuo almost had the urge to kill her.

Well... If Princess Consort Zuo really decided to have her killed, it would just be a very easy matter.

"Nothing." Mrs. Lin answered unwillingly. Then they were arranged to leave the spot.

And then began Gu Chaoyan's Adulthood Ceremony.

The Adulthood Ceremony was not a very complicated process.

Madame Min brought Gu Chaoyan to get changed into the uniform.

Chapter 520: Evilness

After she got changed...

The Adulthood Ceremony formally started.

Since the organizer and the host were the same person, namely Madame Min...

The procedure became much less troublesome. Madame Min organized the whole process and delivered the speech to Gu Chaoyan when it was time for the host to say something. Gu Chaoyan listened to Madame Min's words carefully and sincerely.

After Madame Min finished speaking, the servants carried the hairpins and ornaments to them...

Then Princess Xunyang the assistant helped Gu Chaoyan to put on the ornaments, whilst Princess Yunxi, the witness, announced the adulthood.

When everything was done, the Adulthood Ceremony was almost complete.

Normally, a girl would get a middle name for herself at the Adulthood Ceremony. However Gu Chaoyan did not want to go through too much trouble, since she had had the same name for both of her lives, so she skipped that step and remained as Chaoyan.

Madame Min approved of what she was pleased with.

At the banquet.

Mrs. Gu saw that nothing special happened at the Adulthood Ceremony, so she showed a proud smile.

She raised her voice and snapped. "What a grand Adulthood Ceremony, Madame Min is the host, and the witness and the assistant are both princesses, but it is still worse than that of Ruxue's. When Ruxue held the ceremony, hundreds of birds were flying over the mansion and did not leave after a long time. God was giving us blessings!"

Anyway, Mrs. Gu just could not let her own daughter be overshadowed.

Hearing her words, many ladies felt very dissatisfied.

Although they were very jealous of Gu Chaoyan who had so many important figures at present for her ceremony, Mrs. Gu was even more annoying. What Gu Chaoyan had achieved was something they could do as well if they made some efforts, but Mrs. Gu seemed to have got something they would never achieve, no matter how much they tried. So they hated Mrs. Gu deeply.

Someone snapped directly. "What a stepmother! She keeps commenting bad things about the Adulthood Ceremony and speaks highly of her own daughter!"

The other ladies agreed.

"True!"

"Madame Deng said that this stepmother starved the girl when she was little, so she had to steal buns for food. Then later, she spread a rumor that Elder Miss was stealing the servants' food."

"What? What a joke that the Elder Miss of the mansion would steal servants' things. Ladies are ladies, and servants are just servants, they don't own anything that doesn't belong to their owner. What filthy words upon the Elder Miss!"

"How evil she is!"

These ladies started active discussions.

Mrs. Gu would have snapped at a single person, but everyone was talking about the same thing and she just could not do anything about it.

How dare they! How dare they call her evil! They were jealous of her having a daughter like the Phoenix Girl, which they could never achieve!

"Who are you talking about?!" Mrs. Gu shouted.

The other ladies looked at Mrs. Gu as if they were looking at a joke.

She was not like a lady. She was just an ordinary woman who liked gossip! She was narrow-minded. Even when her daughter married the Lord, she was still the same.

The ladies thought about this point and felt somewhat consoled.

When Gu Yunhe got there, he saw Mrs. Gu throwing a temper tantrum.

He frowned. His mother kept teaching them to behave, but she herself failed to.

"Mom, come I need to speak with you," Gu Yunhe said and tugged her away.