

Divine 621

Chapter 621: Your Explanation

When Chaoyan refused to meet him, she was obviously stuck with some emotional problems.

After speaking with Chaoyan, he understood that it was not because of his own mistake, but because of something else. And Zhao Yiqiu had talked with her before.

The reason why Sword One asked Zhao Yiqiu to check on Chaoyan was probably because Chaoyan was physically troubled. When his hidden guards came to him, the message they passed on was that Lady Chaoyan had fallen ill, but when he saw Chaoyan a minute ago and felt her forehead, he could tell that she was not suffering from a cold, and she looked pretty normal in expression too. So what happened, honestly? What was wrong with her body?

He had to ask Zhao Yiqiu about this – they could come up with a method together, if there was really something wrong with her.

He hurried all the way to Zhao Yiqiu.

Zhao Yiqiu was in the study. He was looking through the books, trying to find out something. When he saw Zhou Huaijin, he was slightly surprised.

He had asked Zhou Huaijin to return home, and he thought that he would receive him instantly, but after a long while when Zhao Yiqiu thought that he would not come any more, he still showed up.

“What is it?” Zhao Yiqiu was still calmly. He looked as if nothing had happened.

“What is wrong with Chaoyan?” Zhou Huaijin asked straightforwardly.

Zhao Yiqiu put down his books. Then he stood in front of Zhou Huaijin, showing a serious look on his face. “Huaijin, you have known me since little.”

“You know my rules – I can’t reveal the information of the patients I see. If you have any confusion, you better ask Lady Chaoyan instead.” Having said these words, Zhao Yiqiu continued with his search. He did not look at Zhou Huaijin any more, nor did he notice if he was still there.

Zhou Huaijin walked out of Zhao Yiqiu’s room.

He frowned.

What was happening?

The following day, Gu Chaoyan was no longer that distressed. She was still worried about what happened to the refugees, so she decided to take a look at them personally.

Zhou Huaijin, however, was in the court. He had not been in the court for ages, but he was here today for the refugees’ sake.

The King still looked as if he was in a good mood. He found the country was flourishing more and more after the Phoenix Girl’s identity was confirmed. Normally he would be stuck with affairs in winter with

all kinds of errands, but now, it seemed that he was no longer that busy and he could still have time to drink tea and read books.

That was something he had not been able to do for a long time, after he became the King. So the King was in a really good mood right now.

He was about to announce the end of the morning session, when Zhou Huaijin stepped out and said, "King, I need to report something."

The King frowned – what was he up to again?

"What is it?" He sounded impatient.

"It is about the refugees in the capital. They normally received a bowl of porridge and two steamed buns in the previous years, but this year, what they received is none other than some water-like porridge, and they were not even given any steamed buns. The refugees will not survive the winter in this way," Zhou Huaijin said angrily.

The King showed no expression on his face, looking very profound. He did not answer Zhou Huaijin's question directly either. Instead, he looked at Zhou Huailing. "Lord Ling, you are in charge of the refugees, you can explain that to him."

Chapter 622: No Interference

Zhou Huailing stepped out with displeasure.

The King had assigned him to take care of the refugees, and his Eighth Brother was so annoying that he kept interfering in his business. That displeased him a great deal – did the Eighth Brother still believe that the King would defend him as if he were his most adored child?

He was dreaming! Look at who had married the Phoenix Girl! The King was on Lord Ling's side and Lord Ling was going to take the throne. What happened to the Eighth Brother? He was so dumb as not to flatter him, but instead constantly cause him the trouble.

Well, he was prepared. Otherwise, he would not have any idea how to answer the question.

Zhou Huailing was not anxious as he spoke to the King. "I am in full charge of the refugees and I have spent a lot of energy upon them too. So I am not feeling any guilt. As for that food problem Lord Huai mentioned... What I want to say is that the majority of the refugees are strong young people, and we take them in every year without letting them contribute any more work. That is too easy for them. Does it mean that next year, there will be even more idling refugees inside, who are fed freely and depending on the court throughout the entire winter?"

"I adjusted the action, after noticing these drawbacks. I believe that is the cause of why the number of refugees is increasing year after year," Zhou Huailing said in a reasonable tone.

"The officer in charge of this matter did nothing but spend the court's money. I don't believe that it is the right thing to do." Zhou Huailing looked saddened as he spoke of this. He acted as if he were still misunderstood, no matter how much work he had done.

When the King heard what Zhou Huailing said, the last remaining suspicion inside him disappeared. He had thought that Ling was privately taking money from the budget given to the refugees since he lost the dowries from the Gu Family, when he heard the petition.

He liked Ling, but he did not want his own power challenged. He did not expect his son to play some tricks in front of him, so he was asking him for an explanation. And he was quite satisfied with this explanation.

The King looked at Zhou Huaijin. "Lord Huai, got the point?"

"No." Zhou Huaijin said with determination. "The food is not at all enough to feed the refugees, and they can't even survive the winter! Yes, some of the refugees are strong, but most of them are too young and too old. If you think the strong ones should do some work, then get them some!" Zhou Huaijin insisted on his belief, but the King already lost his patience to listen to what he said.

He interrupted him directly. "Lord Huai, Lord Huai!"

Then he said impatiently, "Lord Ling is in charge of the refugees, and you should stay away from the matter. Lord Ling is your brother!"

And the King stressed the last few words.

Lord Ling was his brother! That meant that Zhou Huaijin was ignoring his own position even in the family aspect.

When the King finished speaking, he concluded the session and dropped the petition.

When the King was gone, Zhou Huailing gave Zhou Huaijin a smile as he raised his frown. "Eighth Brother, you know what father means, don't you?"

Chapter 623: Lord Ling's Attitudes

Zhou Huaijin was expressionless, but Zhou Huailing was not. He patted him on the shoulders and lowered his voice. "You think that you are the old Lord Huai? Time has changed."

Having said this, he left with a proud smile.

Zhou Huaijin followed him and the ministers who were already gone. Zhou Huaijin walked alone.

The ministers in the court were either taking Zhou Huailing's side, or holding onto their own opinions devotedly rather than taking any sides, but the latter did not care what happened between those lords.

Zhou Huaijin had been keeping low-profile these years, rather than show what he had contributed. Instead, he enjoyed the title as the most adored lord, so none of the ministers in the court trusted him. Maybe in many people's eyes, he was just as incapable as Zhou Huailing.

However, Zhou Huaijin did not care about any of this. He walked out of the gate and court. Instead of returning to his own mansion, he headed directly to where the refugees were.

The refugees were all settled in a relatively secluded place.

It took him two hours to arrive with the wagon.

When Zhou Huaijin arrived, he did not see refugees sighing lamentably like before. Instead, it was bustling inside, and even some cheerful conversations were heard.

Zhou Huaijin got very confused... then he walked in and saw the silhouette he was so familiar with.

Gu Chaoyan was in the middle of them, cooking some food from a pot that was quickly built.

Zhou Huaijin was smiling brightly. He was no longer feeling saddened. He walked in and smiled as he said, "Chaoyan!"

Gu Chaoyan, however, showed no smile at the sight of him. She subconsciously cringed and widened the distance between them. She was showing a very unnatural look. "Oh, hi."

Zhou Huaijin felt his heart dominated with sudden hollowness.

Why was Chaoyan treating him like this? Was she still stuck with what happened yesterday? What on earth was it? What happened?

Zhou Huaijin was feeling very confused. Zhao Yiqiu refused to reveal anything, and Chaoyan was behaving strangely.

"I asked Sword One to buy some rice and noodles with my own money. We might not be able to offer them complete food like the court, but if they are not fed, they can make the food themselves! I haven't got time to make something complicated, just some simple frames and poles, but the room for cooking should be done in a couple of days, so things will get better." Gu Chaoyan told him what happened today, dodging Zhou Huaijin's eyes.

Zhou Huaijin nodded. He was feeling gratified inwardly that Chaoyan could always make things right, but he himself was useless. He could not even deal with his father.

His father had changed. It seemed that after the so-called Phoenix Girl was found, the King was getting more and more estranged from him and his mother. And it seemed that he was ignoring the civilians too.

Well... that was the case.

Zhou Huaijin sighed. He had wanted to touch Gu Chaoyan's head, but stopped himself in the end. He was worried that she would not be so happy about that.

Outside the resettlement house...

Zhou Huailing was standing there with Xie Yan.

Xie Yan was worried as he reminded Lord Ling. "Lord Ling, you are in charge of the refugees, but the refugees are treating Lord Huai and Gu Chaoyan as the saviors. That is a bad omen for you!"

Chapter 624: Xiao Jin

Xie Yan had been a strategist for years. He used to work at the military, but because of several reasons, his former master, namely some General, did not like his style so he got fired. That was why he ended up working for Zhou Huailing instead.

Back at the military training, he had learned a great deal, like gathering forces.

Despite his position right now, Lord Huai was the King's son and had the biggest possibility of taking the throne. So he needed to gather forces too, before he was able to get the throne.

And since he took responsibility for the refugees, it would be the best channel for him to gather forces among the civilians.

Lord Ling was arrogant, and he was not willing to lower his own dignity to help those people. Xie Yan was aware of that point, so he stopped trying to persuade him, but...

The situation was that the refugees were all forces gathered by Lord Huai and Gu Chaoyan... that made him have to mention something.

When Xie Yan said those words, Zhou Huailing threw a very displeased look at him. "Xie Yan, you are truly falling behind me. One more word, I will have to fire you. Those refugees are not at all useful, why do I need them as my forces? They are not even good at planting crops! You think they can be handy? Just dream about that! Eighth Brother and his team are so willing to do these stupid things so they can just do that! Why are you caring about that at all? You are getting so out of fashion! If I treat them well, I am wasting energy and offending the other civilians who are not refugees!"

Then he turned away in anger. He had intended to mock the Eighth Brother here, but when he heard Xie Yan's words, he lost the mood and returned to the mansion. He was going to have a chat with the Ministry of Etiquette about the organization of the New Year. That was a more promising matter for him to do right now.

Xie Yan sighed. He looked at the resettlement yard and then at Lord Ling who had hurried off. He felt a bit helpless, Lord Ling knew nothing about the forces of civilians! Those refugees, though being in trouble right now, would return to their own villages after winter. And some of them were going southwards too! Their words would be passed around, and that was how the forces of civilians were gathered!

And all Lord Ling needed to do was to say a few words, but he was not willing to accept the suggestion. Well, there was nothing he could do.

When he came to Lord Ling, he was very ambitious and believed that he and Lord Ling could do something together. However, Lord Ling was getting more and more dominating and stubborn since the Phoenix Girl thing appeared.

He shook his head. He remembered how Lord Ling told him to leave if he offered advice one more time. He was going to think about what he could do when he left the Lord.

Xie Yan followed, but Lord Ling's wagon was already gone. He did not wait for him.

It seemed that Lord was really pissed this time.

Xie Yan sighed and started to walk back himself.

Back in the resettlement room.

Gu Chaoyan had gotten everything well sorted, so she decided to go out of the city.

She avoided Zhou Huaijin subconsciously and when she was about to leave, she said with eyes staring forward rather than looking at Zhou Huaijin. "I need to find Xiao Jin to get some business done. You must be busy too, you can get back to your own business now."

Then she left.

Qing and Sword One threw an embarrassed look at Zhou Huaijin, and followed her.

They walked all the way out of the city, but Gu Chaoyan did not turn around.

Xiao Jin got so excited at the sight of Gu Chaoyan. "Elder Miss, you have business for me?"

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

Chapter 625: Mr. Zhao...

She did have some business for Xiao Jin to run, but in the meanwhile, she also had the intention of testing Xiao Jin's abilities. If he was qualified enough, she would keep Xiao Jin by her side.

She had intended to ask Xiao Jin to pay a visit to the South a few moments ago, but because of the cooperation with Prince Muye, she believed that she could postpone the errand to the South. Instead, he could be dispatched to pay a visit to the Feather Mulberry Land.

Xiao Jin would not go there alone. She planned to arrange Sword Three to follow him, but Xiao Jin was going to be the person that dealt with the errands alone.

Gu Chaoyan said calmly, "You should pay a visit to the Feather Mulberry Land and check what the features of the 15 towns are. You have to take a very careful and close look at them. You should come up with how you deal with that yourself. I will have my men keeping your company, but he is only in charge of your safety, nothing else. He will guarantee your economic cost, so you don't have to be too frugal about the money, which you should use well. The most important thing is to get the errand done well, got it?"

Xiao Jin nodded seriously. Xiao Jin had thought that he would only be entrusted with some small errands, but not this important one. And he understood clearly that it was a test for him.

"Elder Miss, don't worry!" Xiao Jin said with seriousness, "I will do it well."

Gu Chaoyan nodded. She said straightforwardly, "If you do it well, you will work with me from then on, but if you don't, don't feel stressed either. I will pay you a considerable amount of money which will be enough for you to buy a house and run a small business back where you come from."

Xiao Jin was a man with ambition. It was good to have ambition, but he should have equally excellent abilities to match it.

She would keep him if he did. If he did not, then she would not keep him.

Xiao Jin said nothing to Gu Chaoyan any more. He understood that whatever he said would not work, the most important thing was to make it right. When he did his job well, he was proving himself as capable.

Gu Chaoyan told him about the departure time as well as his meeting with Sword Three, then she returned to the capital.

It began to snow, and Gu Chaoyan was in a hurry, so they went directly back to the mansion.

As they came to the mansion, Gu Chaoyan ran into Mr. Zhao who had just returned from outside as she got off the wagon.

Zhao Yiqiu had not visited the court for a long while, but he was still very busy. He was out every day, yet no one knew what he was busy with. Zhou Huaijin and Gu Chaoyan were not interested in interfering in other people's business, so they did not ask him anything more.

When Zhao Yiqiu saw Gu Chaoyan, he ceased his steps. He seemed to have a few words to exchange with Gu Chaoyan.

When Gu Chaoyan and Zhao Yiqiu were walking shoulder to shoulder, Sword One and Qing took a few steps backwards, leaving space for them to talk with each other, but neither of them would hear the words.

Zhao Yiqiu and Gu Chaoyan walked for a while.

Then Zhao Yiqiu stopped and asked Gu Chaoyan. "Do you plan to tell Lord Huai the truth?"

Chaoyan cringed. It was a barrier inside her heart. She had to tell him the truth, but Gu Chaoyan would rather forget about it than confess. However, she knew one thing pretty well, she could not possibly hide the secret from Zhou Huaijin. They were getting married soon.

When the winter passed, it would be their wedding day and the day was approaching.

Gu Chaoyan opened her mouth. "Mr. Zhao..."

Chapter 626: Afraid

Zhao Yiqiu looked down at Gu Chaoyan.

He was showing no expression and was about to listen to what she was about to say.

Gu Chaoyan was hesitating, but she still spoke. "Mr. Zhao, are you afraid of me?"

Zhao Yiqiu felt shocked. He looked at Gu Chaoyan's face.

He suddenly remembered that she was just a girl that recently became an adult, one that had no mother and a father who hated her and drove her out of the family directly. She was already scared by what had happened to her, and he probably should not give her too much stress at the moment.

Huaijin was Shuang's child and he did have preference inwardly. He did not want Huaijin to get hurt, that was why he asked her, but he had never thought about being afraid of her.

Lady Chaoyan was calm, but she was still a child, younger than Huaijin, young enough to be his own daughter.

Zhao Yiqiu, for the very first time, started to feel some guilt inwardly.

He looked at Gu Chaoyan and said sincerely, "No. In the Saint Divine Land, or in the Feather Mulberry Land, or even in North Q, there are always many strange things. Even throughout the history of this continent, there have been many strange things happening which we can't possibly imagine. Like the Phoenix Girl... is it strange that there is something like the Phoenix Girl here? Destiny Monk, however, is right. There is something like this existing, something that can directly affect our country. So you should not be scared. There may be some other explanations out there. The King is looking for Destiny Monk, and we can do that too. Maybe he will give us the proper answer." Zhao Yiqiu said. He did not deny the abilities of Destiny Monk.

Gu Chaoyan nodded. She felt that Mr. Zhao was quite heart-warming.

"Thank you, Mr. Zhao, give me two days to get ready, then I will tell him," Gu Chaoyan said. Despite the consolation, she still did not look well.

Zhao Yiqiu was about to say something more, when he found that he could not say anything more. So he stopped putting too much thinking into that.

Gu Chaoyan took Sword One and Qing back to her own room.

When she was in her own room, Gu Chaoyan refused to go out.

The following day, when Zhou Huaijin came to visit her.

Gu Chaoyan said that she had fallen asleep and refused to meet him. On the third day, Zhou Huaijin came again, but he waited for a short while outside the room instead of passing on any more messages.

On the fourth day, Qing could not stand it any more. She told Gu Chaoyan, who turned him down again.

On the fifth day, Gu Chaoyan was ready. And she agreed to meet Zhou Huaijin.

On this day, Gu Chaoyan and Zhou Huaijin had no idea how to look at each other. Gu Chaoyan was worried and Zhou Huaijin was concerned that the way he looked at her might stress her out.

Sword One had Wuyi Tea ready.

When the tea was served, the scent went all over the room, which calmed down Gu Chaoyan inwardly. She sipped the tea little by little.

Zhou Huaijin was very concerned about her, and was about to say that he did not have to meet her, he could just watch her from outside every day, that would be enough for him. In this way, she would not be anxious or panic.

He was aware of her small moves. She was usually calm when drinking the tea, and when she kept drinking without caring about the scent, he knew that something was wrong with her, and she was not paying attention to the tea in her hands.

Finally, Gu Chaoyan stood up and said, "Jin, I need to make a confession. I am a person without pulse, and Mr. Zhao says that only the deceased don't have a pulse." Gu Chaoyan said with a serious expression on her face.

Zhou Huaijin's face changed.

Chapter 627: Confession

His mood was changed only because he was worried about Gu Chaoyan. He got up quickly and came to Gu Chaoyan's side. He took her hand and placed his hand upon her pulse. Sure enough, she had no pulse. Same went for the other hand.

Zhou Huaijin was shocked.

What happened? Why was the Heavens treating Chaoyan so unfairly?

Zhou Huaijin swept her into his arms. "Are you feeling unwell? If yes, you have to tell me, we can always come up with a way!"

Gu Chaoyan shook her head. She did not feel any huge difference between her and normal people, apart from being slightly scared of the cold.

Instead of pushing him away, Gu Chaoyan took a deep breath. "If you don't like this fact, we can break off our engagement. We don't need to get married, actually..."

Gu Chaoyan was about to continue with something when Zhou Huaijin hushed her with his index finger. He shook his head. "No, Chaoyan, no more words like this. I am not going to break off the engagement. No matter what happens, we should face it together. Did you ask me before why I treated you so fairly right from the beginning? I have to tell you that it is because you once saved my life when you were little, in the court! Without your help, I would not be here. So I won't give you up just because of this minor matter. You are mine!" Zhou Huaijin said anxiously.

She saved him before? Gu Chaoyan thought for a while and believed that it was something the original host must have done.

Therefore, did he like her, or the original host?

Gu Chaoyan felt a bit confused.

"If I had never saved you before... would you still feel the same?" Gu Chaoyan asked sensitively.

"Yes." He answered without any hesitation, because Zhou Huaijin knew clearly that he liked Chaoyan when she grew up, not when she was little. In the past, he would have treated her as a younger sister, not someone he loved. The reason why he did not mention anything before about this was because he did not want her to misunderstand him for this confusion. He said it now only because he wanted to console her.

Gu Chaoyan took hold of his hands tightly. She felt very assured right now.

When seeing her expression, Zhou Huaijin realized that she no longer felt trapped. He could not help but laugh. "So you have been dodging me because of this?"

Gu Chaoyan nodded.

Zhou Huaijin pinched her face as a way of 'venting anger'.

“No more things like this. No matter what you run into, you have to tell me so I can solve the problems for you. Your father can’t stay behind you, but I am marrying you and I will give you double the love that you deserve.” Zhou Huaijin confessed clearly.

Gu Chaoyan nodded. She was not a person good at articulating, and when she felt moved, she truly had no idea what she should say.

They had a very long conversation.

At the hotel.

The Imperial Master got very anxious seeing Prince Muyi staying in the hotel all the time. He kept asking him to meet Lady Chaoyan for some shopping on the street or just a brief conversation or something.

Prince Muyi ignored him totally. Prince Muyi stopped listening to him any more, when he heard what the Imperial Master said about Chaoyan.

The Imperial Master felt helpless. So he decided to visit Gu Chaoyan directly. He would settle the matter first so the whole plan could work out properly.

When he thought about this, the Imperial Master went out directly.. “Go to Lady Chaoyan’s mansion.”

Chapter 628: Let Him In

Gu Chaoyan had been living inside the mansion since the purchase, but she had not named the mansion, so the board on the door was always vacant.

Gu Chaoyan did not mention a thing about the board, nor did the servants. They all believed that Elder Miss had her own ideas and plans. So when the Imperial Master mentioned the destination, what he said was none other than “the mansion”.

After all, he did not notice what the mansion was called on his previous visit.

Gu Chaoyan’s mansion was located slightly far from the center, but was not that isolated. It was not a long ride between the hotel and the mansion, it only took the Imperial Master one hour to arrive at the mansion.

It was snowing, but the Imperial Master did not even use an umbrella before he walked in directly.

It was Xiu Jie who was guarding the door, since there was nothing special going on.

Seeing that the Imperial Master was here, Xiu Jie did not show a good expression. He was present when Prince Muyi and Elder Miss were talking about the deals, even a rough man like Xiu Jie could tell that the Imperial Master was not a nice man. Now he was here alone... he must be up to something.

The Imperial Master intended to walk in directly, but Xiu Jie stopped him and said expressionlessly. “Who are you?”

The Imperial Master’s eyes widened.

They met with each other before, and now he was asking him who he was?

Tolerating the anger, the Imperial Master decided to deal with this servant later after meeting Lady Chaoyan.

The Imperial Master answered annoyedly, "The Imperial Master of the Feather Mulberry Land. I want to see Lady Chaoyan."

Xiu Jie answered briefly. He said with an equally expressionless look on his face. "Then hang on here, I will pass on the message."

Then he was about to shut the door directly.

The Imperial Master said surprisedly, "Are you asking me to wait here?"

What a joke! He was the Imperial Master of the Feather Mulberry Land! Now he was in the Saint Divine Land where even the royal family were treating him politely. This Lady Chaoyan was just a lady who had been driven out of the family, and she was not qualified enough to put on airs in front of him.

Now he was asked to wait at the door!

The Imperial Master could not believe what was happening. He was about to say something when the door was shut right on his face.

The Imperial Master's expression froze then he burst out into laughter, feeling rather pissed. He would like to see how long this servant would stay arrogant!

He was going to tell Lady Chaoyan about this man later, so that Lady Chaoyan could punish him!

The Imperial Master was already planning how to punish this man in his heart.

When Xiu Jie shut the door, he walked in to pass on the message.

Hearing the news, Gu Chaoyan frowned deeply. What was he doing here?

"Is Prince Muyi here?" Gu Chaoyan asked.

"Only the Imperial Master..." Xiu Jie answered.

Xiu Jie even thought that Elder Miss could turn him down. He was just the Imperial Master of the Feather Mulberry Land who took actions behind the Elder Prince's back. That could not be something good. And if Elder Miss met this man from the Feather Mulberry Land, the King might find it suspicious! That would not be nice.

However, Xiu Jie did not dare to say those things in front of Elder Miss.

Gu Chaoyan hesitated for a moment. Normally, she did not have to meet him, but she would like to see what the Imperial Master was going to do behind Prince Muyi's back.

She was in a cooperative relationship with Prince Muyi anyway, so she nodded. "Let him in."

Chapter 629: Report

Xiu Jie nodded.

He was about to turn around and follow Elder Miss's order and ask the man to come in, when Gu Chaoyan stopped him. "Hang on!"

Xiu Jie was confused, not sure what happened.

Gu Chaoyan said calmly, "You don't have to go there now. Come and take a sip of this Wuyi Tea, you may not have tried it before. We have very little left, so Sword One only makes this kind of tea for me."

Xiu Jie did not think it was proper to drink such precious tea with Elder Miss here. He was just a servant.

He turned her offer down and said, "Elder Miss, I think I can skip it..."

Before he was able to finish his words, Gu Chaoyan blinked at him.

Now Xiu Jie realized that Elder Miss did not intend to ask him to pass on the message so quickly. He felt like laughing, but did not dare to. It seemed that Elder Miss did not like the Imperial Master either.

However, he still did not dare to share the same table with Elder Miss to drink tea. He regarded Elder Miss as someone superior. He was not going to share the same table with her unless he was qualified to do so.

He took a cup of tea and said, "I will drink the tea outside, and I will try to make the process long enough."

Before Gu Chaoyan said anything, he hurried away.

Gu Chaoyan felt helpless. She laughed and continued with her tea.

Xiu Jie had changed since they first met. The more time they spent together, the more lovely he seemed to be.

Xiu Jie did not go and pass on the message until one hour later.

The Imperial Master was already shivering from the coldness. He had so much snow on him and his face had turned pale. The moment Xiu Jie opened the door, the Imperial Master was staring at him with a furious look, saying nothing.

Xiu Jie looked tall and strong. He was someone with some martial arts skills. Since the Imperial Master had no guards with him today for this private matter, he did not dare to do anything about this guy despite anger. So he followed him obediently.

Gu Chaoyan was not going to meet the Imperial Master alone in her own yard. Instead, they met at the lobby of the mansion, a room that had never been used before.

When Xiu Jie was leading the way, the Imperial Master found the whole thing strange. "Are you planning on something? It is not the right path."

Xiu Jie turned to him expressionlessly. "That is the way to the lobby."

"But that is different from the place we went to when Manager Song and Prince were here." The Imperial Master said resolutely.

“Well, it was because Manager Song was with you last time, so Elder Miss met you guys in her own yard, but today, Manager Song is not here, so of course she is not meeting you in her own yard. You are the Imperial Master, and you should know this manner, right? Well, is it like that in your own country?” Xiu Jie snapped unhappily.

He was working for the mansion, and it was he who should decide how to treat the guests. What was this man being so dissatisfied with? Elder Miss was not opening her own yard to any strange man!

The Imperial Master was speechless. He glared at Xiu Jie unhappily, but said nothing more. Anything more he said would cause potential rumors for the Feather Mulberry Land.

As they came to the lobby, Gu Chaoyan was already waiting for them there.

She was holding a small hand-fireplace and wearing a coat. She did not get up at the sight of the Imperial Master.

The Imperial Master frowned unhappily... he was the Imperial Master, and she was not greeting him properly! However, as he saw Xiu Jie next to Gu Chaoyan, he pushed down his own anger, but he was still going to reveal the servant's improper behavior.

He said coldly, “Lady Chaoyan, you had better teach this misbehaved servant. He is not treating me politely and it took him a long while before he came to me with the message. He must have gotten lazy in the middle of the process!”

Chapter 630: For Your Sake

Gu Chaoyan showed no expression on her face after hearing what the Imperial Master said. She took a sip from the teacup next to her.

Then she turned to the Imperial Master. “I have few staff working at the mansion, and he is very busy, so he never gets lazy. Xiu Jie is my trusted man and he would never do anything like that. Maybe you have misunderstood something about him?”

Gu Chaoyan picked the important points to stress.

The Imperial Master was so annoyed that his face turned blue. He tried to calm himself down and then said, “Lady Chaoyan, you better hire more servants. It would not be proper if things continued like this. You would offend your honored guests! I am a good-hearted person so I don't mind being mistreated, but I can't guarantee that the others would not. So it would not be a proper thing for you.”

Gu Chaoyan gave out a very dry smile. Well, she had never cared about this thing. It was this man in front of her who got angry.

Instead of arguing with him, Gu Chaoyan asked calmly, “What do you want, Imperial Master?”

Hearing Gu Chaoyan's question, the Imperial Master suddenly remembered that he was here for something important. He was not here to talk about a servant!

When he settled the deal, he was going to take revenge on this servant sooner or later, because when Lady Chaoyan became the Prince's wife, he could do whatever he wanted with the staff she had!

The Imperial Master laughed proudly. He seemed to be in a better mood.

“Well, I am here talking about something with you.” The Imperial Master said seriously, “I am here for Prince Muyi.”

When Prince Muyi was mentioned, the Imperial Master looked even prouder.

Gu Chaoyan frowned slightly.

For Prince Muyi? Then why was Prince Muyi absent?

Gu Chaoyan had met the Imperial Master before, and did not think that he was a nice man. Gu Chaoyan felt that the Imperial Master was always up to something terrible and kept showing his ambition by setting up tricks, all the way from the wine affair at the Yellow Crane to the time when they signed the deal. And today...

Gu Chaoyan did not believe that he was up to anything good either.

She sipped the tea and asked the Imperial Master. “Oh yes?”

“Our Prince Muyi is the Elder Prince of the Feather Mulberry Land, and he is the Prince our King adores above all. Prince Muyi has been the ambassador to visit the Saint Divine Land, so our King thinks highly of him. Prince Muyi is also a Prince the ministers support back in our country.” The Imperial Master said proudly, but apart from all of these merits, Prince Muyi wasn’t a tricky person, so he was the most easily manipulated.

Gu Chaoyan nodded. She could tell.

The Saint Divine Land was the most powerful land among the four countries, so the princes from other countries that visited this land must have an important position in their home countries.

And Prince Muyi, who had been on such visits many times, must have an important position back at home.

That was true, but... Why was she told all of this? Even if it was about the cooperation, the deal was already settled and there was no need to mention such a thing any more.

“What is your purpose in telling me all of this?” Gu Chaoyan asked calmly.

The Imperial Master smiled briefly. When he was done with the background, he stated his real purpose.

The Imperial Master said proudly, “Prince Muyi is not yet married, nor has he gotten engaged with anyone. He is turning 20 years old and soon he is going to find a suitor. Lady Chaoyan, you were driven out of the family and I don’t believe that you have anyone backing up your marriage. Prince Muyi can marry you as a concubine, which is the best choice for you.”