#### Divine 791

# **Chapter 791: Persuasion**

Qian Zhong and Qian Shao, who had been furious, were about to say something when they heard Officer Qian laughing.

So they stopped themselves and turned to Officer Qian in confusion.

Although they were mostly involved with what was going on here, Officer Qian was their only supporter and the whole family obeyed his plans. So they were waiting to see what he was up to.

Officer Qian was still laughing at the moment. He looked at Gu Chaoyan and believed that she was just throwing her temper like a young, childish girl.

He participated in the imperial examination ten years ago, but he did not even make it to the top three.

Normally, people like him should continue with the imperial examination, but he came up with his own methods and went through much bitterness and misery before finally getting a position at Dali Temple. He did not think that a young girl like Gu Chaoyan, who thought that she was capable with some medical skills, would end up well. He believed that when he was facing many people and matters, he had to be tolerant enough first. He should tolerate until the right moment to take revenge. For example, right now.

He allowed her to throw her temper and waited until she could be controlled, so that he could take revenge. It was pointless to have any argument right now.

That was what Officer Qian believed in firmly.

After he was done with laughing, he said with an affable look on his face. "Young girl, I can understand why you are so arrogant. You are a capable doctor! But what you need to understand is that your medical skills help you to earn a lot of money and even cause those doctors to become jealous of you. However, have you ever considered that you could always be framed by someone and you alone would not be able to keep yourself protected."

"The Qian Family might not have equally good medical skills compared to you, but the Qian Family have a strong social background and they can keep you safe."

"So, you are just too young to understand it all."

Qian Shao nodded in agreement when he heard what Officer Qian said. Officer Qian was indeed an experienced officer working at the government. He was totally different from them. Gu Chaoyan looked at them, who pretended to be full of justice yet turned out to be the most greedy of all.

She laughed. "But it is you who are framing me right now, isn't it?"

Officer Qian's face changed, but soon he regained his expression.

"We are here to have a talk with you, not framing you! If you are not assured, we can sign a contract that protects your interests." Officer Qian said.

He had already behaved in his most patient way until now, but this young girl was totally unbelievable. He had lost his patience by this point.

Gu Chaoyan sneered.

This medical family was so wild. They knew nothing and feared nothing.

"You don't deserve that, never." Gu Chaoyan countered.

Officer Qian's face changed at this moment. He was not even bothered to pretend anything.

This young girl just did not understand whatever he had said!

"Who do you think you are? We are already showing mercy by having a talk with you, and you understand nothing! Then don't blame us for being rude."

"Oh, how do you plan to be rude?"

"You are an orphan without parents, so how dare you go wild like this in the capital. Do you believe that it will just take one day before your Xinlin Clinic gets shut down.. By that time, there would not be anything good like marriage as a bargaining chip!"

## Chapter 792: Cost

Officer Qian already started to sound threatening, but Gu Chaoyan still looked at them calmly and said, "No."

Then she smiled, picked up the teacup and sipped the tea.

Officer Qian squinted and looked at Gu Chaoyan, smiling sinisterly, "Then let's wait and see."

Qian Shao looked at Gu Chaoyan and showed a look of pity. "Why bother to fight against someone so strong, you parentless orphan?"

This girl only headed for hell, while the door of heaven was opened for her sake.

Officer Qian was from the Qian Family, but he and Qian Shao were not brothers. Yet Qian Shao had witnessed how he used to work around, and it seemed that this young girl from Xinlin Clinic had irritated him totally and Officer Qian would never leave her alone.

However, that was what he wanted to see. What he had been craving was the medical skills that this girl had, and as long as he got what he wanted, he would not care about anything else.

He sighed. He followed Officer Qian and was about to leave, but Qian Zhong did not seem to be willing to leave. He had not been willing to marry some parentless girl before he came here. He had been angry about getting picked to marry someone like this from among all of his brothers. How would he be able to stand out in the future? However, after he saw the girl, he really felt like marrying her!

This girl did not seem to have any background, but she was pretty. She was even prettier than any of the ladies the Qian Family had picked for him, so he would bend down for her.

He did not have to make the whole thing so extreme.

As Qian Zhong thought about this, he shouted. "Officer Qian, Uncle Qian! I would like to marry her, please leave her alone. Let's just have a nice talk together, alright?" Qian Zhong said with a flattering tone.

The words had just been spoken and before Qian Shao managed to give an answer, Sword One shouted loudly. "How dare you!"

Sword One had been so angry about what the two people from the Qian Family were talking about. However, this man called Qian Zhong was extremely shameless to say such rude words in front of Elder Miss.

He would like to marry her? Who did he think he was?

Elder Miss had Lord Huai as a fiance, and she was not available for any low-class people like them.

Sword One had already taken out her sword and shielded Gu Chaoyan, stopping Qian Zhong who was about to take a step forward.

Qian Zhong got startled and took a few steps backwards. He had not expected that this feeble-looking girl tuned out to be so ferocious.

Qian Shao and Officer Qian, who had almost left the clinic, ceased their steps as well.

Especially Qian Shao. He frowned deeply and was about to say something, when Sword One snapped. "Elder Miss is Lord Huai's future Princess Consort, she is not available to low-class people like you! Who do you think you are!"

Standing there, Gu Chaoyan did not stop her.

Sword One had been tolerating her anger for a long while! She could have tolerated it, but Qian Zhong had said too rude words for her to calm down any more.

Gu Chaoyan did not think that it was improper behavior done by Sword One. The Qian Family were too rude to be spared any mercy.

That Officer Qian would no longer be able to work at the governmental offices any more after tomorrow.

Qian Zhong gasped and Qian Shao showed a look of disbelief.

The future Princess Consort of Lord Huai? What was going on?

Seeing that Sword One had done throwing her temper, Gu Chaoyan said calmly, "Alright Sword One, just let them go. They are going to pay what they deserve to pay, so we don't have to spend any more time with them.

Pay what they deserved to pay? Officer Qian was startled..

## Chapter 793: The Qian Family in Chaos

He had become totally dizzy because of what had just happened. When he heard "to pay for whatever he had done..."

He suddenly remembered what occurred at the very beginning. It seemed that this young girl had once mentioned that official uniforms were only allowed to be worn when the officers were on business, not for private affairs. She even asked her pageboy to deal with something.

He had not taken it to heart. He had thought that she was nothing but a young girl who operated a clinic and who, according to Qian Shao, had no parents. He did not think that anyone like this would be of any importance.

If not for her striking medical skills, he would not even be bothered to pay a visit here.

She cured dying people. She really did!

It was a very useful skill for him. What if she could help the Qian Family with her medical skills? He might even get promoted!

At that time, he had been thinking about all of this. He had never expected that this girl could be someone with a noble background.

Now.

He thought of the consequences he might be faced with, and felt like collapsing.

Lord Huai might not be in a very influential position compared to Lord Ling, but he was still one of the imperial children. If they went deeper into what happened, what they were involved with could get the whole family killed.

Officer Qian collapsed right in front of Gu Chaoyan, who did not even look at him. Instead she tumed around and left instantly.

Officer Qian was about to say something, when Sword One blocked him and said, "Get out of here now, or we will sue you, not for suppressing civilians, but for humiliating the imperial family!"

"Twill get out of here now!" Officer Qian was so startled that he staggered and rushed off.

However, Qian Zhong and Qian Shao were still standing there transfixed, so Officer Qian slapped them respectively and said, "Get out of here now!"

The two finally moved and staggered away. The three of them fled all the way to the Qian Mansion.

The moment they arrived at the Qian Mansion, Qian Shao's wife came out.

She looked cheerful. "How did it go? How was the deal? Oh well, I know you must have done a good job, Qian Zhong, you..."

Before she was able to finish speaking, Officer Qian passed by Qian Shao and glared at her, shouting, "Shut up, you bitch!"

Hearing his words, she looked extremely shocked. She turned to Qian Shao.

She was the leading madame of the Qian Mansion so she was very humiliated after being scolded in this way! However, Qian Shao did not look at her.

The Qian Family had run into such big trouble and they did not even have time to console her emotions.

When they went back to the hall of the Qian Mansion, Officer Qian slapped Qian Shao several times.

Qian Shao's wife, who saw the scene, was startled. She stopped him directly, "Officer Qian, what is going on? How can you treat Qian Shao in this way? He is the master of the family!"

"What is going on?" Officer Qian got so furious, "It is merciful of me to slap him. He caused me to lose my career! How do you plan to pay for that?"

Officer Qian came to Qian Shao. "What did you say when you were here? You said that she was a girl without parents. Did you even look into her background? Did you check which family she is from? Now I have lost my career, and the Qian Family will never have any standing in the city!"

Madame Qian showed up when she heard the noise.

'When she saw Officer Qian's exaggerated behaviors, she asked, "What is going on? Why did you humiliate Shao for a tiny matter!"

# **Chapter 794: Young Maids**

Madame Qian had not heard what was going on as she walked in. All she had heard was how Officer Qian was scolding Qian Shao loudly.

Qian Feng had become increasingly arrogant after he started to work at Dali Temple. He never stopped himself from humiliating people at the Qian Family, and he had developed the habit of scolding people. He could scold other members from the Qian Family, Madame Qian could just ignore that totally, but now he was scolding Qian Shao, and that made Madame Qian quite angry.

Qian Shao was the master of the Qian Family and he needed to save face. The Qian Family would lose the intimidating air if the master was humiliated in this way.

"A tiny matter?" Qian Feng sneered. "Your Shao was so careless with what he was doing, that he took me to offend the future Princess Consort of Lord Huai! Now I have lost my career, and the Qian Family will not be able to have a good life in the future! I am not able to scold him now, so I will leave this. You can take care of him, if you want."

Qian Feng left angrily.

With arms over his head, Qian Shao became extremely regretful. He had not expected that things would become so complicated. He had made several mistakes before, but today, the mistake turned out to be rather big.

'Madame Qian was startled, but when she realized what happened, she almost collapsed.

Qian Shao went up to help her up.

Suddenly, chaos dominated the Qian Family.

At Xinlin Clinic.

'When people from the Qian Family left, quiet dominated the whole Xinlin Clinic.

Before dinner, Gu Chaoyan went to visit Wang Dao who was still in bed. It seemed that he was recovering very well, but he had to stay in bed for more than half a month.

He had been seriously injured by the monster. Even with the help of magical water, he still needed some time to recover.

Gu Chaoyan asked Sword One to inform Zhou Huaijin about what happened today, so that he could arrange for some of his staff to check out what was going on in the mountains.

When she was done with this, Gu Chaoyan finally ate some dinner and went to bed.

Wang Dao was doing well, so she was moving back to her own mansion the following day.

ee

It was the 23rd year of spring in this country.

The Spring Hunt had concluded and all of the princes as well as ambassadors had started to go back to their own countries. And the selection of new girls for the Saint Divine Land had already come to an end as well.

That was the first session of selecting new girls since such an event took place ages ago.

There were many young maids selected. Apart from the girl looking similar to Xunyang, there were around ten others remaining.

Among the ten girls. Four of them were noble ladies.

So the King got Zhou Huaiyu a Princess Consort, and arranged a Princess Consort for the Eldest son in the boundary, whilst the other two were kept for himself.

The other six maids were young girls who had never been with anyone before, and who were from common families.

Normally, the King would keep one of such girls for himself in a low position and if he did not do so, he would give them to the imperial children.

The King had not gotten any grandchildren, and he did not have many sons either.

Apart from Zhou Huaiyu who already got one of the girls, Zhou Huailing and Zhou Huaijin were the ones who remained.

The King asked the two of them to visit him in the court.

The two of them were greeting him in the Qianging Palace at the moment.

The King looked at them two and said calmly, "You can get up now."

"The princes and ambassadors of the other three countries have already left, but the selection of new girls has not yet been concluded. I am asking you to be part of the arrangement.."

# Chapter 795: Young Maids 2

'The King said this calmly.

He did not think that those young maids were of any importance to him. The reason why he arranged the selection was because he needed to find Xunyang's replacement. Now what happened to Xunyang was history, and he was totally relieved. However, young maids were still selected, so he decided to follow the routine to the end.

He was too old to take new girls for himself, and he was used to that idea, but the Empress Dowager insisted that he should keep two, so he followed what she wanted.

'There were many young maids selected this year and he did not have many children.

The eldest son was always at the boundary, so all he needed was just a Princess Consort.

Huaiyu had a Princess Consort too, and he would have the right to get one Princess Concubine if he wanted. So now it came to Huailing and Huaijin.

Huailing had a Princess Consort and a Princess Concubine. His Princess Consort was the Phoenix Girl, but she still did not have any children. Also, the Lord Ling's Mansion had been in such chaos so Ruxue, who was not at all good at administration, should get some help. So he should get some young maids too.

As for Huaijin... he had never had any candidates for a Princess Concubine. So the King decided to give him some young maids, not because he wanted any more imperial grandchildren from Lord Huai's Mansion, but because he needed some of his people to be there.

Well, that was what the King thought. So he naturally made the plan.

He sipped his tea and gave a light cough. "There are still nine young maids that have not been arranged. Lord Ling, you still have one position for a Princess Concubine, so I kept one for you to fill the position. Ruxue is not very good at administration, so the girl can help Ruxue and get to know how to. manage a mansion. Nothing should happen to your mansion any more! Apart from the Princess Concubine, I will give you three more young maids, you can do whatever you want with them, but they are young maids from common families, treat them well." The King reminded him.

Zhou Huailing nodded as he heard the words. He of course understood what his father meant. The King was helping him! That Princess Concubine was from a noble family, who could boost him. As for the young maids from common families, Zhou Huailing understood that those girls were useful for him too.

It was a well-planned arrangement made by his father.

There were few women at Lord Ling's Mansion after the Princess Consort and Lord Ling were divorced. Princess Concubine Yun went to the South and had not returned, so there were almost no women who were able to manage the mansion there. Ruxue was not at all skillful so Lord Ling's Mansion was in

chaos, and many things had popped up along the way. He had become so tired. So after this, he would be able to take a break.

Zhou Huailing was in a good mood.

'When the King was done with Zhou Huailing, he turned to Zhou Huaijin. "Huaijin, you got engaged very late, and your mother is sick too. So your wedding has to be postponed, and you don't have any Princess Concubines or other women at your mansion, so I arranged a few for you to take as well."

"You can keep the five remaining young maids. Apart from your Princess Consort, there are still two positions of Princess Concubines open for you. So I have gotten two women who could help the Princess Consort, and you can do whatever you want for the remaining three.."

1

## **Chapter 796: Young Maids 3**

"So in this way, you are getting fair treatment. Now the arrangement has been made, with Huailing taking the first position and you the second. It is fine if you are a bit late, as long as you have enough girls.

"Idon't have many children, just a few of you. That is a great pity. You should work hard too, so that you can have abundant children too," the King said.

Well... he was saying these specially for Zhou Huailing.

He had always believed that Zhou Huailing should be the heir, and he was the second eldest son apart from the eldest son. He got married very early but he had not fathered any sons, so he was urging him. However, Zhou Huailing felt a little annoyed. He had thought that it was Gu Ruxue's problem that he never had any children, but none of his wives or concubines had ever gotten pregnant.

That was something that confused him.

'When the King mentioned that, he found the whole thing bothersome.

Zhou Huaijin had been silent all this while.

'When the King was done speaking, he said coldly," Father, I don't need any of the young maids."

The moment Zhou Huaijin finished saying this, the King and Zhou Huailing looked at him in surprise.

The King came back to himself and asked in displeasure. "You don't like the young maids I arrange for you, so you don't want them?"

The maids selected were the most excellent ones. And yet this man turned them down!

That was what displeased the King deeply.

It was one matter whether he wanted to grant him any, and it was another matter whether his son wanted to take it. No one had ever turned down the King's gifts.

Zhou Huaijin shook his head. "No, it is not about you. I already have Chaoyan and I don't need any other women. I only need one girl for my life."

The King had a very complicated expression on his face.

'When he heard what Zhou Huaijin said, he seemed to have an idea of what he was talking about, but he did not seem to get the point either. He was silent for a long while.

Zhou Huailing, however, suddenly burst into laughter. He looked at Zhou Huaijin as if he were staring at an idiot. Ever since ancient times, a man always had many wives and concubines. Imperial children would normally get the most excellent women for themselves. That was what powerful people ought to have. Also, the wives and concubines were related to the profits they could get from the court.

One woman for a lifetime... no idiot would ever do anything like this.

"Honestly, Eighth Brother, you think you are from some poor family who can't get more than one wife?" Zhou Huailing said with a smile. "Father granted you the women, and you can take them. Soon you will understand whether you need them or not."

The King looked at Zhou Huaijin with a serious expression on his face. "Your Fourth Brother is right, don't be silly."

"You are the lord, and it is a rule that a lord should have one Princess Consort and two Princess Concubines, if you don't want so many, you can take two Princess Concubines to start with, and I can get you some more in the future." The King offered.

His eighth son had not gotten married, and he might not want to accept so many women at the same time.

He had not even had the intention of getting married in the past. That was why the King made this offer.

Zhou Huaijin shook his head. "I don't want any of them."

The King's face sank as he heard these words. He had already made his best offer and yet he still insisted on his own ideas – so he did not think his father was of any importance?

"How about this?" Zhou Huailing added..

# **Chapter 797: No Way Back**

"Eighth Brother is getting married late, and the wedding hasn't taken place despite the engagement. He picked his Princess Consort himself, and he likes her deeply. At the moment, he could not take in any other women, which is totally understandable. I have been there before, and I can understand the meaning." Zhou Huailing helped Zhou Huaijin to explain.

Having said these words, he continued. "But the young maids have been selected for both me and other brothers, so it is not proper if the Eighth Brother gets no one. Since he doesn't want to marry any of them, those girls from poor families can be selected to become his maids, which is proper for him and for them. What do you think, father?"

Zhou Huailing asked with a polite tone. He would not be bothered to help Zhou Huai

if it were for other things. He had been wishing that father would hate him for what he did, but he had stepped forward this time.

He had been married for years, but none of his wives or concubines had ever gotten pregnant, which

made him both anxious and worried.

Eighth Brother was yet to get married, since the Queen was seriously-ill and he could not possibly hold the wedding when the Queen was so sick.

It was great if he did not want any of the women. If the father forced him to accept them and he fathered a child with one or two of them, then his own children would not have a proper position. Therefore, he was going to stop this possibility from happening. He would rather help Eighth Brother so that

he himself could Father a child first, then he would not be bothered to care about what was going on with him.

Actually, he would not even ask him to take the two maids, but he did understand that the King was using the two maids to watch over the Eighth Brother, and that was something his father had to do. Despite the displeasure, the King still listened to Zhou Huailing's advice.

It was very reasonable advice, which he could approve of, but he just did not feel very comfortable about this.

All the ministers and civilians would accept whatever he granted them with gratitude and glee, but Zhou Huaijin turned him down!

Lord Huai's Mansion was able to afford those maids after all. He gave him the best mansion!

The King got quite angry, but as he thought of the Queen who was still seriously ill, he calmed down.

"Okay, just do as he says, you can bring the two maids back to Lord Huai's Mansion, and that is something you can't turn down. You have to accept them." The King was still very displeased. He was acting really tough as if only in this way would he be able to regain his own dignity. Zhou Huailing threw a look at Zhou Huaijin. He patted his shoulders. "Father is being kind, take them, Eighth Brother, and don't turn him down. You are a rare, pure-hearted man, and Miss. Gu is a lucky woman."

Zhou Huaijin still hesitated. He did not like to be served by maids, so his servants were all pageboys, not maids.

Those maids granted by father were different from ordinary maids, after all. They might not be granted the title of concubines, but since they were given by the King, they were more or less the same as concubines. He was worried

#### **Chapter 798: To the Town**

He was worried that Chaoyan would not be happy about this. Chaoyan never spoke about many things, but he understood what she was like, after spending so much time with her.

He would definitely not spare a look at those maids, but he was worried that Chaoyan would not be pleased.

He did not think that it was good to make Chaoyan sad just because of two maids.

Zhou Huaijin subconsciously had the intention of tuning him down.

The King was already at the edge of getting angry. "You have to accept them since they are granted to you. I am informing you, not asking you for your opinion."

"Anyway, we are done here, you can leave." The King bellowed.

Zhou Huaijin had a bad look on his face as well.

He answered briefly and then he left.

Zhou Huailing still remained in the Qianging Palace. He looked at his father's face and poured tea for him. "Father, drink some tea, don't get mad about Eighth Brother. He is just like his mother, always dreaming about getting one person to spend the rest of his life with. Life is not as simple as this. If he wants to do that, just leave him alone. Let's see how much further he can go."

The King was not angry any more at this moment. He calmed down.

Ling was right. He was exactly like his own mother. That was what the Queen was like. When she got together with him, she had been dreaming about having only him for the rest of her life, but he was the King and he was never going to have just one wife. Gradually, she gave up and even helped him to take care of those girls.

When the King thought of the Queen, he suddenly felt his heart soften.

He had been very angry a while ago. He did not like it when his Eighth son countered his order, but the Queen had not been feeling very well and she had been living in the town all this time. So for her sake, he could drop the grudge for the time being.

Soon the King stopped being angry. He was not even bothered to think about the whole thing.

He said to Zhou Huailing, "The princes and ambassadors have all gone home, and the selection of new girls has concluded too. There is no major business to deal with at the moment. So you should stay at the mansion and make the Princess Consort pregnant! Your Princess Consort is the Phoenix Girl and she is very noble, but she is not yet pregnant, and she can always go away with someone else. However, if she is pregnant, then the child will be yours, and everything will be settled. From that time on, you would not be restricted by the Phoenix Girl any more, understand?"

Zhou Huailing nodded constantly. He had been feeling that something was wrong inside his heart these days. Now he understood clearly what was going on.

The most important thing right now was to get Ruxue pregnant, and that made Zhou Huailing extremely nervous.

The King nodded. "You can go home now."

Zhou Huailing hurried off.

The King said, "De Fu."

"Come here, I have got something for you to deal with. Although the Empress Dowager is in charge of what is happening in town, you should tell the Queen about what happened today. She should be informed that her son is not obedient and that she should teach him a lesson when they meet," the King said carefully.

Actually, it was the King who felt that he had run into some setbacks and needed to get some benefits out of that. He was going to show that he was doing the right thing in front of the Queen. Having spoken to De Fu, the King felt relaxed.

ee

At Xinlin Mansion.

Zhou Huaijin rushed directly to Xinlin Mansion after he came out of the court.

He needed to have a discussion and explanation with Chaoyan about the maids. Otherwise some misunderstandings might arise between them.

Gu Chaoyan was in the middle of speaking with Sword One and laughing happily, when she saw Zhou Huaijin coming towards her..

## **Chapter 799: Helpless Chaoyan**

Gu Chaoyan's eyes were large, bright and crystal clear. She always seemed to feel like getting close to Zhou Huaijin the moment she saw him, especially when she had not seen him for a few days. Zhou Huaijin felt that his heart was melting as he saw her in front of him.

Gu Chaoyan had always been calm and quiet. Even when she was facing him she was mostly quiet. You would need to feel and notice the love she showed. When you noticed the love with your heart, you would feel extra warmth and sweetness.

Zhou Huaijin took hold of her hands and pinched her face. "What is going on, you seem to have lost too much weight."

Zhou Huaijin's sudden actions made Gu Chaoyan flush. They were in the yard and everyone was watching them. She subconsciously turned around, gave a light cough, picked up her tea and drank from it, then she answered. "I may have gotten too busy at Xinlin Clinic to take a good rest. Sword One has been taking good care of me, and I will get better soon."

She said that because she wanted to stop Zhou Huaijin from thinking that Sword One wasn't doing a good job, but Sword One did not think of any of these. She lowered her head and chuckled. 'When he heard her words, Zhou Huaijin gripped Gu Chaoyan's hands. He said carefully, "Chaoyan, I have to confess something to you."

Gu Chaoyan had gone to drink some tea when she heard what Zhou Huaijin said. He looked serious.

That was the first time for him to look so serious, and she believed that something must have gone wrong.

Well

Before Zhou Huaijin said anything, Gu Chaoyan did not think too much. She did not like making strange guesses. All she needed to do was to hear him out.

However, she would not cry over some so-called things. She would deal with the situation rationally based on the situation, if the other party had made a mistake.

"Tell me." Gu Chaoyan sounded calm.

"Father has been hosting the selection of new girls these days, and apart from those selected for himself, new girls are added to the mansions of different princes. Father just asked me to meet him in the court, where he told me about the arrangement of new girls." Zhou Huaijin looked helpless. Gu Chaoyan more or less understood what was happening.

The King must have granted some maids to Zhou Huaijin.

She was someone with her own principles. Zhou Huaijin was just the lord, and he had to accept many things. She could forgive him for accepting the maids, but if he ever fell for someone else, Gu Chaoyan would leave him.

She did not believe that a man could have feelings for two women at the same time.

Gu Chaoyan nodded and was prepared for what he was about to say.

"T failed to turn down my father, so I took in two maids. Father has given them to me as serving maids, but you don't need to worry, I will get them to work somewhere else, when they are delivered to us." Zhou Huaijin promised.

Gu Chaoyan's face twitched. She looked at Zhou Huaijin with a complicated look on her face.

She had thought that he took in two princess concubines, but it was just two maids. So why was he being so serious?

Gu Chaoyan massaged her temples and said helplessly, "I got it, don't worry, I won't blame you for that."

She patted Zhou Huaijin's hands, looking very serious.

Zhou Huaijin laughed and felt assured.

Gu Chaoyan's face became even more complicated.

ee

At the Qianging Palace, the King was waiting for De Fu's message.

'When De Fu returned from the town, one day had already passed.

The King asked at the sight of De Fu, "How is it? Is the Queen doing better?"

**Chapter 800: Lying** 

The King had been thinking that the Queen moved to the town before the New Year, and that it was already spring, so she should have gotten better from the cold! It was quiet and beautiful in town, and she was away from all affairs. With doctors taking care of her, she should get better easily. Now the affairs in the court were all finished, and quiet had returned, so she should move back, even if

she did not feel well. Nothing would be so serious. She was the Queen. There was still a difference between whether she was in the court or not. So she, as the Queen, should be here.

Honored Princess Jing was holding the authority token, but Honored Princess Jing was, after all, not the Queen.

The King was just asking casually, starting to plan when he should bring the Queen back. He was not used to his current life any more.

De Fu had a terrible expression on his face. He went to the town personally the day before and was about to pass on the message to the Queen.

However, when he met the Queen, he found that the Queen was getting worse and worse and that she was at the edge of dying. He did pass on the message from the King, but the Queen was not in the right state to listen to him, let alone give any response. When De Fu was done with the message, the Queen had already fallen asleep.

He was so frightened that he had intended to travel overnight to the court and pass on the message to the King.

The Queen had to move back in this status. She needed a doctor, otherwise... otherwise something beyond expectation would happen.

He did not like the Queen, but apparently, the King was clinging to the Queen these days. He was worried but.

Before he was able to make it out of the town, the Empress Dowager's staff found him and said something to him.

The Queen was not doing well, but she was still lingering at the edge of life. If the King learned about it, he would be delayed in many things. It was not a peaceful time, and every country was at the edge of conducting their own plan. The King should not get distracted by one woman. So she asked him to conceal the truth.

'The Empress Dowager was going to watch over the Queen personally. The King was going to make no difference even if he learned about it.

De Fu had been feeling rather confused on the way back to the court. He was the King's eunuch and he was only loyal to the King. So he did not have to obey the Empress Dowager's order, but he was faced with a very different thing at the moment. De Fu had no idea what to do.

"What are you thinking, De Fu?" The King was displeased, and shouted at De Fu with a stressed tone. He did not think that anything major could have happened but he was very anxious after seeing De Fu's reaction.

De Fu brought himself back and said hesitantly, "King, the Queen might be suffering from some mental issue. Despite the cold, she is not in a very energetic state because she is thinking about something. Nothing serious, actually, the doctors said that the Queen should stay there for a longer time so that she can get better."

#### Mental issue?

The King's face sank. Could that be because he was not treating her well, so she could not get over her barriers?

"De Fu, go and make some preparations, I will visit the town now.."