

## Divine 851

### Chapter 851 Why!

Hearing that the Old Master asked her the question, she stopped crying directly and became motivated.

The Old Master never had a hand in the affairs in the mansion; Mrs. Chu was always in charge of the family affairs. Women tended to have their own plan, and she could understand the point, especially when it came to Yerong and Xiwen's marriages. Mrs. Chu would definitely not allow Yerong to marry someone better, but she would like to see about that.

Otherwise she and Yerong would never have a better life, and as long as she managed to set up a good marriage for Yerong, they would definitely manage to live better.

Also, Yerong's marriage was going to be very practical for the Chu Family.

She believed... She believed that after the Old Master knew the truth, Yerong was not only going to get married smoothly, but also have back up from the whole mansion.

The Second Concubine said proudly, "Gu Yunhe, the Young Master of the Gu Family. Princess Consort of Lord Ling guarantees that it will happen, and Yerong will become the main wife! The Gu Family is a very popular family right now in the capital, and it is Yerong's honor that she can marry the Young Master of the Gu Family!"

Young Master of the Gu Family?!

Chu Tian's face turned sour and he took the teacup and threw it directly at the Second Concubine. "Fool, you fool!"

He knew that his wife might be strict, yet she was a lady from a noble family, just and reasonable. She would never stop any concubine's daughter from getting married for no reason!

This foolish woman even said that Mrs. Chu did not want Yerong's marriage to exceed that of Xiwen's!

Foolish woman! Foolish and innocent!

The Second Concubine was dumbfounded when she was blamed and had a tea cup thrown at her.

She had not yet asked why, when the Second Lady of the Chu Family, who was waiting outside the mansion, rushed in and said with an unconvinced tone, "Father, how can you call mother a fool?!"

"Don't you know that the Gu Mansion is a very popular family in the capital? Everyone is flattering them. They are the Princess Consort of Lord Ling's family, the Phoenix Girl's family! I tried my best to make the Princess Consort pay attention to me and promise me the marriage! Also, if Lord Ling's Mansion and Gu Mansion don't like us, we will have a bad time in the capital! I can help you two get connected! You should thank me!" the Second Lady of the Chu Family said excitedly.

Father called mother a fool, but she believed that her father was a fool! He became the Prime Minister because of what the ancestors had done for him, yet he was never able to think and understand where he was now.

The Chu Family had the highest rank in the officers as the Prime Minister, but he was still an officer.

Lord Ling was different. He was from the imperial family and was a promising heir to take the throne. He married the Phoenix Girl, and yet her father could not understand such a simple thing!

Hearing her words, Chu Tian got so angry that he wanted to toss his teacup yet he had nothing in his hands so he struck the table angrily. "Fools, you two fools! Why are you part of our family! Mrs. Chu did not allow you to attend any banquets, and I should have agreed with her! How foolish you are!"

Chu Yu passed Chu Tian a cup of tea, asking him to calm down.

Chu Tian drank some tea and came back to himself.

At this time, Mrs. Chu came and Chu Tian felt less miserable. "Mrs. Chu, deal with these two foolish people!"

"Why?!" The Second Lady of the Chu Family shouted, "Why this woman!"

Chapter 852 Wife!

Seeing that she was misbehaving and pointing at Mrs. Chu, he slapped her right in the face.

After being hit in the face, the Second Lady of the Chu Family almost collapsed. She took a few steps backwards and was helped by the Second Concubine, who saw that her face had swollen up. She burst out subconsciously. "Old Master, what are you slapping Yerong for? She is still too young to be punished in this way!"

Chu Tian laughed out of anger hearing the Second Concubine's stupid words.

Too young? She was getting married, and she was still too young?

"Xiwen has followed etiquette since she understood the world and she has never made any major mistakes. Even when she makes mistakes, she would admit it and apologize! She never counters the elders in the family. Yerong is not young any more! Mrs. Chu must have been giving you too much tolerance for you to not understand that you are just a concubine and you are a concubine's daughter!"

III

"Mrs. Chu is in charge of the family affairs. She has never treated you badly, and she has taken all of your needs into consideration. Even if Mrs. Chu turns down the proposal for no reason, she is still not wrong! She has the right to handle every family affair!"

Chu Tian was so angry that he shouted loudly.

At first, he thought that he was angry just because this second concubine of his was stupid and he had not planned to do anything about it, but now he saw that she was not only stupid, but also lacked manners. It was good that she was just a concubine, and someone else could shield her, but having no manners was a very big taboo!

Chu Mansion was going to be ruined by them, if they were both stupid and lacked manners.

At first, Chu Tian had intended to let Mrs. Chu deal with them according to the rules, but now Chu Tian had changed his mind – he was going to punish them more strictly.

They were going to ruin the family in this way!

Chu Tian said, "Mrs. Chu, take them back to the backyard and make sure that they never leave the yard. Make them stay there and they are not allowed to come out without my order. Also, hire an Aunt who can teach them some rules and manners. Give them lessons until they learn! Also, Mrs. Chu, you can arrange a wedding for Yerong, find some ordinary family with a clean background, let her get married as long as the other family fits!"

"There are too many things for me to deal with in the court right now, so please take care of family affairs for me, Mrs. Chu," Chu Tian said to Mrs. Chu politely after he made the arrangement.

Mrs. Chu showed a polite smile. "I will do that."

Only now did Chu Tian feel assured.

The Chu Family was an official family with many things going on in the mansion. He barely had time or energy to take care of everything. He was very assured to have Mrs. Chu in charge of these small affairs.

He had been angry about what happened, but hearing how Mrs. Chu answered him, he felt more stabilized.

The Second Concubine and Second Lady of the Chu Family, who heard the arrangement of the marriage, shouted loudly, but Mrs. Chu asked her men to gag them and took them away at the fastest pace.

Mrs. Chu was not doing it on purpose. It was just that they were all in the lobby, where Old Master and Yu were discussing things and they should not be disturbed. That was why she did it so quickly.

Also...

## Chapter 853 Understanding

Although he was boring and traditional, he was someone who followed the rules.

She married him only because their family backgrounds matched and she was following the family's arrangement. She had been dissatisfied by how the Prime Minister behaved when she was still young, and thought that he was way too strict. She thought that a young person at his age with such a mature mind would make life boring.

Occasionally, she would get together with her friends who talked about their own husbands. And the only good things she could say about her own husband was that he was mature for his age. He was behaving so politely even in front of her.

She tended to make complaints in front of her mother when she was still young, and she once groaned over this drawback.

Now more than a decade had passed and the Prime Minister had not changed a bit.

He was still strict and boring, yet he treated her so nicely and showed her utter respect, and now, she was the happiest madam of all.

She was so moved by what the Prime Minister just said. She was Mrs. Chu, so she could do whatever she wanted as Mrs. Chu.

As she was thinking about this inwardly, she still wore a very modest and elegant expression on her face.

After she got the Second Lady of the Chu Family and the Second Concubine back to their yards, she arranged her staff to watch over them. Then she turned around.

The aunt next to her asked. "Madame, why do you not explain anything to them?"

Mrs. Chu shook her head.

"The Prime Minister has already made the arrangement, so we don't need to say anything. The Second Concubine and Chu Yerong are not young kids. They would not understand anything, no matter how much we try to explain. Also, these are related to the Chu Family as well as the court, and it is good that they have no idea of any of the real reasons. Just as the Prime Minister has said to us, they need to understand the rules and manners, and that will be enough," Mrs. Chu said.

She grew up in a noble family too, so she knew pretty well what to say and do and what not to say and do.

The aunt nodded with a smile. She looked at Mrs. Chu – she did not have to worry about Mrs. Chu any more.

When Mrs. Chu first got married, she kept complaining about the Prime Minister being boring. At that time, she and Madame Chu all believed that Prime Minister was a very nice man, though the young Mrs. Chu had no idea about that. Now she had gradually understood.

They were just walking towards the main yard when in the hall, Chu Tian finally stopped being angry after dealing with the Second Concubine.

He looked at Chu Yu with a look of relaxation. "Yu, you are turning 20 years old soon, and you should watch and learn. If you are able to marry a wife like your mother, you would never have to worry about a thing in your life, but if you marry someone like the Second Concubine, you will be ruined."

"Just think that a woman, who is always inside the yard, can do nothing. They are good at dealing with trivialities, which can be influential as well."

"Your grandpa chose your mother as my wife back then, and I said yes because I heard something about her too. Your grandma did not like her at first and forced me to marry someone else, but I insisted on my own choice, and that is lucky. Look at the Second Concubine, who was picked by your grandma, and then you can see the difference."

II

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"You and Xiwen are both people with your own opinions. You have to be careful when it comes to your future spouses." Chu Tian stressed.

Chu Yu smiled. Father kept praising mother, but never did that in front of her. That was a pity.

Chu Tian did not know what Chu Yu was thinking. He said, "The Second Concubine always says that the Young Master of the Gu Family is a good suitor, but she just doesn't understand one thing..."

## Chapter 854 Situation

"Although the Chu Family are top officers in the court, we have to be very careful about whatever we do and say in the court. If Yerong marries the Young Master of the Gu Family, she only marries them because of her family background. They don't marry her for who she is, and what they want is that we should take their side." Chu Tian sighed and shook his head. "Your Elder Sister has a clear head, and she knows the rules, but they don't understand anything."

"We have rules for ourselves. We are only loyal to the King."

II

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"That is because the situation is changing all the time, and you can't predict who is going to take the throne in the end. If we make a false bet, it will ruin our whole family."

"The King right now was the least likely prince to take the throne at that time, and no one noticed his existence, but look at what happened now. Who could have foreseen the present situation years back?"

III

"Your grandpa did not take a side, that is how our family continued to flourish," Chu Tian said emotionally.

His father was the person that he admired above all, but he passed away ages ago.

Otherwise he could have had a discussion with his father about what happened today, and he would not have to be so annoyed.

Chu Tian sighed.

"Currently, we should not take a side, but we should not offend Lord Ling and the Gu Family either. I called you here today just to make sure that you understand this point. Watch out for your manners with them from today on." Chu Tian stressed.

Chu Yu was born by Mrs. Chu, so he was the Eldest Son in the family. He had considered him as the heir of the Chu Family, so he had spent a lot of effort and time on this boy, so he should not make any mistakes.

Chu Yu stood up and answered politely. "Yes, father."

Chu Tian nodded. He was confident about Chu Yu. It was already enough for him to understand the point.

He got up in exhaustion, and each of them went back to their own business.

That was the only thing Chu Tian said to Chu Yu.

Chu Yu walked out of the hall, looking quite serious and stressed too.

He should not take a side, and even if he did, he didn't think that Lord Ling would think of him as someone important. Gu Yunhe hated him for some reason, so no matter what he did or said to him, Gu Yunhe was always extremely hostile. Because of that, Lord Ling ignored him too.

It seemed that Lord Ling did not like the whole Chu Family. Therefore, even if they decided to take Lord Ling's side, their family would not benefit from anything, even if Lord Ling took the throne later.

Father believed that it was safe not to take a side, but Chu Yu did not think that the situation was that easy.

He felt that the current situation made it difficult for the Chu Family to have a good result, unless Lord Huai...

Unless Lord Huai took the throne, then he would be a fair King.

He had not liked Lord Huai before. He thought that Lord Huai did not have any knowledge, and was arrogant and unreasonable, but after the Spring Hunt, he changed his mind. He almost felt that Lord Huai was hiding his true abilities.

He gave it a deeper thought about what happened too.

If Lord Huai was really a spoiled, naive kid, then he would have been totally ruined when his grandfather passed away and he moved out of the court.

He preferred Lord Huai, of course, but Lord Huai had no one supporting him, and there was a small possibility that he would take the throne.

That made Chu Yu feel confused. He was wondering whether he should have a meeting with Lord Huai too.

#### Chapter 855 The Day

However, it seemed to not be the right time yet.

He was going to wait. He was going to make the decision later.

Since he had another plan in mind, he did not dare to say anything to his father, who was going to counter him for sure. He was very burdened.

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Ten days later.

The imperial order for Gu Zhenkang's promotion was passed on and he became the Officer of the Ministry of Personnel.

That a small officer was promoted directly to being the Officer of the Ministry of Personnel was a rare thing – Gu Zhenkang was the only person who had achieved that in history. The Gu Mansion was extremely glad for that.

Gu Zhenkang, finally, had a normal position. He was the Officer of the Ministry of Personnel!

Mrs. Gu was the most delighted.

After Gu Ruxue married Lord Ling, Mrs. Gu had received greetings from many people. Every madame came to her politely, but she felt that something was missing.

The other madames all had husbands with a high position, whilst she was the only person who gained her reputation because of her son-in-law.

From this day on, Mrs. Gu felt that she had all the right to straighten her back.

"I am Mrs. Officer of the Ministry of Personnel, the mother-in-law of Lord Ling. No one else is more happy than me," Mrs. Gu said with a smile as she looked at the imperial order.

Gu Zhenkang laughed too.

It was indeed a very delightful thing.

Gu Ruxue just walked in and corrected her mother as she heard the words. "Mom, you are not right."

"Why not?" Mrs. Gu asked in confusion. That was totally right!

"You are the heir's mother-in-law, the Princess Consort of the Heir's mother," Gu Ruxue said with a proud look on her face.

It took Mrs. Gu, Gu Zhenkang and Gu Yunhe a long while before they realized what she meant.

After a long while, the three of them were surprised. "Is... is that true?"

Gu Ruxue smiled and nodded. "The imperial order has just been passed today – Lord Ling has become the heir officially and the announcement will be made soon. You are the first ones to know about it."

Mrs. Gu gasped. She just could not believe what happened, then she was overcome by excitement.

Lord Ling had become the heir, and Ruxue was the Princess Consort of the Heir! So Ruxue was soon going to be the Queen! Mrs. Gu got so excited!

"Gu Chaoyan never believed that she is worse than you, but she will never be able to catch up with you," Mrs. Gu said proudly.

Her daughter was always better than that of Ms. Lin's.

Gu Ruxue snorted.

"She is nothing. When the heir takes the throne, I am going to deal with that bitch directly. She is just daydreaming when she thinks that she is better than me!" Gu Ruxue said sinisterly.

"True. No need to hurry! Ruxue, let's wait and see!" Mrs. Gu said with a smile.

Gu Zhenkang was very happy too, as he laughed alongside.

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The King was in a good mood too. He had passed on a series of imperial orders, but what mattered most was to have a discussion about the endowment ceremony. It was the first heir set up for the court, and the Ministry of Rites people were not very familiar with the process.

The heir was also not yet healed. He was still lying in bed.

The King was worried that his ideas would not be good enough, so he asked Honored Princess Jing to join him for discussions of more details.

De Fu was waiting outside, feeling anxious as he saw the discussion carried on vividly.

News had come from the town – The Queen passed away and it was time for the ceremony, so De Fu had no idea what to do.

The King, who noticed De Fu's anxious look, asked, "What is it?"

#### Chapter 856 The Queen's Death

The King was frowning and feeling very uncomfortable too. He was very displeased.

De Fu had been serving him for around 20 or 30 years. He had been devoted to him fully, and he trusted De Fu totally. The way De Fu served him was very satisfying as well, and he reported everything to him without consideration. He had been working for him only, not for the Empress Dowager.

However, during this period, the King believed that De Fu had changed. He had lied to him, and he was slow in dealing with a lot of errands.

For example, right now, he was even suspecting that De Fu's cringed behaviors were generated from some secret he was trying to hide.

The King, who had been smiling, suddenly had his expression sink.

De Fu got very anxious by this point.

The Queen's death happened at the same time as the endowment ceremony of the heir, and it was such a coincidence that he had no idea what to do – the King cared about the Queen, but the King cared about the heir as well...

So he did not dare to say anything while they were in such a lively discussion, but he was worried that he would miss the hour if he continued to hide the secret.

So that the King did not get to visit the Queen at the latest hour.

De Fu was so hesitant that he just did not dare to take any more steps, but he had to speak the truth when the King asked.

With his head lowered, De Fu walked in and said anxiously as his voice shook slightly, "King, a message has just come from the town and said... And said that the Queen failed to be cured and she has just passed away. He felt very uncomfortable when he heard the news, and when the news was finally said, he felt even worse.

He had no idea how the King would feel at this moment. And he did not dare to look up at all.

It was so quiet in the imperial study, that even a needle's drop could be heard.

The people from the Ministry of Rites exchanged a look with each other, but didn't dare to say anything. They had their heads lowered and did not show any expression, but different plans arose inside



everyone present. The heir had just been endowed with the title and the ceremony was around the corner. The reason why Lord Ling was granted the position was because the King cared about him most, but the Queen was still the Queen, even if she was not inside the court any more.

Both of them were from noble backgrounds.

One was the heir and the other was the Queen, each of whom represented one totally different affair. What should they do? Whose ceremony should be held first?

It was something that never happened in history, until this very day.

No one from the Ministry of Rites dared to say anything

They would either offend the heir or the Queen, Lord Huai or the King.

They waited to see what the King was thinking. None of them dared to say a thing.

The King had been so shocked the moment he heard the news.

The Queen passed away? Jiang Shuang was gone? That was not possible!

She only got sick because she was trying to lure him to spare some mercy for Lord Huai whilst combining the old soldiers from the Jiang Family to set him up.

So how could that be possible? That could not be true! Was De Fu lying?

No... De Fu never lied, not in front of him.

What was going on?

He closed his eyes.

It seemed as if he had just returned to 23 years ago, when Jiang Shuang was standing in front of a patch of roses and said to him...

Chapter 857 Lost Soul

She said – “Zhou Sheng, take my hands.”

That was when she just passed her Adulthood Ceremony and they were not engaged. They decided to be together without telling anyone else. He did not want to take her hands, but Jiang Shuang liked him deeply. She was always smiling in front of him, and that made him feel not as uncomfortable any more.

Maybe from that time on, he felt that Jiang Shuang and Jiang Shang were just different people, but... It seemed that they were the same after all.

He almost could not understand himself, but inside his head, he kept thinking of the young maid who asked him to take her hands.

“King,” De Fu said lightly as he reminded the King. He had already lost himself in front of the officers from the Ministry of Rites.

The King shivered. He looked at De Fu who had already aged so much.

There was no maid, nor were there any roses. Had Jiang Shuang really passed away? The King stood up suddenly and said, "I am going to the town now!"

That was the decision he made subconsciously. He was going to see it himself. He just could not believe what he had heard!

Maybe it was Jiang Shuang who lied to him! He was going to punish her if he found that she was playing with him. He just remembered that he had never punished her for real even after so many years, though he had always tried to use her.

Without even taking the time to get dressed, the King left in a hurry.

The officers from the Ministry of Rites wiped their sweat and let out a sigh of relief.

It was almost impossible to guess what the King was thinking. No one could tell who he really cared for, and what.

If they had mentioned about the heir a moment ago just because the heir was still alive, they would have fallen into trouble.

Even though the King was away none of them dared to leave.

Those officers did not dare to leave without the King's order, but continued to sit here in silence.

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The King was urging the wagon to drive faster towards the town.

That town remained the same. He was here a while ago, but something had changed there. Something was different!

He hurried to the yard where the Queen lived.

Many people were already on their knees outside, including the imperial army and the cleaning maids.

The King was panicking. He could not catch his breath.

Only when their masters were gone would they be on their knees. And that was what it was like now!

That was impossible!

The King rushed inside.

Zhou Huaijin and Aunt Nan were all on their knees. Only Zhao Yiqiu was standing.

Zhao Yiqiu kneeled down for no one, including the King.

The King gave Zhao Yiqiu a punch, but he dodged.

He would not have dodged if the King had not behaved as he had before, but Zhou Sheng had no right to punch him.

Zhao Yiqiu gripped the King's hands. He said to the King with a calm expression on his face. "I am a doctor, but I am not a God. I can't bring everyone back to life. You have to blame yourself Zhou Sheng, just think whether you have the right to blame me!"

The King got rid of his grip.

The right to blame him? No, he did not! He knew that directly!

He knelt down by the bedside and looked at the pale face. He caressed her face which showed no warmth.

Zhao Yiqiu looked at the King and said, "Zhou Sheng..."

#### Chapter 858 Funeral

"Just prepare for the funeral," Zhao Yiqiu said with no expression on his face.

The King gazed at Zhao Yiqiu. He looked devastated and furious. He shouted at Zhao Yiqiu. "Jiang Shuang is gone, so why are you not shedding tears, why are you still so calm?"

What was wrong with Zhao Yiqiu? He never showed any emotion whenever he ran into anything. He was never sad, but he, as the King, was trapped within these emotions.

Zhao Yiqiu liked Jiang Shuang too, didn't he? Why was he not shedding tears?

Zhao Yiqiu looked at the King expressionlessly, "Jiang Shuang is your Queen, why should I shed tears over her death? I am just a doctor and I have seen the world. Why should I be sad about anything?"

The King looked at Zhao Yiqiu and laughed ironically.

He leaned over the Queen and shouted desperately, "Jiang Shuang, just get up now, get up and frame me, set me up! The old soldiers from the Jiang Family are still active, how can you be gone? I have made use of you before, why did you never take revenge? You always take revenge, don't you?"

The King kept repeating those words until he became exhausted too.

He stood up in sadness and said, "I am taking her back to the court."

"The Queen has already passed away. She hated to travel when she was alive, why do you have to make her travel when she is dead?" Gu Chaoyan added.

The King was startled for a long while.

For some reason, he subconsciously hoped that she could return to the court, where they spent more than twenty years together. It seemed that the court was where they truly belonged.

The town was not. They had no memories in the town, nor was there any rose garden that was built later.

The King looked confused. He was drifting away.

Having said these words... he mumbled. "Then... then I will go back to the court and bring the roses here. Jiang Shuang loved them. I wonder if the roses will bloom this year. And the funeral... yes we need to

plan the funeral. Those from the Ministry of Rites are still in the Imperial Study, I need to have a discussion with them, yes, a discussion with them..."

Having said this, the King did not move, he just stood there transfixed. He was motionless for a very long time.

Only now did he suddenly think of something. "Where is De Fu?"

"King." De Fu shedded his tears and answered in grief. "What can I do for you?"

He had been working for the King for approximately 30 years. When he first started to work for him, the King was still a prince, and at that time, he already had a plan for his future. He always had solutions for emergencies.

The King had never lost himself. At least not for real, but this time... the King had. He was totally distracted by what happened to the Queen.

The King did care about the Queen.

"De Fu, what did I just say?" The King asked.

"You said that you are going back to the court, to the rose garden and to meet the ministers from the Ministry of Rites." De Fu repeated in tears.

The King nodded.

Well...

That must be it! That was what he was thinking!

He had to go back to the court.

The King hurried away and De Fu followed, wiping away the tears.

Gu Chaoyan and Zhou Huaijin exchanged a look between themselves in contemplation.

The King must be experiencing the most complicated love in the whole world.

On the bed not faraway, the Queen had one tear dropping along her cheeks.

"What is happening?" Gu Chaoyan was surprised.

#### Chapter 859 The Ceremony

Zhao Yiqiu took out a green-color handkerchief from his arms slowly and wiped the Queen's tears away. Then he put the handkerchief back into his own pocket.

He said to Gu Chaoyan, "It is okay. The drug puts her into a false-death state, but it doesn't deprive her of any feelings."

"They have been together for around 20 years. Zhou Sheng made use of her, but they shared some love together. That is why he keeps repeating his own behaviors. He can't make up his mind between love and power. Zhou Sheng likes Jiang Shuang, but as far as he knows, love isn't as important as power."

“Although Jiang Shuang decided to leave, she can’t simply just forget about their twenty-year-old relationship within just one moment,” Zhao Yiqiu said emotionally.

Actually, Zhou Sheng and Jiang Shuang should have been a great match with each other and they liked each other too, but the mistake was that Zhou Sheng was born as a prince who was never liked, thus feeling insatiable for power. What a pity.

Zhou Huaijin took hold of Gu Chaoyan’s hands, and they said nothing more.

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The King hurried back to the court.

He went to the rose garden first, which was built for Jiang Shuang’s sake. He did not put much affection into the garden, but just said one word so the garden was built. Jiang Shuang visited the garden often, but he himself did not. He did not like roses, so he was never moved.

This was the first time for him to visit the garden during the past few years.

The roses were not blooming. It was still green which dominated the whole place.

The King took a walk around and did not see any blooming roses, so he was panicking and feeling quite confused. “De Fu, the roses are not blooming, Jiang Shuang will be sad if she can’t see them!”

De Fu was still wiping his tears. He had no idea how to answer him.

Roses did not bloom in spring.

“King.” De Fu said with tears, sounding extremely sad.

The King was startled.

How could that be? Why were the roses not blooming?

He could not see the roses blooming, so he could not see Jiang Shuang any more either, right?

She was not going to be in either Weiyang Palace or in the town. He was never going to see her ever again. What should he do?

He just could not imagine that he would never see Jiang Shuang again.

“King, are you going to see the officers from the Ministry of Rites and have a discussion about the Queen’s funeral?” De Fu reminded him. He was truly worried that the King would do something suicidal without seeing the roses.

The garden was never taken care of. No one had visited the garden for a long time. Even the Queen did not seem to like roses that much any more.

The King nodded and his eyes brightened. “Yes, you are right. We should meet those from the Ministry of Rites first. We need to deal with one thing after another. Let’s go to the Imperial Study!”

The King hurried away.

De Fu followed, still wiping his tears.

Those from the Ministry of Rites were still there when the King arrived. Each of them was in great pain. They had waited for too

long.

The King said as he sat down, "It's good that you are here, The Queen has passed away, and we need to give her a grand funeral!"

Then he nodded, agreeing with himself.

The ministers exchanged a look among themselves. One of them burst out. "What about the endowment ceremony for the heir?"

#### Chapter 860 Disagreement

It was the Officer of the Ministry of Rites who asked the question.

He had been feeling very anxious inwardly as well. It was a very complicated situation, since the King had been focusing upon the Queen's funeral rather than the heir's endowment ceremony. Although it was a decision made by the King, the heir would definitely blame the Ministry of Rites for the problem, because the heir could not possibly blame the King for the decision he made, after all.

The Ministry of Rites had never run into such an issue like that of today.

It was only the Officer and Head of Ministry of Rites who were at the imperial study, whilst the other ones were officers with a low position. Therefore, he was the only person who could ask about this at the moment. He wiped the sweat from his forehead, feeling rather nervous.

It was always a very dangerous thing to work for the King. You never knew what the King was thinking – one right question would lead to a proper result, yet a wrong question would lead to an unpredictable future.

The officer from the Ministry of Rites had his head lowered, waiting for the King to give an answer.

The King, who had been very distracted, suddenly heard the question.

He started to remember about the heir – oh yes, he had just endowed Lord Ling as the heir, and the ceremony was yet to be held. How could these two things end up being together?

The King felt even more confused – what should he do? Why did such a thing happen?

The King shook his head.

After a long while, he was brought back to himself after De Fu reminded him. He looked slightly more determined and nodded, as if he had made himself agree with what he had said. "Prepare for the funeral first, she has not had an easy life these years. I had not treated her well enough. We need to get the funeral and worship ceremony well-prepared, as for the heir's ceremony... that can wait until later."

The King had made up his mind.

And the officers from the Ministry of Rites exchanged a look, but did not dare to say a thing, though they did not consider that a good decision. However, at least right now, they knew how to answer to the heir.

The officers were about to get down to their work when a very intimidating voice arose from outside.  
“King!”

The officers of the Ministry of Rites exchanged a look and did not dare to say a word any more.

The Empress Dowager’s appearance would probably cast a change upon this matter.

The best thing for the minor officers was to stay silent, as the important figures were arguing with each other.

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The Empress Dowager threw a look at those cowardly-looking officers from the Ministry of Rites and said angrily, “I need to speak with the King, just leave us alone.”

The Ministry of Rites was in charge of ceremonies and funerals. They should follow their rules, but it seemed that these officers from the Ministry of Rites did not seem to follow their own rules at all. They did not even tell the King about what they were supposed to do! They only followed the rules, because they were afraid of being sentenced to death.

The King was overcome by utter sadness. He would not be fair and just in making decisions!

The meaning of the officers was to remind the King, but they failed to do that.

The Empress Dowager threw a glare at the officers and then turned to the King. “I don’t think your decision is right. We should definitely hold a funeral for the Queen, but we can’t leave the heir aside! The heir has just received your imperial order, so the ceremony should definitely be held according to the rules!”

“We have rules here – the happy event should always precede the sorrowful event!”