

Divine 91

Chapter 91: Prince of the Duke Changning

Gu Ruxue was so certain that Gu Chaoyan would not dare to behave rudely in front of the gate that she looked extremely arrogant.

However, the next second, Gu Chaoyan approached the two maids and slapped them several times on the face. She was so fast that before Gu Ruxue realized what happened, her maids' cheeks already swelled up. They covered their own faces, not daring to make a sound. They were at the gate of the imperial court – any more sound would get them killed or severely scolded by Madame Gu.

“You!” Gu Ruxue pointed at Gu Chaoyan in disbelief. “How dare you hit them!”

She was about to step forward to slap Gu Chaoyan, when Gu Chaoyan also raised her hands without fear.

Madame Gu noticed the chaos and came to them. “What happened?”

Gu Chaoyan noticed that next to Madame Gu, there was one eunuch who came to pick them up. The Gu Family was low in social status, and it was not that easy to enter the court.

“Madame Gu, Sister just hit two of my maids!” Gu Ruxue said straightforwardly.

Hearing these words Madame Gu looked annoyed. She glared at Gu Chaoyan. “Is that true?”

The eunuch behind Madame Gu looked at Gu Chaoyan with displeasure.

She just hit the maids, which made the eunuch think that this Miss liked hitting servants. That was why he had a bad impression of her.

“It is true.” Gu Chaoyan replied straightforwardly, “Those two maids punished Qing when I was not with her. I was just paying back what they deserved. Qing behaved totally properly, and even if she ever made a mistake, it should have been I who punished her. How dare these two maids punished her without my order. I was worried that these two maids would cause some trouble in the court, so I punished them directly. You can blame me if you want to, Madame Gu.” Gu Chaoyan said frankly.

Madame Gu had no idea how to vent her anger, but the eunuch behind her looked at Gu Chaoyan with a different look on his face.

“Alright, let’s just get in. Anyone who dares to make trouble inside the court will be punished seriously by the family law!” Madame Gu snapped seriously.

Then she led them in.

As Gu Chaoyan passed by the gate, she saw a guard thumbing up for her.

That made Gu Chaoyan feel strange.

What a funny guard!

As they came to the court, what had happened just now was simply not worth mentioning.

Inside the magnificent imperial court, everyone had their head lowered out of extreme courtesey.

It was very quiet as they walked in.

Soon Gu Ruxue broke the silence. She looked at Duke Changning's wife and her son Lu Jiming not far away in surprise. "Madame Duke Changning, Prince, what are you doing here?"

Seeing Gu Ruxue, Madame Duke Changning smiled, but as she saw Gu Chaoyan, Madame Duke Changning's smile froze. "Now everyone is allowed to enter the imperial court?" Then she looked at Madame Gu. "Madame Gu, don't you ever forget what happened before. Princess Gu is not going to have any peaceful time, if any trouble arises for her here."

Madame Duke Changning was not as young as Madame Gu, but she did not care about the generation difference and behaved arrogantly.

Madame Gu was displeased, but she did not show anything. "We are here anyway." It was a very vague reply, though she was quite worried inwardly as well.

However, Lu Jiming behaved differently now. He did not criticize Gu Chaoyan sarcastically as he saw her.

How unexpected! He found something was different about Gu Chaoyan when they had not seen each other for a long time.

Chapter 92: B*tch

She had lost a lot of weight, a little chubby still, yet her skin had turned fair. She was so comfortable to look at, when her eyes were large and clear. Lu Jiming even found her a little bit attractive. He felt his heart hopping as he saw her standing there in a confident and calm way.

He regretted as he had eyes upon her. He should not have been so determined to have cancelled their engagement. And he should have been more sincere when asking her to become the concubine. In that way, he might be able to get both her and Ruxue. How wonderful would that be.

However, that was just a momentary matter. He soon realized something.

The reason why Chaoyan had lost so much weight must have been because of sadness. She had been admiring him for the past few years. So she must have turned skinny because he never liked her.

He could explain to her in a fine manner when they both had time later. As long as Chaoyan could lose some more weight, he could consider giving her a nice wedding, when he married Ruxue.

Lu Jiming smiled as he made up his mind.

Gu Chaoyan did not know that many weird ideas had flashed across Lu Jiming's mind during this brief period of time, but Gu Ruxue had noticed his strange behavior. That was how Lu Jiming stared at her a while back.

How dare he! How dare he stare at the ugly woman in this way?

"Prince." Gu Ruxue called him with a lovely tone, bringing Lu Jiming back to himself. He looked at Gu Ruxue. "What is it, Xue?"

He had just said the words, when he saw the two maids next to Gu Ruxue.

The two maids who had swelling cheeks, should have returned at Madame Gu's order, but Gu Ruxue insisted on making them stay.

Now seeing how Lu Jiming was looking at her sister, Gu Ruxue was glad that she had kept the two girls. Now they came in handy.

"Prince, are you attending the banquet too?" Gu Ruxue asked gently.

Lu Jiming nodded and asked instantly, "What is wrong with the two maids?"

Hearing Lu Jiming's question, Gu Ruxue got delighted inwardly. However, she could not show that on her face, but said with a concerned tone, "Sister hit them as we were waiting outside the gate. We are visiting the imperial court today, so we have no medicine with us. We have to wait until we meet Princess Gu to see if they can be given the medicine."

Hearing these words, Lu Jiming felt very concerned about her. Ruxue was also so gentle and kind, and she even showed concern to two maids and thought about giving them the medicine.

Gu Chaoyan on the other hand...

He no longer liked her.

What was the point of getting prettier? She was still so evil!

He glared at Gu Chaoyan. "What an evil woman!"

Gu Chaoyan threw a lethal look back at him and asked coldly, "Who are you referring to?"

Maybe it was because of the intimidating air Gu Chaoyan put on, but Lu Jiming did not answer directly.

However, Madame Duke Changning did not lose the chance and said with a sneering tone, "Jiming said nothing wrong! You are evil to hit your servants. Luckily we canceled the engagement, or our servants would suffer."

"It seems that no one at Duke Changning's Mansion has any manners." Gu Chaoyan said mockingly, "So you have to worship your servants who make mistakes instead of punishing them. How low-class the owners of Duke Changning's Mansion are!"

"What are you talking about, b*tch!" Madame Duke Changning shouted.

Chapter 93: Meeting with Lord Huai

"Who does B*tch refer to?!"

"B*tch is talking about you!" Madame Duke Changning replied without hesitation.

"Hehe." Gu Chaoyan smiled with a mocking tone, "You know yourself pretty well, Madame Duke Changning."

Hearing what Gu Chaoyan said, Madame Duke Changning realized that she had been tricked by her. So she raised her hand to slap Gu Chaoyan, but before the hand landed upon her, Gu Chaoyan already took hold of her wrist.

"Madame Duke Changning, please watch out." Gu Chaoyan said coldly without letting go. Madame Duke Changning felt so much pain that her face got twisted.

Seeing the scene, Madame Gu walked up. She said with a serious expression on her face as she bellowed, "Chaoyan!"

Gu Chaoyan let go of her.

Madame Duke Changning stumbled, looking very messy.

Before she steadied herself, Gu Chaoyan snapped. "The two maids were hit because they hit my maid. Those who have no rules are definitely to be punished. But Madame and Prince call me evil without understanding the full story, which means that you are wronging me. In this land, wronging and spreading scandal is against the law."

"..."

"Madame, I suggest you not spread rumors in the court like a nosy old woman." Gu Chaoyan reminded her with a mocking tone, "There are many rumors about me, and I don't need one more. However, if you, Madame, get recognized as a nosy old woman, that wouldn't be good for you, would it?"

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Madame Duke Changning's face sank as she stood back on her feet with her maids' help. And she did not continue to lunge at her.

They were in the imperial court. The court was not a place for her to lose her manners.

Duke Changning's Mansion might be in the higher rank, yet they had a different family name as the imperial family, so they were not worth mentioning here in the court at all, especially when no men in the mansion had been given any good jobs.

She could only wait to deal with this ugly girl.

Madame Gu glared at Gu Chaoyan with displeasure, thinking that she had caused too much trouble. She walked past her and came to Madame Duke Changning. "Don't worry, Madame, we will give you a very satisfying result when we get back home."

Hearing what Madam Gu said, Madam Duke Changning was quite glad. The expression on her face turned better.

She would very much like to see what Gu Chaoyan would receive as punishment to have offended her in this way!

Due to Madam Gu's apologetic tone, Madame Duke Changning regained her arrogant manner. "I won't worry a thing when you are taking care of this matter, Madame Gu."

Madame Gu smiled.

The gang were just about to walk on, when the sharp-eyed Madame Duke Changning saw Lord Huai who was coming this way.

That was Lord Huai!

She gave Lu Jiming a push. Although Duke Changning's Mansion and Lord Huai did not have a deep relationship with each other, Madame Duke Changning remembered that when Lu Jiming was cancelling the engagement, Lord Huai did attend the meeting. So it meant that Lord Huai had the intention of befriending Jiming. After all, Jiming was such an excellent man and it was quite normal that Lord Huai would like to be his friend.

Lu Jiming instantly understood what happened.

He would not have approached Lord Huai of his own accord before, but since Lord Huai showed up at the cancellation of his engagement and now Lord Huai was approaching them instead of avoiding them, Lu Jiming went up confidently towards him, assuming that he was here to greet them. "Unexpectedly, we are meeting here, Lord Huai!"

"Please, Lord Huai, come to our mansion for some tea when you have time. I haven't thanked you for what you did for me the other day." Lu Jiming said with a smile.

Instead of looking at him, Zhou Huajin walked past him and came to the Gu Family.

Chapter 94: A Guide

Seeing Lord Huai coming towards them, Gu Ruxue felt her heart skipping a beat, head turning totally blank.

Was he here for her? She was the most pretty girl in the entire capital city!

So if Lord Huai suggested, she could give up the status as the Princess Consort. She believed that she could get a better man, someone noble like Lord Huai!

When Lord Huai came to her side, Gu Ruxue flushed and called with a gentle voice, "Greetings, Lord Huai!"

"Chaoyan, what are you doing here in the court." Zhou Huaijin walked past Gu Ruxue and came to Gu Chaoyan, asking with a gentle tone.

"Princess Gu invited us, so I am here." Gu Chaoyan answered briefly as if he were just an ordinary man.

Everyone else gasped. Gu Ruxue flushed, looking very jealous and unconvinced! How come Lord Huai was talking with that ugly girl!

And Madame Duke Changning, who had shown extreme arrogance, flushed and turned pale.

Lord Huai had just walked past them and came to greet the ugly girl! Why!

However, Lu Jiming was different. He had gotten a bit embarrassed a moment ago, but seeing Lord Huai greeting Chaoyan, he felt assured.

Since Chaoyan and Lord Huai were good friends, he could make his requirements a little less strict.

She did not have to lose too much weight. As long as she was able to speak with Lord Huai, she could marry him along with Ruxue through an excellent wedding.

As he thought of these, Lu Jiming took a few steps forward and showed a smile as if nothing had happened. "Chaoyan, you are a good friend of Lord Huai?"

He had just said the words, when both Lord Huai and Chaoyan both frowned.

The former was not so glad to hear him calling her in such a close manner, whilst the latter considered this man very cheeky!

She refused to reply to Lu Jiming.

"It is the first time for you to come to the court as a grown-up, and you may not know the way there well. Let me take you to Princess Gu!" Lord Huai said and offered himself as the guide.

The eunuch's face twisted as he was kneeling down. Of course she did not know the road well, but the eunuchs were here to guide them already!

However, they only kept those words inside their hearts instead of speaking out.

Gu Chaoyan felt that Lord Huai was making sense. "Alright then, you can lead the road!"

She did not show any sign of turning him down.

Madame Gu got so many sweat drops out of nervousness. Why didn't Chaoyan show any politeness as she was speaking with Lord Huai? She was both surprised and startled inwardly.

She was surprised because Lord Huai was offering them a great thing, and she was also startled because she did not want Gu Chaoyan to offend Lord Huai.

Lord Huai looked very glad, however. He guided Gu Chaoyan and presented her all the yards and landscapes every now and then, as if they were on a trip.

No one dared to utter a word behind them, especially Madame Gu.

It was not until they came to Biquan Palace when Madam Gu finally felt relief and joy. What an honor that Lord Huai could bring the Gu Family to Biquan Palace and show up together with them. In this way, even Princess Gu might get promoted. As she thought about this, Madame Gu got rather nervous.

The eunuch in the lead said with a raised voice, "Here comes Lord Huai!"

A chaotic panic arose in Biquan Palace, Princess Gu and Princess Virtue both came out to greet him.

However, when they saw the slightly-chubby girl next to Lord Huai, they had no clue who she was.

Lord Huai said, "Chaoyan has not been in the court for ages, I was worried that she would not find where Biquan Palace is, so I guided her here."

Princess Gu got so startled that she could not even think for a moment.

Chapter 95: Reputation Raised

Chaoyan! Wasn't Chaoyan the famous ugly girl of the Gu Family?

Princess Gu still could not believe that. This so-called ugly girl had not only become prettier, but also befriended Lord Huai! She threw a glance at Madame Gu behind their backs, hoping to get confirmation from her about the real identity of this girl.

Madame Gu got Princess Gu's look and showed a proud smile on her face full of wrinkles. She nodded slightly.

Princess Gu got both startled and glad. She was about to talk with Gu Chaoyan to show their family relationship, when Lord Huai said before anyone did. "Now she is here, I am off. Take good care of Chaoyan!"

The words had just been spoken, when Lord Huai left. Princess Virtue here was one of the top four princesses whilst Princess Gu was one of the princesses in the imperial court with a relatively lower level too. Yet Lord Huai did not need to show any courtesy towards them.

"See you around, Lord Huai!" Princess Virtue and Princess Gu said.

A long while later, Lord Huai finally disappeared out of sight.

Princess Virtue asked in confusion, "Lady Chaoyan, which family are you from?"

Lord Huai was calling her by her given name, namely Chaoyan rather than mentioning her family name, so Princess Virtue had no idea where this lady was from. Also, she was a stranger to her, though she had met most of the ladies from different families, unless the lady was not the lineal daughter. However, normally, daughters of concubines were not invited to the imperial court. That was why she found it confusing, when she found this new lady speaking with Lord Huai.

Hearing the question, Madame Gu said instantly before Chaoyan could answer. Her well-weathered face was full of pride. "Princess Virtue, Chaoyan is the daughter of our family."

What?!

Princess Virtue looked at Madame Gu with disbelief and then at Princess Gu next to her.

A lady from the Gu Family! How did anyone from the Gu Family get to be a good friend with Lord Huai?

As far as she remembered, the daughter of the Gu Family was both chubby and ugly, and her engagement had just been cancelled too. Because of this daughter of the Gu Family, Princess Gu had been laughed at by peers in the imperial court for a long time, but now...

Princess Virtue was not very glad, yet Princess Gu showed a bright expression on her face. Years had gone before, and she finally gained some nice reputation for herself at Biquan Palace! It was the correct decision to invite Gu Chaoyan!

"Princess Virtue, let's just receive them inside the Palace, please." Princess Gu reminded her.

Princess Virtue came back to herself. She was still displeased, yet she had to show some manners. So she led the guests indoors.

As they came into Biquan Palace, it became Princess Gu who was out there receiving the Gu Family and Madame Duke Changning.

Princess Virtue was one of the top princesses with a much more noble status. The reason why she was out there receiving the Gu Family was only because Lord Huai had been there. She would not have shown up herself if Lord Huai had not been there.

Not many people were at Biquan Palace by this hour.

The ladies and madams who arrived first were normally from a family with a relatively low rank.

The Gu Family was one such family.

Duke Changning's Mansion was no better, except that the Duke Changning's Mansion had a marquis rank.

With her own family around, Princess Gu asked for a word with Madame Gu in a corner, inquiring rapidly, "Mom, what is it going on? How did Gu Chaoyan get to know Lord Huai? Look at how Princess Virtue took it just now! She helped me to raise my reputation!"

Madame Gu knew the answer, but she had not expected that Lord Huai would have helped them to this degree.

"It is said that he appreciates Chaoyan's medical skills, and asked her for help back at the Huo Family!"

Chapter 96: For Chaoyan's Marriage

Hearing what Madam Gu said, Princess Gu started to think. If Lord Huai got to know Gu Chaoyan because of her medical skills, he must be doing it for Madame Rong of the Rong Family.

Madame Rong had never been healthy. No imperial doctors had come up with any methods to cure her. And who on earth was the Rong Family?

The Rong Family was the Queen's family, namely Lord Huai's uncle's family.

If Chaoyan managed to treat Madame Rong, then she would be totally honored! And her future days would become wonderful.

Madame Gu did not know what Princess Gu was thinking, but asked curiously, "Why did you ask me to bring Chaoyan into the imperial court this time?"

As the question was raised Princess Gu let out a sigh.

She glanced about and saw that no one was closeby, and maids were guarding them before saying with a small voice, "I have been in the imperial court for years, and I have always wanted to get a child. I heard that she cured the Young Master of the Wang Family, so I would like her to check me out to see if I have some problems with fertility."

"..."

"Mom, you know that the Gu Family is not highly-ranked, so I hope that I could get a child so my future would not be too unpromising." Princess Gu complained. The King visited her in the court often, but she never got pregnant. So she was extremely sorrowful.

It was an issue about a child...

And Madam Gu agreed with what she said. If her daughter was able to get a son, the Gu Family would never have to suffer like this!

When Princess Gu managed to enter the imperial court, she believed that the Gu Family would flourish too, but nothing actually happened, and Madam Gu had been regretful about the misfortune for a long while.

"I will get Chaoyan here." Madame Gu was anxious too, and was about to get up.

However, Princess Gu gripped her, glanced about to check if anyone noticed them and said, "No hurry, I have got something more important to do. What I had intended to do was to ask her to check me out. But now she and Lord Huai are in a friendship, and we need to treat her more discreetly."

"Do tell." Madame Gu was always obedient in front of Princess Gu, who was, after all, the highest-ranked person in the entire family.

Princess Gu smiled briefly. Then she looked at the slightly chubby girl who was drinking the tea not far away.

Now she had a different value. She had to cling to this useful and practical tool.

"After she got divorced... no one has made any proposal to her, right? I have got a very great suitor, namely Du Bingyan, the second son of Officer Du who works at the Ministry of Revenue. You don't have to ask her for her own suggestion, you can make the decision directly." Princess Gu said with a smile.

The son of Officer Du of the Ministry of Revenue?

That would be a great allied marriage if it could work out, but... "Princess Gu, can you make the decision yourself? Who is this Officer Du?"

Princess Gu nodded and said through her lips, "One of my gang."

Madame Gu instantly understood the point. She nodded constantly, "I am thanking you for Chaoyan's sake, Princess Gu!"

Princess Gu smiled with satisfaction. The girl would soon turn 15 and she would obey her husband's family when she was married. She had to keep this tool within her control by letting one of her gang keep her first. In this way, the girl would be totally under her control. And she would not only have the support from the officers of the Ministry of Revenue on the surface, as well as Lord Huai and the Rong Family. If only she could get a son...

Princess Gu did not dare to put any more thoughts into this plan.

"Mom, get Chaoyan here."

Chapter 97: What to Do

Though Madame Gu was asked to get her, Madame Gu was of a high status so she wouldn't go there personally. She told her maid Cai Ming. "Get Miss here."

Cai Ming answered and walked towards Gu Chaoyan.

At this moment, Gu Chaoyan was drinking the tea, frowning.

In front of her was Lu Jiming who kept nagging.

Lu Jiming simply could not notice that Chaoyan was displeased. He assumed that Gu Chaoyan liked him a great deal and that she would be glad to be able to speak with him. So he asked straightforwardly, "Chaoyan, when did you befriend Lord Huai?"

"..."

"Chaoyan, are you still angry with me?"

"..."

"Alright, I misunderstood you before, but don't be narrow-minded and take it as a big deal." Lu Jiming got impatient seeing that she stayed silent.

Gu Ruxue, who was not faraway, snorted. "So what you know is just some medical knowledge. Don't you dare humiliate us when you are performing later."

She had never expected that the Prince would one day try to console the ugly girl. What was good about this ugly girl anyway? However, she could not do anything here at Biquan Palace anyway.

Seeing Gu Ruxue getting pissed, Lu Jiming got concerned.

He walked away from Gu Chaoyan and consoled Gu Ruxue with a small voice, "Ruxue, don't get mad. I only adore you. The ugly girl is now a friend of Lord Huai's, so she is going to be practical for Duke Changning's Mansion! I am consoling her so that she can marry me as a concubine, but she is never going to be a threat to you. You are going to be Princess Consort, and you can do anything to her! And, isn't it good for you too, if she can benefit us at Duke Changning's Mansion."

Hearing those words, Gu Ruxue felt assured and showed a slight smile.

That was the case. She knew that Jiming only adored her.

She would not have liked it if Chaoyan was marrying the Prince. However, after hearing what the Prince said, she found it a very beneficial thing for them all. Gu Chaoyan thought that she was capable, did she? Okay then, she was going to see how much further her daydream of marrying an extraordinary man would go when she came to Duke Changning's Mansion, where she was going to be in full control.

As Gu Ruxue thought of these, she again showed pride. Then she threw a look into Gu Chaoyan's direction.

However... The seat was empty.

Gu Ruxue looked about and did not see Gu Chaoyan within sight. So she asked her mother, "Mom, where is Gu Chaoyan?"

Mrs. Gu was confused too. "Princess Gu was asking for her, so she went away with Madam Gu's maid."

It used to be Ruxue who got to speak with Madam Gu and Princess Gu, but now, Chaoyan became the only one to join the conversation.

Cai Ming did not even want to bring Ruxue with her.

How annoying! What was wrong with that ugly woman!

"I am going to check it out!" Unconvinced, Gu Ruxue was about to leave, but Mrs. Gu gripped her instead. Without Madame Gu's order, she did not dare to release Ruxue. They were in the court, not some casual place.

"Just continue to talk with the Prince, leave yourself out of the mess over there," Mrs. Gu said.

Gu Ruxue stomped her feet, giving up the thought.

"Mom, I have got one more thing to tell you." Gu Ruxue suddenly thought of something.

Chapter 98: Brainless

Mrs. Gu looked at her daughter.

Gu Ruxue whispered in Mrs. Gu's ears. "Mom, I have changed my mind. Could you please talk with Madame Gu later, saying that Gu Chaoyan and I can marry Prince of Duke Changning's Mansion together?"

"What?!" Mrs. Gu got shocked. "Why, Ruxue, why?"

Gu Ruxue hushed her up, telling her mother not to go on. She whispered. "She is going to be the concubine, and I the wife, so of course I can take control of her. You know what days she has had during the past few years."

"But..."

"We should never allow her to have a peaceful life!" Gu Ruxue's face twisted as anger hovered over her face. When she heard the Prince's idea of getting the ugly girl as the concubine, she got very pissed, as a matter of fact. The Prince hated the girl before, but now she was seducing him when she was distracted. So what Gu Ruxue was going to do was to make her dream come true – she would very much like to see how much the ugly girl could bear!

Seeing her daughter's facial expression, Mrs. Gu understood the point. She also knew that when she got the idea, she was never going to be persuaded.

If that was the case...

Mrs. Gu nodded. "I will tell Madame Gu later, what a piece of cake!"

Gu Ruxue looked slightly relieved.

She continued to talk with Lu Jiming.

And Gu Chaoyan, on the other hand, came to Madame Gu and Princess Gu under the guidance of Cai Ming.

As she was looking at this slightly chubby girl, Princess Gu felt complication arising inwardly.

She never expected that she was able to befriend an important figure like Lord Huai.

She waved at Gu Chaoyan. "Come and sit next to me."

Gu Chaoyan saw an empty seat next to Princess Gu, as if she had spared it for her. She did not say anything more, but took it after expressing her thankfulness.

Before Gu Chaoyan was able to say a thing, Princess Gu asked, "I heard that you cured the Young Master of the Wang Family?"

"Yes, Princess Gu." Gu Chaoyan answered briefly.

She was, after all, the miss of the Gu Family. So Princess Gu said straightforwardly.

She stretched out her hand. "I am not feeling well recently. Since you are here, please check me out too."

Gu Chaoyan paused and looked at Princess Gu. She was not joking.

Soon she realized why Madam Gu was taking her to the imperial court today.

Princess Gu had been in the imperial court for years, but she had not given birth to any children.

"Don't over think, we are a family, just check her up the way you want to." Seeing her hesitation, Madame Gu told Gu Chaoyan, worrying that she was afraid of something.

Gu Chaoyan reached out for her pulse.

"Princess Gu, you are doing fine." Gu Chaoyan withdrew her hand.

"Doing fine? But why am I never pregnant? The imperial doctor says that it is because my womb is weak, but I have been eating many supplementary products." Princess Gu said straightforwardly. After all, those were the conclusions drawn by all the imperial doctors. Gu Chaoyan was the only new doctor she could rely on.

Gu Chaoyan threw her a look.

Princess Gu was indeed confused.

Soon Gu Chaoyan realized why Gu Zhenkang never got promoted even if his sister was a princess in the imperial court.

Princess Gu, in common with her brother Gu Zhenkang, was totally brainless.

The reason why she was never pregnant was because someone in the imperial court did not want her to get pregnant. Probably even the King did not want her to get pregnant.

She was never going to have children, physically speaking.

"What is it?" Princess Gu asked expectantly.

Chapter 99: Princess Gu's Guaranteed Marriage

Gu Chaoyan knew all of this... everyone in the imperial court knew of this too, except for Princess Gu.

It was already a miracle that a brainless person like Princess Gu could survive in the imperial court for so many years.

Gu Chaoyan suddenly had a silhouette of Princess Virtue, who was one of the four top princesses. She had a son, but she was not as pretty.

It seemed that, Princess Gu was the person whom Princess Virtue paid a great deal of attention to.

No wonder Princess Gu, who was brainless, got to stay in the court. She was like Gu Zhenkang who had a pretty face. At least she was able to keep the King's heart.

Now the picture got clear in her head, but Gu Chaoyan was not going to point that out.

"Imperial doctors are right. Your womb is weak, so you don't get pregnant easily. Just keep on with the supplementary products, and receive the King in your chamber, you will still have the chance for pregnancy." Gu Chaoyan said with a serious face.

Princess Gu smiled and let out a sigh of relief.

Madame Gu patted her hand as if she were happy for her too. However, she did not say anything more whilst being in the imperial court.

The two women were soaked in their own happiness so they never noticed that Gu Chaoyan, a girl who had not turned 15, was talking about how she should receive the King in her chamber. It was not really a proper thing for a young girl to say.

Madame Gu was about to make some consoling words, when Princess Gu's maids came hurrying, saying that Princess Virtue's guests had arrived and that the banquet was about to start.

Since the banquet was about to start Princess Gu and Madame Gu did not speak any more, and hurried off for the banquet.

Madame Gu needed to join the rest of the Gu Family whilst Princess Gu needed to help Princess Virtue to receive the guests.

They had just gotten reunited when Gu Ruxue threw a glare at Gu Chaoyan.

However, Gu Chaoyan ignored her and sat down directly next to her.

At the banquet, Gu Ruxue exchanged a look with Mrs. Gu.

Seeing that the banquet had yet to start, Mrs. Gu whispered to Madame Gu. "Madame Gu, Chaoyan irritated Madame Duke Changning today! But Ruxue begged for mercy in front of the Prince, and the Prince says that if Gu Chaoyan can apologize to Madame Duke Changning, she is allowed to marry him as a concubine on Ruxue's wedding, considering that they used to be engaged. I think this idea works! Ruxue will be the Princess Consort in the future, and Chaoyan can be the helping hand."

Mrs. Gu's voice was quite small, but Gu Chaoyan could hear everything clearly. She had not intended to eavesdrop, but she had better hearing compared to others due to her previous life's identity as a killer. Also for some reason, her hearing was getting better too. That was why she caught every single word Mrs. Gu said.

Hearing these words, Gu Chaoyan frowned. Damn, this Mrs. Gu was planning such a terrible idea on her!

Lu Jiming did not even deserve her!

She did not think that Madam Gu would approve.

Sure enough, when Madam Gu heard the words, she said without any hesitation, "She can make the apology after she leaves the court. As for Chaoyan's marriage, I have got everything prepared. If Ruxue needs a helping hand, get one of the maids from the Gu Mansion. Or just take Xiuying if no good maids are picked, but leave Chaoyan alone."

"Why! Madam Gu, can this hideous girl find any better suitor?" Mrs. Gu said in disbelief.

"Yes, Princess Gu guaranteed a marriage with the second son of the Ministry of Revenue." Madame Gu revealed the secret to Mrs. Gu, hoping that she would not ask Duke Changning's Mansion about the marriage of Chaoyan.

"What?"!

Gu Chaoyan was surprised as well.

Chapter 100: Performance

A lethal smile hovered over her face.

She had underestimated Princess Gu. So apart from asking her to check her out, she was even getting involved with her marriage?

The second son of Ministry of Revenue was, according to her old memories, a dumb-headed person. So they wanted her to marry a dumb-headed man! Who did they think she was!

And Madame Gu too... She was a woman who only cared about benefits, and Gu Chaoyan never hated a person like that.

She even thought about sparing some favor to Madame Gu if she could help her every now and then but now, this old b*tch was making her marry a dumb-headed man!

Gu Chaoyan clenched her fists tightly.

She was trying hard to resist the impulse of hitting the Gu Family.

Madame Gu and Mrs. Gu stopped talking too.

Since the banquet already started.

At this banquet held by Princess Virtue, there were many young masters and ladies invited.

The Gu Family was just one of the tip of the iceberg.

Several ladies already started to perform.

Their performances were okay, neither extraordinary nor terrible.

After several rounds, a very clear-sounding girl spoke, "I heard that the prettiest and the ugliest girl of the capital city are both here, are they performing too?"

As the voice rang out, everyone quieted down.

Although the voice sounded arrogant, no one dared to counter her. Instead, everyone was drawn to the Gu Family.

The lady stood up and came to her, "Who is the famous ugliest girl of the capital city, let me take a look!"

Gu Chaoyan looked helpless. She was indeed famous, but she was famous for nothing good.

"Me." Gu Chaoyan admitted without trying to hide herself. She would be pointed out anyway.

Princess Xunyang sized up Gu Chaoyan from head to feet. She looked arrogant, but not disdainful.

That made Gu Chaoyan feel good about her.

"You are the ugliest girl? How disappointing!" Princess Xunyang said with displeasure, and then turned to Gu Ruxue. "So you are the prettiest one?"

Gu Ruxue nodded bashfully.

Princess Xunyang rolled her eyes, ignoring her. She turned to Gu Chaoyan. "So you are performing too?"

Before Gu Chaoyan was about to speak, Gu Ruxue interrupted. "Princess, my sister is performing and she has made full preparations for it."

Princess Xunyang glared at her. "Shut up, did I talk with you?"

Gu Ruxue pursed her lips, not daring to utter a word with head lowered.

Princess Xunyang was known for her arrogance, but she was a princess no one dared to offend. So Gu Ruxue was totally alone, and even the Prince of Duke Changning did not utter a word in her defense.

Gu Chaoyan knew that she could not turn down the performance today. And she had no intention of turning it down either.

She might be Gu Chaoyan now, but she had made a deal with Lord Huai. They were getting married, so she had to make a show of herself instead of living under the rumor throughout the entire life. She needed to stay fair for her partner.

She nodded. "Princess, I am going to perform."

Oh? Princess Xunyang was surprised. "What are you going to perform for us today?"