

Divine 951

Chapter 951: Xie Yan?!

“You can even help her to deal with many things. Look at how she treats Yinfeng. If you are as capable as Yinfeng, she may like you too.” Well, she was just engaged, but in the Saint Divine Land, engagement could be broken off, which was totally normal and within the routine. Wuhen was thinking this, but did not dare to say it.

Thanks to the Queen, Zhou Huaiyu had been helping Zhou Huaijin all the time, and he did not want to do anything that might hurt him.

However, for Wuhen, Zhou Huaiyu was his savior and he hoped that Zhou Huaiyu could be a little bit more selfish from his own point of view. He hoped that Zhou Huaiyu could just get rid of the restriction of gratitude and favors, and court the woman he liked. Zhou Huaiyu had had a hard life, and he deserved to be happy.

Zhou Huaiyu shook his head and said, “No need. I will stay away from her, since I can’t get her. That makes me feel less miserable. We’ll just continue to live the same way as we have always been living. That will be enough.”

Wuhen said nothing more. He admitted that the idea he came up with was risky and required a lot of action. If he did get her in the end, he might be happy or guilty – it all seemed very risky.

As for what Zhou Huaiyu said... that was a solution too.

He felt that a life like this was good too. He could just live somewhere else if he could not survive in the capital, as long as he was happy and free. If they could really unite in the capital in the future, then he would still have a wife, though not to his taste, in the mansion. He would have a home, and in case he ran into someone else he liked in the future, he could still feel assured being with that woman.

That was what Wuhen was thinking, as he looked at Zhou Huaiyu.

Well, everything should be ok.

He fetched a bottle of wine and went to drink it outside on the deck, ignoring Zhou Huaiyu.

When Zhou Huaiyu and Wuhen arrived at Sheng Town, Gu Chaoyan and her group had already traveled far, almost reaching the boundary of the Saint Divine Land.

Mo Bing, who was wearing a poker face, returned and said, “There is still a long way to go before we reach the next hostel. We won’t make it before evening. I think that we can set up a camp here tonight.”

Zhou Huaijin nodded.

They had been prepared for such a situation to come. Nothing would happen to them, even if they set up a camp outside.

They had some wagons with thick blankets inside. Chaoyan and Qing as well as the other girls could take a break inside the wagon, whilst the men could just spend the night outside.

When Mo Bing finished speaking, Zhou Huaijin gave the order to make the arrangements.

It was a quiet night and dawn had just broken, when they resumed their trip.

Two days later, they arrived at Xiazhou, close to Tongzhou, and Bingzhou, which wasn't far from the capital.

They spent one whole day at Xiazhou before they arrived at Bingzhou. However, something happened on the way to Bingzhou.

It was so sudden and unexpected...

A man covered in blood popped up and stopped their wagon.

The wagon pulled over directly.

Gu Chaoyan asked. "What is going on?"

"Elder Miss, someone is stopping us!" Sword One answered.

Gu Chaoyan went to see what was going on, and as she approached the man who was stopped by Mo Bing, she burst out. "Xie Yan?!"

Chapter 952: Take Xie Yan Away

Mo Bing, who was still wearing a poker face, looked at Gu Chaoyan and did not stop her. It was a man she knew.

Zhou Huaijin also joined them at this point.

He was slightly surprised, seeing that it was Xie Yan in front of them.

Xie Yan was Zhou Huailing's strategist. It was publicly known to everyone in the capital. He was the man that followed Zhou Huailing around and helped him come up with solutions to different things.

What was he doing here on the path of Bingzhou and why was he so badly injured as to stop a wagon. What had happened!?

Xie Yan had not expected that it was Gu Chaoyan and Lord Huai he was running into. He was in a very crucial situation right now and he had no other way out – he needed someone to save his life.

In the meanwhile, he was also quite glad that it was Gu Chaoyan and Lord Huai he ran into, since they were the Heir's enemy and they were definitely not going to sell him out, even if they might not save his life, but Xie Yan still tried and said anxiously, "Help me, please!"

Gu Chaoyan thought for a while about this man. She had to know what happened, even if she did not have the intention to save him.

So under such an emergency, she could only just take him away first.

Gu Chaoyan turned to Zhou Huaijin, who nodded.

Gu Chaoyan said straightforwardly, "Take him, and clean the blood traces."

Mo Bing nodded and threw a look at this man.

He was a smart person, who was not caught by his enemies despite being so badly injured. He had the brain to have dealt with the blood traces, although he was so badly injured. He wiped his blood on his body and did not allow it to flow too much. He even tied some pieces of clothing around his feet so no footprints would remain.

So it wasn't that difficult for Mo Bing to clean up the blood traces, anyway.

When Xie Yan was taken into the wagon, they continued to head towards Bingzhou.

Ignoring the wound on his body, Xie Yan lifted the drapery and looked out, fully aware that the wagon was heading towards Bingzhou, which he agreed to. It was the most dangerous yet safest place for him, since the Heir's men should not expect that he was running back to Bingzhou, after trying to run away from it.

He had gotten his life saved, and as for others, he needed to come up with another plan.

Well...

He had not expected that the Heir not only failed to keep his promise, but also tried to have him killed.

He had been working for the Heir devotedly throughout his whole life, so why must the Heir have him tormented? He was not supposed to die now.

Because of Xie Yan's appearance, Gu Chaoyan could not continue to head back to the capital. Instead, they decided to spend the night at the hotel in the outskirts of Bingzhou first.

Xie Yan was badly injured, but Mo Bing had treated the wounds for him. Most of the wounds were on his body, so when his clothes were changed, he looked as if he had never been injured.

They moved in, after they got the hostels arranged.

Zhou Huaijin asked the hidden guards of Shadow Door to put on some medicine for Xie Yan. He looked covered in blood, but most of the wounds were just on the surface, which required only some light medicine.

Gu Chaoyan did not suggest helping him, nor did she offer any pills for this man.

Gu Chaoyan was a doctor, but she did not treat every patient that came into her sight.

Xie Yan had done many terrible things with Zhou Huailing, and it was unknown what happened to him. Also, she did not even need to do anything about this man, since his wounds were not serious at all.

When his wounds were properly dealt with, Gu Chaoyan went to see Xie Yan.

Instead of starting any chitchat, she asked directly, "What is going on?"

Chapter 953: Reason for Being Hunted

She had saved his life, and they were surrounded by her own staff.

The moment Xie Yan was brought up to the wagon, he decided to confess, otherwise he would not have chosen to step into the wagon. Gu Chaoyan was not a kind-hearted person, as he knew, so she saved him not out of kindness, but out of some purpose. She needed to know what was going on.

Xie Yan looked at Gu Chaoyan, appearing defensive.

This woman, who seemed to be looked down upon by the heir and his Princess Consort, was looking so intimidating in front of him. He could feel her imposing air. However, he was not a green bird. Even under such a circumstance, he was trying his best to keep himself safe.

As far as he could see... all Gu Chaoyan needed was to know what was going on.

Therefore, the story he was about to tell was the most important leverage. If he spilled it out directly, Gu Chaoyan and her staff might do something to him, but if he tried to hide the truth, Gu Chaoyan might leave him alone instead of taking care of him. So he had to come up with a proper statement.

Well...

Gu Chaoyan looked at Xie Yan impatiently. This strategist was still trying to make use of his own abilities by calculating constantly, even though Zhou Huailing was not around.

However, they had no time or patience to counter him at the moment.

Xie Yan had completely forgotten that if not for her, he would have been caught or strayed somewhere else at this moment.

She had understood the moment she saw Xie Yan – each of his wounds was bad, but none of the wounds was fatal. So obviously, the hunter was tormenting him, stopping him from countering them in any way.

“You have to be very aware that even if you don’t tell the true story, and I help you come to the capital, I will be able to understand what is going on. You should know clearly what you have for leverage at the moment, which is nothing,” Gu Chaoyan said coldly. “Either you tell me the full, true story, so I promise to keep you safe for two months, or I will transport you directly to Dali Temple in the capital, right now.”

Xie Yan had a very distressed look on his face.

He had been calculating what he had in store and what tricks he could use, but it seemed that Gu Chaoyan had seen through him. Therefore, he was faced with these two options.

What he had in store was not a top secret. He only wanted to use it as leverage, but if he was able to stay safe for two months, then the time would be enough for him to recover physically and make a plan to escape.

However, Xie Yan was very worried about whether she was going to keep her promise.

“Are you going to keep the promise to keep me safe for two months?” Xie Yan asked, with a slightly shivering voice.

“Of course, I never tell lies.” Gu Chaoyan said coldly, losing some patience.

Xie Yan thought about the whole situation, then he decided to have a try.

He nodded. “Okay, I will tell the story!”

“...”

"It is the Heir's staff, who are hunting me!"

"..."

"When the Heir was still under the title of Lord Ling, he personally asked me to become his strategist. However, I never had the intention of signing a permanent contract with anybody, so I only promised to work for him for five years."

"..."

"Five days ago, it was the end of my time working for him."

Chapter 954: Bad Result!

"Five years, I work by the Heir devotedly, and full-heartedly too. I have been making all the plans for the sake of the Heir's interests."

"..."

"Well, that is not something to be bragging about, since I am a strategist hired by the Heir, and it is my duty to do those things for him."

"..."

"But I only intended to work for him for just five years!"

"..."

"I could either leave or continue after five years, which should have been totally up to me."

"..."

"The Heir has changed a great deal, during the past two years. He is no longer Lord Ling, who begged me to stay by his side and brainstorm for him. I can't change him, so I had no choice, but to leave him. I owe him nothing after working for him for five years, so it is totally right for me to leave him now."

"..."

"However, when he heard the news, he refused to let me go and offered me many bonus conditions. I am a strategist, but I am not working for money. I have my own ambitions. The Heir has gotten his position, and I can not stay, so I turned him down."

As he spoke of this, Xie Yan shook his head and let out an ironic smile.

Xie Yan had worked devotedly for him for five years, and when he left, he decided not to mention anything about the Heir. It was a rule he had been taught since childhood and something he stuck to.

Xie Yan had worked for two people before the Heir, whom Xie Yan never mentioned. So Xie Yan had his own rules, but the Heir was trying to have him killed!

"The Heir no longer cares for me. He humiliated me, and injured me every single day instead of just killing me directly. He wanted me to die in pain! However, I was lucky enough to escape the hunt, all the way from the capital to Bingzhou, but those hunters were all pursuing me, before I luckily..."

“ ... ”

“Before I luckily met you, Lady Chaoyan. I was saved.”

“ ... ”

“I worked for him for five years, without any selfishness, but see how I have ended up.” Xie Yan kept shaking his head, showing an ironic smile.

Gu Chaoyan looked at Xie Yan with emotions.

She was quite surprised by how Xie Yan turned out to be.

She had had a few meetings with Xie Yan in the capital, and she had gotten an impression that Xie Yan was just a follower that did terrible deeds with Zhou Huailing.

At this moment, however, she started to think from Xie Yan’s point of view.

He was working for Zhou Huailing, so he was doing what he was supposed to do.

Apart from any other potential factors, Xie Yan did not make any mistakes by doing what he was supposed to do. He was Zhou Huailing’s strategist, so he should be working devotedly for him, all for Zhou Huailing’s sake. That was correct.

Gu Chaoyan felt a sense of appreciation for Xie Yan at this point.

He was devoted to the promise he made, but he chose to leave, when he found that things had changed. He was not coveting the treasure, even though the Heir had earned the title.

Xie Yan was a very good strategist.

Gu Chaoyan asked calmly, with her eyes upon him, “Do you regret what you have done?”

Chapter 955: Extraordinary Man

“Do you regret leaving the Heir and ending up being where you are? You have no power, nor position, and you are being hunted down and on the run for your life. If you had not left, you would share the flourishing future with the Heir, who is going to take the throne. If he makes it, you would have a great future!” Gu Chaoyan said calmly, though the whole story should be more inspiring.

Xie Yan snorted when he heard what Gu Chaoyan said.

He was no longer the Heir’s strategist for one thing, and for another, it was the Heir who broke the promise with him. So Xie Yan had been feeling really annoyed.

Since the topic was mentioned, he snapped without sparing any thoughts. “That won’t happen.”

“ ... ”

“I am just a strategist, but I have my own ambitions and opinions, and I see further than most of the officers and ministers.”

“ ... ”

"I have been learning to become a strategist since I understood the world."

"..."

"I had seen through everything, when I was serving the Heir. I also wanted to help someone to take the throne, which is what a strategist dreams about. So why did I drop out?"

"..."

"Because the Heir won't be able to take the throne."

"..."

"Yes, he is the Heir and his mother is adored by the King and he has married the Phoenix Girl, but I still don't think that he will be the one."

The Phoenix Girl?

She was such a stupid woman who could not even take care of the mansion. She was dumb enough to buy the music to summon the phoenix and slept with other men before marrying Lord Ling... she was capable of nothing, and he could see no good points in her.

And yet she claimed that she was the Phoenix Girl!

Either they were wrong about finding the Phoenix Girl, or the whole thing about Phoenix Girl was just a joke!

Xie Yan snapped.

A Phoenix Girl should be smart and graceful. However, the Heir, who did not make efforts himself and turned to the Phoenix Girl for help through marriage, even divorced his original wife!

Could such a man be the King?

If he did make it to the throne, then he would think that the whole country was a joke.

And even if he was going to be the Heir, he, as the strategist, was not going to help him to achieve it.

He did not think that it was a way for the strategist to be respected.

That was what Xie Yan was thinking, but he was not going to say it.

Well...

The Heir was not a fair man, yet he as the strategist should not bad mouth the Heir behind his back. He was going to stick to his own red lines and principles.

Hearing what Xie Yan said, Gu Chaoyan believed that he was a person with a clear head and special judgment.

He was not an ordinary man.

"Just be assured. Since we promised to keep you safe for two months, we will stick to what we have said. You don't have to be so worried, but try to recover as fast as you can. We will have everything else

arranged.” Gu Chaoyan stressed that she was going to keep him safe for two more months, she was being truthful rather than putting forward a leverage like before.

Xie Yan let out a sigh of relief.

Good that she did not renege on that. Two months should be enough for him to have his future well-planned.

Xie Yan said, despite the fact that he was receiving leverage. “Thanks.”

Gu Chaoyan nodded and walked out of the room.

The moment she was out, Zhou Huaijin asked, “How did it go, what do you think?”

Chapter 956: Unexpected

“Xie Yan did help the Heir to conduct many terrible deeds, but that was his job. He had to stick to his own profession. Since we promised to keep him safe for two months, we can just stick to what we have said.”

“...”

“The Heir is going to hunt him down, after knowing that he has escaped, for sure.”

“...”

“He knows too much about the Heir after spending five years with him. He is a man with his own red lines, but not everyone is. When he leaves, the Heir would definitely not be assured about his existence, because whatever he knows would be a huge strike for the Heir. Therefore, the Heir is not going to stop until he is found.”

“...”

“Therefore, the most dangerous place should be the safest place. He was seen running to Bingzhou, so the Heir is definitely going to have his men searching for him here in Bingzhou. We can bring him back to the capital. The Heir will not believe that he would end up in the capital once again.”

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“...”

“But we have to be discreet. Xie Yan worked for the Heir and his face is known to many people in the capital. So we have to conceal his appearance.”

“...”

“Is there anyone who is capable of doing such a job at Shadow Door?” Gu Chaoyan asked.

After all, she believed that the Shadow Door was a place which held many talents, and they were all very capable, as followers for Zhou Huaijin. Therefore, she subconsciously believed that Shadow Door was able to solve the problem.

Well...

She had her own solutions as well to change Xie Yan's look by changing his clothes, but that was not a very thorough plan, and it should be the last resort.

Zhou Huaijin nodded with a smile. "Of course."

"..."

"I will ask Mo Bing to get the man from Shadow Door, and we can leave tomorrow morning and arrive at the gate of the capital before tomorrow evening," Zhou Huaijin said with a relaxed look.

Gu Chaoyan knew that she had turned to the right man.

They all went back to their own room after spending a long day together, as it was getting dark outside.

The following day...

When Gu Chaoyan saw Xie Yan once again in the lobby, he had changed his appearance. Gu Chaoyan was startled for a while at the sight of him.

Then she could not help bursting into laughter.

Those talents from Shadow Door had turned Xie Yan into an old aunt, who would never be suspected of being Xie Yan!

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Zhou Huaijin, for the first time, saw Chaoyan laughing so loudly and cheerfully at how the talents from Shadow Door changed people's appearance.

Xie Yan, on the other hand, was not very pleased.

He really did not want to look like this, but in order to survive, he had to tolerate this safest look of his.

Xie Yan was eating breakfast with Mo Bing and the other guards next to them, after which they left.

The path from Bingzhou was very smooth to travel on.

Bingzhou was a very populous place, so everything was easily handled.

By the time they arrived at the capital, it was already evening time.

When they reached the gate, they found that the restriction had become very strict, as the guards were examining everyone.

They were probably searching for Xie Yan.

They were just about to enter the capital, when the guards stopped them. "Who are you? Get off the wagons for examination."

Gu Chaoyan was a bit surprised, hearing the guard's voice.

Chapter 957: Nervous

Zhou Huailing had apparently gotten more clever than before. He started to check the gate and established a pass. She had thought that a man like Zhou Huailing might not have thought about Xie Yan's return to the most dangerous place, especially since Xie Yan was no longer his strategist.

Well...

Even if they were conducting a search, there was nothing for them to find.

Xie Yan had been disguised and the guards would not be able to recognize him. Also, Mo Bing had already got rid of the clothes covered in blood, leaving no trace for them to find. So they did not need to worry about anything.

However, it was Lord Huai's wagon... They could not possibly order them around.

Fu Bao took out the authority token for Lord Huai's Mansion, as he took a step forward.

When the guards saw the authority token, they were startled for a long while before making any response. One of the guards left in a hurry, probably going to ask for orders. The remaining guards said nothing, as they waited quietly for feedback.

The Heir once stressed that anyone who was traveling through the gates had to be checked, and they would put their lives at risk, if a mistake happened.

In the past, they would not have been so worried. The Heir had never put punishment on everybody, since there were too many of them to be looked into one by one, but right now, they were receiving a different notification...

If the fugitive was found in Bingzhou, then guards at Tongzhou would be seriously punished. It was a rule suitable for every other place.

Therefore, every guard was cautious, not daring to make any mistakes, even though it was Lord Huai they were faced with.

Offending Lord Huai was much safer than losing their lives because of one single mistake.

Also, the guards were all aware that Lord Huai and the Heir were enemies, so they could not be sure that Lord Huai wasn't protecting anyone against the Heir after all.

However, they could not search Lord Huai's wagon without authorization, nor could they release the wagon without a search. So they were waiting quietly and politely for the response.

Soon another guard arrived and said to Fu Bao politely, "My superior has ordered that we have to look into every wagon, with no exception! You are Lord Huai, but you share the same rights as the civilians! That is the Heir's order, and everyone has to stick to that!"

The guards were all worried too. Lord Huai should not be offended, but they had offended him under such a circumstance.

Fu Bao was very angry hearing the words.

Lord Huai was a noble, who should not be searched by the Heir just because he wanted to. It was extremely rude and humiliating!

Fu Bao's face changed and he was about to say something, when Zhou Huaijin got off the wagon and said, "In that case, let's all get off the wagon and let it be searched.

Having said this, he came to Gu Chaoyan's wagon and helped her out of it.

Gu Chaoyan did not resist, but went down directly. It did not matter, it was just a search.

And if they accepted the search right now, they would have free access to every pass in the future, and be rid of the possibility that they were hiding anyone.

Gu Chaoyan wished very much that they would conduct the search.

The guards came to conduct the search, but they did not find the one they were looking for. Another group came to do the search again, and found no one either.

The guards sighed in relief and said politely, "Please, Lady Chaoyan and Lord Huai, welcome to the capital."

Zhou Huaijin nodded, then they got into their wagons respectively.

Xie Yan collapsed when he got into the wagon.

Chapter 958: The Heir's Solution

He was covered with sweat. He was totally relieved, after getting overly nervous.

He passed the most intensive moment, so after that, he would basically be safe. He just could not imagine what consequences he would have to face, if something terrible happened. He did not even think that Gu Chaoyan would keep her promise.

Seeing him being so worried, Sword One added. "What are you so scared of? Elder Miss promised you two months, and she will make sure that nothing happens to you during this period."

"You don't understand what the Heir could do!" Xie Yan started before he concealed what he was about to say. He did not want to mention those things that made him feel unhappy.

Sword One fell silent.

Xie Yan did have terrible wounds all over him.

Even they, the guards, would find those wounds horrible, let alone a strategist like Xie Yan who did not practice any martial arts.

So how he behaved was totally understandable.

As the wagon went into the capital, it headed directly to Xinlin Mansion.

Gu Chaoyan arranged for Xie Yan to come with her to Xinlin Mansion, so Zhou Huaijin did not have to come alone. His Lord Huai's Mansion must be watched by many eyes, whilst her Xinlin Mansion was all entrusted to people hired by her. So it was much safer for Xie Yan to live in her mansion instead.

After Zhou Huaijin accompanied them to Xinlin Mansion, he went back to his Lord Huai's Mansion with Fu Bao and the others.

Xinlin Mansion was not a very large one, and with more servants joining the mansion, the rooms weren't enough. So she arranged for Xie Yan to take Mr. Zhao's old yard.

She did not get him any maids, he was in disguise, after all. So she did not think that maids were very handy for him, who was a man, and for another, she did not want Xie Yan to think that she got the maids to watch over him.

Everyone felt relieved when they arrived at Xinlin Mansion.

At the Heir's mansion.

Junyi had watched the search done upon Lord Huai personally, the moment he heard about the return of Lord Huai. Then he hurried back to the Heir's Mansion.

When the Heir saw Junyi's hurried steps, his eyes brightened – could there be any news? "What is going on, Junyi? Any trace of Xie Yan?"

Junyi's face sank slightly, when this was mentioned. He shook his head slightly, "Xie Yan is nowhere to be found yet, but the thing is, Lord Huai is back. So, be aware."

What? His Eighth Brother was back?

It wasn't long since he left the capital. He had thought that Lord Huai would spend a lot of time wandering outside until the New Year, just like the Sixth Brother.

What trouble! Another trouble arose again!

He had not yet settled down in the capital, yet he returned.

"Junyi, just say it, what should I do about him?" Zhou Huailing asked.

Junyi came to the Heir's mansion personally, before Xie Yan mentioned his departure. He claimed that he was going to work for the Heir throughout his entire life as a strategist.

Zhou Huailing had tested him.

He was a very capable person, who exceeded Xie Yan.

It had been Junyi's idea to conduct the hunt for Xie Yan as well as to establish guards at every gate.

He knew what he was capable of. So before making any decision, Zhou Huailing would ask Junyi for advice before adding his own thoughts.

When Junyi heard the question, he started to think carefully.

Chapter 959: Displeased

That was an easy yet difficult thing.

Lord Huai was allowed to return to the capital, because he was the Lord, but the Heir did not like it that Lord Huai returned at this moment.

One of the reasons why the Heir did not like it was because he had not yet gotten everything arranged and found a firm spot for himself, and Lord Huai's return was definitely going to hurt his plan.

In the court, many important ministers conventionally assumed that Lord Huai, who was born from the Queen, should be the rightful heir for the throne.

If Lord Huai was absent from the capital for long, then they could just reveal to the conventional ministers that Lord Huai had no intention of taking the throne, so they could change their mind. However, since he was back in the capital, the Heir's message to them would not work. That was why he got very anxious.

However, he believed that as the Heir he was already granted the position so he did not have to be anxious about anything.

They could just wait.

"My suggestion is that you can go into the court and pass on the message to the King to see what he thinks. You are the Heir and your Princess Consort is the Phoenix Girl, so you don't have to be too nervous about it. Many people are going towards your side. That is the trend.

Hearing his words, Zhou Huailing did not feel as annoyed and felt slightly more comfortable.

Junyi was right. He was the one with his destiny written in the stars.

Xie Yan had not been aware of this, and did not believe that he could make it. He always thought that he would fail, but Junyi was different.

Junyi had a long-term vision and could tell the situation clearly.

He had just made an excellent suggestion, so he should visit the court first.

"Okay then, I will visit the court now, and you can take a break " Zhou Huailing said as he patted his shoulders.

"It is okay, I can just wait for you to return." Junyi said politely.

Zhou Huailing said nothing more. He was just being polite when he asked him to leave.

He had expected Junyi to wait for him anyway. It was good that he had the same intention. He was very satisfied with Junyi as his strategist.

Then he hurried away.

Zhou Huailing headed directly to Qianqing Palace, as the evening approached.

The King spent most of his time at Qianqing Palace, despite the new girls the Ministry of Rites had picked for him. Zhou Huailing liked this idea that he did not visit the new girls – his father was too old to have any energy for women, and that was good. Zhou Huailing could avoid receiving another competitive brother, who would be a trouble for him and his mother.

As long as his mother could get what she needed, then Zhou Huailing would be happy about it.

The King was reading and drinking tea.

De Fu brought those books from Weiyang Palace, which belonged to the Queen.

The King asked curiously at the sight of Zhou Huailing, "What are you doing here so late at night?"

"Father, the Eighth Brother has just come back to the capital. He passed the gate today and was seen by my man there, so I came to inform you about this, on my way to deliver the pastries for my mother," Zhou Huailing said gently.

Lord Huai was back?

The King was startled.

Despite his surprise, he still said to Zhou Huailing. "It is considerate of you. You are very nice to your mother, who gets to eat the pastry you prepare so often. The chef has been busy with my kitchen, but luckily, you have chefs from the South who make good pastry," the King said, praising him.

Then he was reminded of his eighth son.

He suddenly felt disappointed.

When it came to the treatment of his father....

Chapter 960: Yours Only

His eighth son was not like the Heir.

The Heir was aware that he should pass on the message to his father when his Eighth Brother was home whilst delivering the pastry to his mother, yet his eighth son had arrived at the mansion yet did not come to greet him.

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Well, his beloved Queen was not like their son. They were, after all, different.

Displeasure instantly filled his heart.

He spoke to the Heir in an even more gentle way. "Don't worry, what belongs to you will be yours, and that is the rule. Tomorrow, I will summon your Eighth Brother to court and have a chat with him."

"..."

"It is getting late, you can leave now."

"..."

"Also, someone has seen Destiny Monk these days, and I believe that it is just a matter of time before he is found. By that time, you will have many things to deal with. Therefore, take the opportunity to have as much of a break as possible, and as for the rest, I will see to it," the King said with a spoiled voice.

Hearing what his father had said, Zhou Huailing sighed. However, suddenly, he heard the news about Destiny Monk...

He was surprised and asked the King. "Father, you have spotted Destiny Monk?"

He was also chuckling inside his heart.

His Ruxue was the Phoenix Girl, and he was the one that wished to find Destiny Monk more desperately than anyone else. He wondered what Destiny Monk had to say about the Phoenix Girl, and how the Phoenix Girl should be made use of?

That was what they were curious about and wished to know desperately.

Zhou Huailing was getting more and more ambitious. He really needed to break the stagnant situation right now and get what he desired. And the Destiny Monk as well as the Phoenix Girl should be able to help him with that.

The King had no idea what Zhou Huailing was planning. He said briefly, "He was seen in Lingzhou, but he left too soon for us to meet him. We don't know where he is, but it seems that he is being seen more often than before, so I believe that he will come to the capital soon."

The King sounded quite regretful when he mentioned Lingzhou. It was just a few moments before they would have been able to find the Destiny Monk. Now there was going to be a longer and more drawn out period of waiting.

He had not intended to mention this point, in case people got disappointed, but the King still spoke of it, since they were talking about it now.

"Anyway, I told you just so that you know, just go home to take a break." The King stressed.

"Okay, father." Zhou Huailing answered and left.

The King continued with the book he had yet to finish, since what happened to Destiny Monk made him feel annoyed and the book appeased him somehow.

Seeing the Heir leave, De Fu offered the name cards and said, "King, are you going to visit any of the princesses tonight?"

"Just take it away!" the King said impatiently, refusing to have a look at the name cards.

De Fu obeyed him.

The King became increasingly annoyed, as he thought of those princesses. He had the interest of visiting them when the Queen was still alive, but now that the Queen was gone, he lost interest in visiting them, and even felt irritated by the suggestion. The King wondered what happened to himself!

Then he sighed and continued to read the book.

At the Heir's mansion.

Zhou Huailing hurried back.

Junyi was still waiting for him in the study, with the candle on.