Farmhouse 1081

Chapter 1081: Predicament

Jisheng Hall again, and linked to Gu Youyou?

The Empress was so angry she was about to explode.

"You never learn your lesson, do you?"

King Jin hastily smiled and said to the Empress: "Your son was in a hurry, isn't Jisheng Hall ready at hand? For instance, Searcy from Beijing's Jisheng Hall has never married, and the doctor in charge of the Lingnan Jisheng Hall is said to be a woman too. Unlucky though, as I've heard, she jinxed her husband to death on their wedding day. And there's also a female doctor in Yangguan City's Jisheng Hall, the daughter of the head of the family."

"All from Jisheng Hall?" The Empress's face darkened further.

But King Jin whispered, "The female doctors from Jisheng Hall are skilled in medical arts, especially Searcy, who is said to be even better than Gu Youyou. Gu Youyou used to be ill, and she couldn't cure herself for the longest time; it was Searcy who finally healed her.

Moreover, during that previous flood disaster, many caught tuberculosis. Before Gu Youyou arrived, it was Searcy who treated them. Gu Youyou just happened to arrive at the right time and took credit for Searcy's work, making it seem as though she was the one who cured them. Searcy is not lacking in comparison to Gu Youyou at all; her only downside is that she's not the boss, so she can't make the decisions."

Hearing King Jin's praise of Searcy, the Empress gradually became interested as well.

She had heard bad things about Gu Youyou, that her medical skills were actually not that good, and that her own life was saved by another female doctor. If her son really brought this female doctor home and opened another medical clinic to compete with Gu Youyou, then Gu Youyou's myth as a Divine Doctor would crumble on its own. She would just be a charlatan, a thief stealing others' credit.

With these thoughts, the Empress became agitated.

"Is that so?" she asked.

"Of course it's true, Mother. Not only do I know of this, but also the common folks in the disaster-stricken areas."

"How outrageous!" The Empress slammed her armrest and asked, "Who is this female doctor? Why is her name so peculiar?"

King Jin shook his head and said, "I'm not quite clear on the details. I've heard that after Gu Youyou returned to the Lin Family from Qi Mountain, she brought Searcy with her. Searcy's identity was that of a doctor accompanying her, but she was driven away by Madam Lin after committing some mistake, and has since been in Jisheng Hall."

"Searcy!" The Empress narrowed her eyes, thought it over carefully, and said, "If that's the case, then I will take this worry off your shoulders. You go back first, and I will inform you once there is news."

If this female doctor has such superior medical skills, even if her son is sick, she could probably cure him.

She felt this was not a bad idea, comparing it with the prophecy of the beggar, she thought it would be much more reliable for her son to bring home a concubine with high medical skills, who could quietly cure his illness.

The more she thought about it, the more feasible it seemed. If the female doctor secretly cured her son's illness, both reputation and face would be preserved, which is better than having an Imperial Physician treat him, right?

King Jin was overjoyed and felt like jumping up. He happily thanked her for her grace.

"Thank you, Mother!"

The Empress returned to Kunning Palace and then remembered the three young ladies she had left out in the cold all day.

Their affairs were not settled, causing the Empress a headache.

She dispatched Nanny Li to handle this matter.

"Go tell them to go back first, the timing is not right, we'll talk about it in a few days."

"Yes, Your Majesty the Empress!"

"Ah, wait!" The Empress stopped Nanny Li again.

"Does Your Majesty the Empress have any further commands?"

The Empress said, "Go and investigate a person as soon as possible, a female doctor from Jisheng Hall named Searcy. See what her background is."

For the sake of her eldest grandson, she could tolerate King Jin marrying a female doctor, but she could not tolerate the doctor being someone with an unclear background.

Someone of unknown origins carries too many uncertainties. What if she turned out to be an enemy and harmed her precious son?

Chapter 1082: Finding You a Concubine

Gu Youyou returned to find that Jin Zijin had also come back.

"Did I hear that the Empress summoned you to the palace?"

"Yes!" Gu Youyou said with a smile: "She thinks you're too lonely and wants to find you some concubines!" Gu Youyou chuckled.

"Heh..." Jin Zijin couldn’t help but laugh, "It seems she has too much free time on her hands to meddle in others’ affairs."

Gu Youyou rubbed her chest and said, "She is indeed idle, but now she probably can’t sit still anymore, she won’t have time to find concubines for you lately."

"Oh?" Jin Zijin raised an eyebrow and smiled: "I knew Youyou wouldn’t be so easily bullied. Tell me, what busywork did you find for her? Share the fun with me."

They clearly found their joy in the misfortunes of others, but they quite enjoyed it.

Gu Youyou said: "She brought up the topic of infertility, and after she finished, I mentioned my cousin. So, I suggested to her that Prince Jin should see a doctor, who knows, maybe Prince Jin has reproductive issues."

Jin Zijin nodded his head, saying, "That makes some sense. There has been no news about concubines being pregnant in Prince Jin Residence; it’s likely that Prince Jin has problems."

"So, she must be in a hurry now, right? If Prince Jin can’t have children, her dreams of becoming the Empress Dowager are dashed."

Jin Zijin watched Gu Youyou giggling about Prince Jin’s matter, her long eyelashes fluttering like butterflies over her fair face, his heart stirred, and he couldn’t resist the urge to pull her into his embrace and shower her with affection.

"Youyou!"

He interrupted her nonstop chatter, saying, "Don’t forget, we don’t have children either, we shouldn’t give her any chances to gossip."

"Huh?" Gu Youyou looked up at him, saying, "If I can’t get pregnant, would you take a concubine?"

"No," Jin Zijin told her decisively, "That would just mean I’m not trying hard enough. So, I would try even harder to make sure you get pregnant soon."

Chapter 1083: Found Out Searcy’s Details

He mumbled, "I truly am pure and desire-less, but I have been poisoned by you."

...

Madam Li, very efficient in handling matters, soon uncovered the full background of Doctor Searcy.

"Empress, this Doctor Searcy is also a young lady from Beijing, and you would never guess who she really is."

It was rare to see Madam Li handle matters with such gravity over the years.

"Who is she?"

Madam Li hummed and said, "Her real name is not Searcy; her last name is Lu. She is Lu Youchang’s daughter, named Lu Xueying."

"General Lu’s daughter?" The Empress exclaimed, "How have I never heard that General Lu’s daughter became a doctor? Why would she hide her identity?"

Madam Li continued, "Right when Gu Youyou was preparing to go to Qi Mountain to seek treatment from the Heavenly Master, a major incident occurred in the Lu Family. It’s not new that Madam Lu looked more masculine than men, but at that time, she announced she would stay indoors and focus on treating her illness, claiming her appearance changed because of a sickness.

In fact, it was not a sickness; she was poisoned, and the person who poisoned her was Searcy’s concubine-aunt. That concubine of General Lu was brought from Madam Lu’s maternal home and had been with Madam Lu all along, even after marrying into General Lu’s residence.

However, this concubine was malicious and cunning and had started poisoning Madam Lu a long time ago, which led to her masculine appearance.

Later, when the truth came out, this concubine committed suicide, leaving behind a daughter, which was Lu Xueying. Blinded by anger, Madam Lu took it out on Lu Xueying, beating her nearly to death. But in need of a cure for her condition, she had no choice but to seek out Gu Youyou.

Whatever transaction they had between them, this old servant does not know, but I do know that Gu Youyou treated Madam Lu, and in return, Madam Lu entrusted Lu Xueying to Gu Youyou. When Lu Xueying faced the world again, she had changed her name to Searcy."

With this explanation, the Empress already understood.

But knowing how cruel the concubine was, she wondered, what about the daughter?

No, the women placed by her son's side must be safe; she could not be careless.

She said, "You may leave now!"

To obtain more detailed information, the Ducal Residence must handle it.

It seems she needs to find an opportunity to meet with her grandfather, as only he can personally undertake this matter.

...

Unaware of her background being exposed, Searcy was currently bullying a carriage driver.

"Hey, do you even know how to care for horses? Look how skinny this horse has become under your care. If you cause the Grand Prince and his consort to fall into a ditch, dying a hundred times wouldn't be enough."

Gui Yunxi glanced at the horse Searcy was pointing at, and said, "This kind of horse is actually good on its feet, spare us your comments if you don’t understand."

"I don’t understand?" Searcy, pointing to her nose, sneered, "Believe it or not, I can kill this horse."

"I..." Gui Yunxi said weakly, "Believe, I believe you, please spare it, do not think about hurting this horse, it’s doing well, it has the best stamina and endurance among all the horses."

Gui Yunxi knew that Searcy used horses to test medicine, and their Family Head, Gu Youyou, had agreed.

So as soon as Searcy spoke, he immediately got scared and didn’t dare to retort, fearing Searcy might take this horse away.

He truly cared for the horse.

Searcy clapped her hands, walking back to the inner courtyard with her nose in the air.

Chapter 1084: The Perverted Poison Doctor

In the end, she experimented on humans, all of whom were arranged by the Empress to be sent to the estate.

In Searcy’s courtyard, she held a thick, long needle filled with liquid and walked toward a few women tied to a pillar.

Those women were terrified, snot and tears running down their faces, but their mouths were gagged, and they could only let out painful wails from their throats.

Here she comes again, that horrifying woman is coming back. Not only does she pierce them with such thick needles, but she also injects that strange liquid into their bodies.

After being injected with the strange liquid, their bodies would show different symptoms.

Once, they had fevers that wouldn’t subside for three days before they recovered.

Three days later, once the fever subsided, they found that their lips had lost several layers of skin, and their bodies felt hollowed out.

A few days later, they broke out in a rash all over their bodies, painfully itching yet unable to scratch because if Searcy scratched, it would leave scars and disfigure them.

Girls always valued their skin, relying on it as their asset. If their skin was ruined, it would offend their master’s eyes, and the master would surely find an opportunity to sell them off.

No! Don’t!

Several maids cried silently.

Searcy chuckled and said, "Don’t be afraid, you are doing a good deed. To develop better medicine to save people, naturally, someone has to step up and try it first. Previously, it was Gu Youyou and I who tried it first, but now Gu Youyou’s status has changed; she’s the Prince’s consort, so we obviously can’t use her for testing anymore, right?

You, being her maids, should naturally share your master’s worries and suffer for her. Now is your chance to show your loyalty. I chose you few because you performed well, if it were someone else, they wouldn’t get this opportunity."

The thick needle drew nearer, approaching one of the girls, who began to cry out in terror.

She didn’t want this at all. Were all doctors such perverts? Why did they choose her for testing the medicine?

Searcy frowned unhappily and said, "What do you mean by this? You don’t want to? Hey, don’t cry. To share the master’s worries—are you in or out? If you don’t want to, then that means you are disloyal to the Prince’s consort. What use is there for a disloyal servant? Better to be beaten to death with sticks."

Upon hearing this, the women were so scared they immediately stopped crying.

Compared to being beaten to death with sticks, being pierced with a thick needle didn’t seem like such a big deal.

"Still don’t want to? If you’re willing, nod your head," Searcy said sternly.

Willing, willing!

The women nodded their heads hurriedly.

They were indeed miserable, to have come across a pervert like Searcy.

Not being pierced by the needle was considered disloyal to the Prince’s consort, but this needle was nearly deadly.

Searcy sneered as she pierced their arms with the needle, injecting the liquid inside.

A moment later, seeing that they were becoming delirious, she untied them from the pillar and threw them into a windowless room to lock them up.

In the pitch-black room, a woman said faintly, "I can’t take it anymore, it’s so uncomfortable. When will this ever end?"

Another girl, who seemed more astute, said, "They must have found out we’re the Empress’s people and are deliberately doing this to us. Don’t be afraid, everyone, hold on. The Empress will not abandon us. As soon as a new mistress enters the estate, we will have our backbone."

"But how much longer do we have to wait? Wuu wuu..."

Searcy put away the syringe and left the dark room with a cold smirk.

Fine then, hold on. She wanted to see how long these women could last.

...

Chapter 1085: Pregnant

The great army from Lingnan had already marched to the north, and Jin Zijin had set off early to join them. His greatest concern upon leaving was Gu Youyou.

Gu Youyou had planned to go with him, but considering the immense amount of work to be done behind the scenes, she was indispensable. She ultimately decided to stay.

Fortunately, ten days after Jin Zijin's departure, Gu Youyou found out that she was finally pregnant. This body had been greatly depleted over the years, but after her careful nurturing, she had finally succeeded in conceiving.

Both spouses were getting on in years, so the arrival of this child was undeniably joyous news.

Xiang Chun was so excited she couldn't stay still, bustling around the room and then saying in a hurry, "I must go back to the Lin Residence and tell the old Madam."

Gu Youyou made a sign for silence and said, "No, we can't publicize this matter. It's enough that you know. Keep your composure and make sure no one else finds out."

With Jin Zijin not around, she couldn't guarantee that the Empress's party wouldn't cause trouble.

Now that Prince Qin and the eldest Prince both had offspring, if her King Jin couldn't produce a child, she'd surely go mad.

Xiang Chun swallowed her words and nodded, "Right, we can't make a fuss. But once the belly starts to show, we can't hide it!"

Gu Youyou smiled, touching her stomach, "It doesn’t matter, the weather is turning cooler, I can wear looser clothes to conceal it."

Looks like this season’s outfits from Manxiu Building will have to feature loose babydoll dresses.

Yin Shuang rushed into the courtyard, looking extremely flustered.

"Madam of the eldest Prince, Master Gui urgently requests an audience."

Gui Yunxi was an outsider, so he couldn’t enter Gu Youyou’s inner courtyard; hence, to meet Gu Youyou, he had to send a message.

Xiang Chun asked, "What does he want?"

Xiang Chun thought that after receiving the news of Gu Youyou’s pregnancy, she should rest more and not handle everything personally as before.

Yin Shuang shook her head, "I don’t know, but he seemed very urgent."

Gu Youyou frowned slightly; she had no choice but to stand up and follow her out.

Gui Yunxi waited outside, looking at Gu Youyou and then at Xiang Chun and Yin Shuang, who seemed like they wanted to speak but stopped themselves.

Gu Youyou glanced at him indifferently and said to Xiang Chun and Yin Shuang, "You may leave now."

Yin Shuang promptly retreated after saluting, while Xiang Chun, though reluctant, still followed Yin Shuang upon seeing Gu Youyou’s displeased demeanor.

With no one else around, Gu Youyou asked, "What’s the matter?"

Gui Yunxi lowered his voice, "Miss Du is here, hiding in my stable."

Miss Du?

Hadn’t she gone to Xining?

Gu Youyou had previously instructed Jin Zijin to have people pursue Miss Du, and when the pursuers returned, they reported Miss Du had encountered bandits on her way and was even taken to be the bandit leader’s wife. Fortunately, she was rescued by a passing trade caravan. She was fine except for the shock she had suffered and subsequently made it safely to Xining, where she linked up with the local businesses there. Only then had Gu Youyou been reassured.

But why had Miss Du come here? Why did she avoid the main entrance, not asking to be announced, and not returning to Jinxiu City, but instead, hiding in the stable to see Gui Yunxi?

"What did she say?"

Gui Yunxi shook his head, "Nothing, but both she and Cuiya were wearing veils and bamboo hats; it looked like they didn’t want to be recognized."

Gu Youyou was stunned for a moment and then said softly, "Then let’s go see her."

However, Gu Youyou stopped after only a few steps, looking at the sky and saying, "No, I can’t go. Have them wait a while, and when it gets darker, I’ll have Xiang Chun bring them in."

Chapter 1086: Whose Child?

Since Miss Du does not want people to know, she naturally cannot casually go to the stable.

She is the lady of this house, even if she wants to ride a horse, it should be the servant who brings the horse to the front door for her. How could she go to the stable herself?

The eyes of the Empress in the mansion have not been completely removed, she needs to be careful in everything she does.

At night, Xiang Chun cautiously went to the stable and brought Miss Du and her maid into Gu Youyou's inner courtyard.

Gu Youyou looked outside, then had Xiang Chun close the door.

Xiang Chun whispered, "Be at ease, wife of the eldest Prince, no one saw. I gathered all the maids and old women in the kitchen, saying there were pastries made today and let them go fetch some."

"Well done, smart!" Gu Youyou praised, and hurriedly asked Miss Du and Cuiya into the room.

"When did you come back? Why didn't you use the main entrance?" Gu Youyou asked with full of doubts.

Miss Du seemed not in good spirits. When there were no outsiders, she finally removed her face cover and cloak, and reached out her hand, saying, "Maybe you could check my pulse."

"Check the pulse?" Gu Youyou was puzzled but still took her pulse.

After a moment, Gu Youyou was shocked, hurriedly asked Miss Du to sit down and asked her, "How could this be?" She had felt this pulse during the day, her own joyful pulse, why did Miss Du have the same joyful pulse?

The joyful pulse is very distinct, she could not have felt it wrong.

Miss Du glanced at Cuiya, who understood and pulled Xiang Chun out the door.

"Sister Xiang Chun, our Miss has not eaten anything all day, could you help us see what food there is in the cooking area?"

Xiang Chun, being an experienced person, knew she should leave and smiled, "Alright, wait here, I'll go check. They added a meal in the kitchen today, you are in luck."

After Xiang Chun left, Cuiya stood guard outside the room.

Miss Du, with eyes reddened, said, "It's true, I am pregnant, you noticed, didn't you?"

"Whose child is it?"

Gu Youyou turned somewhat pale; she heard that Miss Du was captured by bandits to be their leader's wife, now Miss Du was pregnant, and timing seemed just right.

If Miss Du was really ravaged by bandits and was carrying the child of a bandit, how could Gu Youyou make it up to her?

Going to Xining was her lack of consideration, solely focusing on war efforts and minimizing losses.

Subconsciously, Gu Youyou thought it normal for Miss Du as a senior manager to travel on business, but she forgot it was abnormal for women in this world to travel for work; such tasks should be handled by men.

"Is it the bandits'?" Gu Youyou asked, face ghastly pale, but if it indeed was the bandit's, she would have to flatten that bandit's den.

"It is not!" Miss Du shook her head.

Not?

Gu Youyou breathed a sigh of relief.

But then whose could it be? She became tense again.

"What exactly happened? Who is the father of the child?"

Regardless of who it was, that he had ravaged Miss Du, Gu Youyou must seek justice for her.

In Gu Youyou's eyes, it was impossible for Miss Du to willingly become pregnant out of wedlock; she must have been violated.

"It's..." Miss Du found it hard to speak about the matter, and that man, she really planned never to mention him for life.

She said, "Don't ask who it is, help me think of what to do now."

Was Gu Youyou all set on vengeance for Miss Du, yet not expecting this stance from her?

Chapter 1087: Giving Her Advice

According to her understanding of ancient women, especially ones like Miss Du from ancient times, mostly such incidents would drive them to death in order to vindicate their honor. But looking at Miss Du now, she clearly doesn't plan to do this.

Not committing suicide, of course, is good, so let us not worry about who the father of the child is for now.

Gu Youyou took a deep breath and said, "Alright, I won't ask you. But if you feel wronged and want to seek revenge on that man, just tell me and I'll certainly help you chop him up. I know about the bandits you encountered on the road, it was my fault for not considering thoroughly before letting you go, I'm sorry."

Miss Du sighed lightly, "It's nothing, just a false alarm."

Or maybe it was ultimately a cursed bond between her and him. Even without the trip to Xining, who knows if it might have ended someplace else, in some other way.

Gu Youyou genuinely felt guilty towards her. Hearing Miss Du speak so lightly only made her more uneasy.

"But now that you're pregnant, did that man force you?"

Miss Du shook her head and said, "Let's not talk about this anymore, just think of a way to deal with the current situation."

Miss Du displayed great impatience, seeming truly reluctant to mention that man.

Gu Youyou sighed, "Alright, then you tell me what do you plan to do? Are you going to keep the baby or not? If not, it's simpler, I can prescribe you a medication, and the baby will quickly be aborted without too much harm to your body."

Miss Du's heart skipped a beat, she touched her belly and asked, "What if I keep it?"

"Keep it?" Gu Youyou looked at her in surprise, and couldn't help but to start guessing who the man could be?

To say Miss Du fell in love with someone else so quickly seemed unlikely.

She was not that kind of person.

But if not? There was only one person in this world who could make Miss Du willingly bear a child, with such a sad expression.

But wasn't that person safeguarding the city gate at East Sea?

Could it be Jie Zhonglin?

Miss Du touched her belly and said, "If news of my pregnancy gets out, it’s mostly likely over for me, people will guess that the child belongs to the bandits, after all I was captured by bandits and it’s no secret."

The house servants who went to Xining with her all returned safely.

Gu Youyou consoled her, smiling, "Then keep it hidden and let no one find out. You can stay here with peace of mind, and I’ll announce externally that you’ve gone to a neighboring country to expand our business. After giving birth, we can say you adopted this child, how does that sound?"

Miss Du’s eyes brightened, but she still expressed some concerns, "But will others believe this?"

Gu Youyou frowned and said, "Suddenly having a baby appear, especially when the timing might suggest it’s yours, indeed, people might suspect. Ah, how about this, you could adopt several more, of all ages, both boys and girls. Adopt one about the same age as your child, then others won’t suspect."

"Ah?" Miss Du was momentarily stunned.

Gu Youyou explained, "A single woman, a single woman who doesn’t plan to marry, a very wealthy single woman, and then adopting many homeless children is quite normal, think of it as doing charity work. You’ve made so much Silver, and you can’t spend it all."

Hearing Gu Youyou say this, Miss Du felt there was some sense to it.

The dark clouds of the past few days suddenly cleared away, she touched her belly, smiling blissfully.

Chapter 1088: Xie Qinyun is going to give birth

She had thought that she would never have children in her lifetime, but unexpectedly, Heaven had still granted her the opportunity to conceive.

Regardless of who the father of the child was, he was solely her own child.

Gu Youyou arranged accommodation for Miss Du, right in her own courtyard.

Her courtyard was the safest place in the entire residence, where no outsiders could enter except for a few trusted maids.

On the third day after Miss Du moved in, someone from the Prince Residence had come with an urgent message, as if the house was on fire.

This maid was someone Gu Youyou trusted; she was from Xie Qinyun's side.

"Great Prince's wife, please help, please come with this lowly maid to the Prince Residence, save our Consort."

"What happened to Qinyun?"

The maid cried, "She... she's about to give birth, but she can't deliver."

Gu Youyou remembered that Xie Qinyun was likely to give birth to twins.

In this era, having twins as the first birth was indeed terrifying.

Gu Youyou said to Xiang Chun, "Go get Searcy here and follow me to the Prince Residence."

She had packed a set of exquisite surgical tools and Searcy had already arrived.

With a look of dissatisfaction, she said, "What's so urgent? Is someone about to die?"

She was seen hurriedly putting on a shoe, hearing that she had spent the whole night with a few maids who she had taken to test medicines.

Gu Youyou apologetically said, "I'll let you sleep for three days and three nights when we get back, but now you must come with me."

Gu Youyou was also pregnant, in the early stages of her pregnancy, and she dared not overtax herself, which is why she called Searcy.

They both got into the carriage and entered the Prince Residence, where they saw the servants in a complete mess. Aside from Gu Youyou the doctor, there were a few Imperial Physicians already inside Xie Qinyun's room, including Lady Physician Cui from the palace.

Xie Qinyun was still shouting loudly: "Go away, I don't want you; I want Doctor Gu, has Gu Youyou arrived yet, ah... it hurts so bad."

Gu Youyou was speechless; even in the midst of labor, she was still selective about her doctor. Aside from her, there was no one else.

Gu Youyou stepped forward and said, "Stop howling, I'm here. You might as well save that energy for giving birth!"

Prince Qin hurriedly bowed to Gu Youyou, "Elder sister-in-law."

Gu Youyou smiled at him and sat beside Xie Qinyun.

While checking on Xie Qinyun's condition, she asked, "I figured it wasn't your time to give birth yet, it's a preterm birth if it's now, isn't it?"

Xie Qinyun tearfully said, "I wouldn't have given birth so early, but the soup I had this morning..."

At this moment, an Imperial Physician hurriedly entered, knelt beside Prince Qin, and said, "That soup had abortion-inducing drugs, I'm afraid that neither the Consort nor the little Prince can... can be saved."

After hearing this, Xie Qinyun was shocked, her eyes widened, and she was rendered speechless. Moments later, she fainted.

Prince Qin stared blankly, also at a loss for words for a long while.

Gu Youyou glanced at them, paid no attention, and had Searcy bring out the toolbox.

After a while, Prince Qin was enraged and said, "Who did this? Who dares to harm my Consort and child? Guards, arrest everyone in the residence, and interrogate them one by one."

Prince Qin stormed out of the room in anger, and a moment later, he ran back in haste.

He was sweating profusely, veins throbbing on his forehead, and he asked Gu Youyou, "Elder sister-in-law, is there still hope?"

Gu Youyou, busy with the rescue, had already changed her clothes and put on surgical gloves in preparation and said to Prince Qin, "I can’t guarantee anything, but I’ll do my best."

Chapter 1089: Gave Birth to Two

Do your best?

These kinds of people, they have never liked hearing such words.

If it were a common Imperial Physician, he probably would have been kicked over by Prince Qin by now, but it was Gu Youyou, so he did not dare. With a deathly pale face, he pleaded earnestly, "Big sister, don’t just say ’do your best’. Saying that makes me feel uneasy. You must save them. If it really comes down to it, you must at least save the older one."

Gu Youyou was stunned for a moment, then turned to look at Prince Qin.

For him to say such words significantly raised her esteem for him.

In this day and age, especially within the Imperial Family, to speak of saving the mother over the child was exceedingly rare.

To the men of the Imperial Family, women are merely for bearing children; how could it be possible to let someone prioritize saving the mother over the child?

Luckily, no one else was present. If it had been someone like the Emperor or the Empress, I imagine they could have clashed with him on the spot.

"Okay!" Gu Youyou, seeing his sincerity, said, "On account of my prior relationship with Xie Qinyun alone, I will save them. You go outside first, we need absolute quiet here. If anyone causes a disturbance, I really can’t guarantee anything."

Gu Youyou had prepared everything well, and Searcy, having worked with her for a long time, was very efficient in assisting her. Soon, a small isolated room was set up.

Xie Qinyun was also given an injection of anesthesia by Gu Youyou to prevent her from waking up during the surgery.

Several Imperial Physicians stood outside the segregated, immaculate, small room, straining their eyes to see inside, but they could only catch the fleeting shadows of the women moving about and could not clearly see how they were saving lives.

Gu Youyou’s medical skills were witnessed by all; for these healers, their greatest wish in life was to merely observe the exquisite and masterful life-saving process of a Divine Doctor.

It was a pity that even so close, they were fated to miss out.

Gu Youyou, holding a scalpel, cut open Xie Qinyun’s abdomen. Searcy watched in awe and said, "I’ve never seen children born this way before."

While continuing the task at hand, Gu Youyou said, "I’ll only teach you once, you can’t blame me if you don’t learn it."

Searcy usually gets infuriated when her intelligence is doubted, but this time she did not get angry and instead watched Gu Youyou’s operation attentively.

"Give her some oxygen," said Gu Youyou.

This was something she had prepared in advance, kept inside a pig’s bladder.

Upon opening up the abdomen, Gu Youyou quickly located the child.

There were two.

She took one of them out, and the child soon started crying.

Everyone outside was stunned. The child was truly born and was actually alive.

The child, being near full-term and discovered just in time, was naturally alive.

Searcy held the child and lifted the white cloth, handing it over to the female healer outside waiting.

Upon returning, Gu Youyou had already taken out the second child, who quickly started crying as well.

Prince Qin ran in excitedly from the courtyard, seeing the female healer and Searcy each holding a crying child. He was so thrilled he could barely stand steady.

Searcy said irritably, "What are you waiting for? Come hold the children. I still need to help Gu Youyou. I can’t keep holding them for you."

The children’s umbilical cords had not yet been dealt with, but there was no need to worry — the female healer and the other Imperial Physicians were present, and they would take care of the children.

"Oh, right, right!" Prince Qin, still seemingly overwhelmed with excitement, quickly took the child from Searcy's hands.

Searcy continued into the isolated room to assist Gu Youyou — stopping the bleeding, suturing the wound. Gu Youyou's movements were very crisp, and she sutured the incision unambiguously, swiftly taking care of the pregnant woman.

Chapter 1090: Divine Doctor

Gu Youyou once again checked Xie Qinyun's condition; her vitals were very stable. She only needed to rest a bit and would regain consciousness after the effects of the anesthesia wore off.

"Fortunately, I'm in good shape today," Gu Youyou said.

Her hands were covered in blood, and there were many bloodstains on her clothes as well. When she stepped out of the little house, it gave the people outside quite a start.

So much blood?

Prince Qin handed the children over to an Imperial Physician and urgently asked, "How is Ayun doing? She's alright, isn't she?"

Gu Youyou was somewhat tired as she spoke lightly, "She's fine. You can go in and see for yourself, but she needs to rest, so don't make too much noise and disturb her."

Prince Qin entered the small white house in ecstatic joy, and upon seeing Xie Qinyun lying on the bed, pale yet breathing steadily, his heart finally settled back into place.

Mother and sons were safe. Just moments ago, having learned that she had ingested something she shouldn't have which caused abdominal pain, he could scarcely believe they would both be safe.

"Ayun, you've indeed suffered a lot, but rest assured, I will not let the person who harmed you get away with it. You just rest easy, I will take care of everything outside," he said.

Prince Qin held Xie Qinyun’s hand and whispered into her ear.

"Wow, two sons. They are just a bit ugly, all wrinkled up," said Searcy, looking at the two newborns with disdain.

After hearing this, Prince Qin finally let go of Xie Qinyun’s hand and hurried out.

He had been so concerned with Xie Qinyun’s safety that he had forgotten to see whether the children were boys or girls.

Holding one child each, Gu Youyou and another female assistant looked at the cleaned and wrapped babies with great fondness.

Gu Youyou said to Searcy with dissatisfaction, "Newborns all look like this; no child is exempt. Given a few days, they will grow into their looks."

Seeing Prince Qin approach, she promptly handed the child she was holding to him and said, "The children were born a few days premature, but it’s not a problem. However, twins are not as sturdy as single births. You need to take good care of them. I shall not stay here any longer. Ideally, you should resolve all the issues in your residence at once, or both the children and the adults will only be temporarily safe."

"Understood, I will take good care of them and find the person who poisoned them," he replied.

Gu Youyou nodded, looked at her equipment and said, "Clean these things and return them to me in a few days, undamaged. They weren’t easy to make."

"Certainly, Tingyu will personally bring them over," he promised.

Prince Qin expressed his gratitude to Gu Youyou and personally escorted her out the door.

The other Imperial Physicians regretted not witnessing the birth firsthand.

"She’s still unconscious, with no movement yet. How exactly were these children born?"

"Yes, it’s truly miraculous."

As they saw that Prince Qin had not returned, a few Imperial Physicians encouraged the female assistant named Cui, "Madam Cui, why don’t you go in and take a look?"

Madam Cui was still holding a child and shook her head disapprovingly, "It wouldn’t be right, and it could cause trouble if Prince Qin finds out."

"Hey, what’s wrong with that? You’re a female doctor, isn’t checking on the Consort’s condition the right thing to do?"

Upon hearing this, Madam Cui felt it made sense, handed the child to one of the Imperial Physicians, and went into the little house.

Xie Qinyun was still sleeping; the effects of the medicine had not worn off, so she would not wake up.

Madam Cui first examined Xie Qinyun’s condition and found that indeed she was in good health. Looking further, she noticed the blood-soaked gauze wrap on her abdomen, which, upon closer inspection, revealed a startling truth.