

Indulgence 1061

Chapter 1061: Completely Different

Jinfeng pulled Jinnian aside, "The child is mine, mine with someone else. My brother said it was his to protect my reputation, Jinnian..." Jinfeng shook her head, "Now I should call you sister-in-law!"

Jinnian smiled.

"Sister-in-law, even though you've forgotten the past, I still respect you!"

Jinnian didn't speak, just looked at Jinfeng and smiled.

"Let's not talk about those things, they're too sentimental. Let's talk about other matters!"

"Alright!"

The relationship between sisters-in-law is indeed an art. Jinnian has forgotten the past, so her words were plenty but empty, as her mind was blank and couldn't express anything meaningful.

So she simply read more books, and talked more.

She also didn't ask Princess Jinfeng what she used to be like, focusing on living well in the present, thinking that maybe one day she would remember.

Hence, Jinnian's days passed very comfortably.

She spent her time playing with sisters and teased a few adorable little babies.

At night, she waited for Chu Yu to return, so they could have a snack together and do things Chu Yu loved to do.

Initially, Jinnian didn't feel much, but gradually she began to enjoy it, and could accompany Chu Yu, and their relationship naturally blossomed.

There weren't many people who came to congratulate the Yun matriarch on her birthday, many prominent families just sent gifts that weren't too extravagant.

The Prince Rui Residence also sent a gift, but Jinnian had no idea what it was, nor did she ask.

She didn't care about such matters.

Because Yun Zuomo and the others were leaving, Jinnian was reluctant.

So she could only go to the storeroom to pick things, preparing many bits and pieces, all for the children.

"Big sister..."

"Once the Prince finishes his business, we'll let you come back to the Capital City. Then our sisters can be together!" Jinnian spoke, her eyes slightly reddening.

She couldn't bear to part with those children.

Again talking about the Yun matriarch's birthday celebration, it was very grand. At least a few princes came, including the fifth prince.

Everyone understood that the fifth prince would take a wife, and the bride might be a young lady from the Yun Family.

But now, there's only one second young lady in the Yun Family who fits the age, raised by the matriarch, and the young lady accompanying her.

It's uncertain whom the fifth prince favored.

When Zhu Yan learned Chu Liange had arrived at the Yun Family, she immediately prepared herself, dressing up beautifully, in a style Chu Liange liked, and had an encounter with him.

Chu Liange looked at the woman opposite him, her attire very familiar, just like the woman in his dreams, but the feeling was different.

He didn't feel that thrill and love.

Moreover, the fifth prince's wife was already predetermined by his father, even if this woman looked good, she could only be a concubine, not even a favored concubine.

She could only be a secondary wife.

"Your Highness!" Zhu Yan called out.

Thinking of their past life meeting, she smiled warmly, "Your Highness, did you come here alone?"

Chu Liange looked at Zhu Yan.

He thought, could this woman be mentally ill?

He wasn't alone, how could he be several people?

He turned and walked away.

Zhu Yan stood stupefied in place.

It's different, different from the past life. Back then, Chu Liange was very interested in her, even said he would invite her to stay at the fifth prince's residence.

Said...

Zhu Yan suddenly froze, that time, Chu Liange didn't fancy her either,

only later, she treated Yun Jinnian very well, never once speaking sarcastically, Yun Jinnian loved playing with her, so Chu Liange sent someone to bring her to the fifth prince's residence to accompany Yun Jinnian.

"No..."

Zhu Yan screamed.

It's not supposed to be like this.

It shouldn't be like this.

She was supposed to be the woman Chu Liange loved, yes, she was.

Thinking of this, Zhu Yan turned around and headed back to her place, but she heard the low, ambiguous moans of a woman and the rough pants of a man coming from behind an artificial hill.

Chapter 1062: Forced Marriage Design

She was no longer a little girl, so she naturally understood what that sound meant.

But who dared to be so bold, to do such a thing at the birthday banquet of the old lady?

Zhu Yan mustered up courage and sneaked forward for a peek, but it was too dark in the rock garden to see clearly.

Thinking it through, she decided to leave first, but just as she left, she saw Marquess Yuanshen's old lady leading the way, accompanied by Marchioness Yun Muiyou and a few other ladies, walking over here, chatting and laughing.

Zhu Yan immediately realized that this was a well-orchestrated play.

But who was in that rock garden?

"Who's in there?" Yun Muiyou shouted, ordering the matron beside her to go up and check.

Before long, Weng Jianxun was dragged out with his clothes in disarray, followed by a girl with her head lowered.

Looking closely, Zhu Yan recognized her as Xu Xinmo.

Suddenly, she understood that this was likely a scheme from the Marquis Residence, with Xu Xinmo looking dazed, clearly drugged.

Zhu Yan glanced at them, laughed coldly, and turned to leave.

Listening to the cries, screams, and scorn, she knew she needed to marry quickly to avoid an end like Xu Xinmo's, being schemed against and wed to that declining Marquis Residence.

In her previous life, Zhu Yan could not remember who Xu Xinmo married, but given Xu Xinmo's temperament, her days were certainly extremely difficult.

The old lady Yun found out that Xu Xinmo was involved with Weng Jianxun and was caught in front of everyone, leading her to angrily spit blood.

Today was her sixtieth birthday!

"Misfortune, misfortune indeed!"

Such a good birthday banquet ruined by this affair, many would feign indifference outwardly yet inwardly be eager for drama.

Though the banquet continued, the old lady Yun left early, facing Xu Xinmo who was kneeling before her, with a cold expression.

Who knows what she was thinking.

"Grandmother, please help me, I don't want to marry Weng Jianxun, I don't want to, please, Grandmother, please!" Xu Xinmo cried, her tears streaming, incoherent.

She was destined to be Empress, not marry Weng Jianxun; how could she marry someone so destitute.

Old lady Yun felt particularly irritated by her crying.

She waved her hand, signaling someone to take Xu Xinmo away.

Now there were only two possibilities: marry into the Marquis Residence or become a nun, seeking solace with Buddha for a lifetime.

But this was a child she raised with care, how could she bear it.

Marrying into the Marquis Residence was the best option.

Naturally, Xu Xinmo was unwilling, attempting to hang herself and committing suicide, all as acts to scare old lady Yun, but old lady Yun fell ill herself, completely unaware of her antics, while Mrs. He knew and couldn't wait for Xu Xinmo to die, certainly did not intervene.

After causing several scenes, Xu Xinmo couldn't change old lady Yun's mind, and the wedding date was set.

On the third day of October, very urgent.

The Xu Family received news and sent ten sets of dowry along with a letter severing father-daughter relations.

This letter was delivered to Yun Chen.

Yun Chen read it and stayed silent for a long time.

He handed it to old lady Yun, who instantly cursed, "When the Xu Family proposed to marry my daughter, they didn't have this demeanor; my daughter was there for only a few years and passed away! Was it wrong to bring my granddaughter back to raise? What heartless beasts, worse than pigs and dogs. You must have them impeached to let them know the consequences of offending the Yun Family!"

Chapter 1063: Trivial Matters (Finale 1)

Yun Chen looked at his elderly mother, only feeling that she must have gone mad.

Now that the Yun Family's power is flourishing like the sun at noon, the Xu Family has even sent such a letter, and back then, Xu Xinmo's mother's dowry was brought back as well. Xu Xinmo claimed to be a girl of the Xu Family, but does Xu Xinmo herself acknowledge this?

Xu Xinmo herself doesn't acknowledge it.

Yun Chen took a deep breath and then said, "Mother, the Emperor will soon issue an Imperial Decree, bestowing Sister Si's marriage to the Fifth Prince, and the Emperor is also considering establishing the Fifth Prince as Crown Prince. Mother, you should take care of yourself and wait for endless glory!"

Old Madam Yun suddenly widened her eyes.

Suddenly remembered something.

"It's Mrs. He, it's Mrs. He who schemed against Xinmo, right?"

As long as Xu Xinmo was ruined, no one would be able to block the way.

Mrs. He really has a truly vicious mind.

Yun Chen was silent.

Yet it was an acknowledgment.

Old Madam Yun immediately felt extremely tired, "You can go now!"

Several granddaughters are not close to her, and even if they rise high in the future, they won't think of her; the only granddaughter has been schemed against like this.

She was really unwilling.

This Mrs. He, she must teach her a lesson.

Yun Chen wanted to say something but in the end said nothing, only instructing people to watch over Cixin Academy, not allowing messages from inside to be transmitted out or outside news to be transmitted in, essentially controlling Cixin Academy.

Old Madam Yun knew this and suddenly felt dumbfounded.

Too astonished to recover.

Three sons, two have become estranged from her because of a woman, henceforth severing all ties, and now without any message from their aunt.

They no longer care whether she is alive or dead.

And now, she has become an isolated person; her eating and drinking are unchanged, but no one visits her anymore.

Xu Xinmo was eventually married off to the Marquis Yuanshen residence, with a very lavish dowry, after all, Xu Xinmo knows what she possesses, one misstep and she's ready to make a scene, shamelessly make a scene.

Old Madam Yun, in order to compensate Xu Xinmo, gave her everything she could, making Mrs. Xu chest hurt for a long time.

Mrs. He had once withheld a few items but was openly confronted by Xu Xinmo, leading to everyone knowing that she skimmed off her niece's belongings, making her very embarrassed.

But thinking that the Xu family would eventually fall into Yun Muiyou's hands at Marquis Yuanshen, she felt somewhat relieved.

It's just that she forgot that Xu Xinmo, though not smart, is also not particularly foolish; she doesn't like Weng Jianxun, and naturally won't care about Weng Jianxun's reputation.

She kept a tight watch on her dowry, converting everything she could into silver notes, storing them in a bank, and even spreading word that if she ever died, it was certainly caused by the Xu family. Whoever helps find the murderer, she'll reward them with the silver stored in the bank.

This desperate stance leaves the Xu family with no way to deal with her; if they really kill her and it's discovered, the Yuanshen residence would be finished.

More so regretting having brought such a calamity star into their family.

But no matter how the Xu family regrets, Yun Musi still married into the Fifth Prince's residence, becoming the Fifth Prince's consort.

Zhu Yan was also taken over, becoming Chu Liange's concubine.

During this time, Zhu Yan met Jinnian once, only feeling that Jinnian had become increasingly beautiful, especially with that sort of aura, not particularly good tempered.

Whoever tries to bully her, she doesn't care who you are, immediately retorts back, after Chu Yu knew, he secretly intervened, making it so that in the Capital City, no one dared to provoke her.

The Emperor's health was progressively worsening.

The court also became chaotic, the Emperor's past deeds were unearthed, evidence was conclusive, plus the Emperor's inaction, ministers demanded the Emperor abdicate and return the throne to Prince Rui.

Chapter 1064: Ascending the Throne as Emperor (Grand Finale 2)

Nowadays, the Capital City is a place where every sound brings fear and every shadow seems like an enemy.

The entire Great Zhou Kingdom is beset by internal strife and external troubles.

On this day, while Lan Yichen was still at home, he was captured and brought into the Imperial Palace. Seeing Noble Consort Le on the ground, covered in wounds, he exclaimed, "Your Highness..."

Noble Consort Le glanced at Lan Yichen and turned her head away.

She didn't truly love Lan Yichen, but was merely accustomed to the presence of a man, which led them to be involved.

The Emperor barely supporting himself, looked at the pair in front of him, "Take them away and deal with them!"

"Spare me, Your Majesty, spare me!" Noble Consort Le continuously pleaded for mercy.

The Emperor, however, didn't spare her a glance.

Lan Yichen was taken away to be executed by lingchi, forcing Noble Consort Le to watch his execution.

The rest of the Lan family was banished to the borderlands.

Noble Consort Le went mad and was confined to the Cold Palace, never to see the light of day again.

Whether her madness was real or feigned, no one cared. For the rest of her life, she would never have the chance to leave the Imperial Palace and see the outside world.

On this day, led by Chu Yu, the civil and military officials entered the palace, as the Emperor sat on the Dragon Throne, looking at the imperial decree in Chu Yu's hand, he laughed aloud, "Father, you are truly ruthless. Even on your deathbed, you must set a trap for your son. You really are partial, exceedingly partial!"

He didn't lose, he didn't lose at all.

The Emperor abdicated and was sent to guard the imperial tombs.

As for those Princes, Chu Yu only conferred them as Commandery Princes, imprisoning them within the Wang Residence in the Capital City. If they behaved properly, they would be spared their lives,

After Chu Yu ascended the throne, the first thing he did was to deal with the Yun Family and Marquess Yuanshen's residence.

They were tried for treason and colluding with the enemy, and were executed in the autumn of the following year at the market place.

Jinnian woke up early, gazing at the incomparably luxurious and beautiful phoenix robe, furrowing her brow, as Chu Yu stepped inside with a smile, "What's the matter?"

"This phoenix robe is so heavy, can I manage to carry it?"

Chu Yu laughed, "I'll have the female officials hold it up for you in a while!"

"That sounds better!" Jinnian said delicately, pulling Chu Yu into the inner hall and feeding him the hidden pastries, "How do they taste? Mother made them by hand, and Tianci just brought them this morning. I couldn't bear to eat them, specially saving them for you!"

"Delicious!" Chu Yu nodded, kissing Jinnian, "Take your time later, don't hurry or be afraid. I'll be waiting for you on the steps, from now on you shall be the most noble woman under the sky, no one can surpass you, are you happy?"

"Happy!"

Chu Yu tapped Jinnian's nose, "I'm happy too!"

After Chu Yu left, Jinnian began to change into the phoenix robe, layering it over herself, it was somewhat heavy, yet Jinnian bore it willingly.

Until the great bell tolled, Jinnian stepped out of the main hall, from Xuanwu Gate to Xuanwu Gate, and then to Taiji Hall, where Chu Yu stood on the high steps, watching the Empress's palanquin approach, he couldn't help but step down, and dismissing the female officials, reached out to help Jinnian down.

Leading her towards the steps.

"Jinnian!"

"Hmm?"

"I wish that I can hold your hand for the rest of my life, and continue walking like this!"

Jinnian smiled, "I have a temper that's not so good!"

"It doesn't matter, I indulged it, I can handle it!"

Jinnian turned to look at Chu Yu, "They say I can't have children!"

"You're still young. I heard from grandfather that having children at a young age is not good, so I secretly took medicine, what does it have to do with you!"

Jinnian looked at Chu Yu in shock, "You took medicine?"

"Yes, it doesn't harm the body. Let's wait, until you are older, then we'll have children. If the first one is a son, we'll just have this one, and we'll raise him properly to grow up and hand over this nation to him, how about that?"

Chapter 1065: The End

"What if I keep having daughters?"

"Then you'll have to be inconvenienced to have a few more!"

Jinnian laughed while lightly hitting Chu Yu, her eyes filled with joy.

The great bell announcing the coronation of the Empress rang out, echoing far and wide.

Inside the prison.

The Yun Family members huddled together, all with disheveled hair and filthy bodies.

The old matriarch of the Yun Family was paralyzed in a corner, but her mind was exceptionally clear.

"Today, the princess is crowned Empress, you've got the benefit of some meat to eat!"

A bowl of meat was thrown at the prison cell door.

But no one had the heart to eat.

The princess, wasn't that Han Jinnian? Han Jinnian had become the Empress...

Han Jinnian, that was once Yun Jinnian.

"Ahhh..."

The old matriarch of the Yun Family screamed.

Why had it come to this? Wasn't it supposed to be Xu Xinmo? Why did it become Yun Jinnian?

She couldn't understand, but couldn't speak, only able to scream "ahh."

No one in the cell paid her any attention.

Some ate meat, some drank porridge; at this point, living one more day was good enough, and they hoped for a general amnesty that might spare them the death sentence. Whatever happened, being alive was better.

But soon a fight broke out in the cell over a piece of meat.

First, a few women started fighting, and later Yun Zhen, Yun Yi, and Yun Xuan joined in.

They too were once the pride of heaven. Although unsuccessful, they never imagined they'd become prisoners one day.

Reaching this point in life is filled with deep regret. Yet all regret is useless, time won't turn back.

"Amitabha Buddha!"

Upon hearing the sound, Yun Chen looked toward the monk outside the cell and suddenly stood up, "Master..."

The monk shook his head, "It seems, my benefactor did not heed the words of this humble monk back then!"

"In life, one must understand courtesy, righteousness, integrity, and shame. If one does not understand even this, how are they different from beasts? Amitabha, how merciful! This trip fulfills the promise I once made to Old Yun!"

He once hinted, but Yun Chen didn't take it seriously.

Such an end can't be blamed on others.

Yun Chen remained silent.

Indeed, they were the ones who first harmed Yun Jinnian, and they were the ones who first harmed Mrs. Han, they couldn't blame anyone else.

No one else...

Looking at the people in the cell, Yun Chen suddenly laughed out loud, "Ahaha, I've read so many sages' books, yet failed to grasp courtesy, righteousness, integrity, and shame thoroughly!"

Chu Yu ascended to the throne as Emperor.

He changed the era name to Jinrui.

He issued several imperial decrees: first, to reform the court, eradicate corrupt officials, treat the people kindly, exempt the commoners from taxes for three years, and guarantee every household possesses three acres of paddy fields and three acres of dry fields; the dry fields can be cultivated for free and remain tax-exempt for three years.

In disaster-stricken areas, grains were sent, and then water was sent; for this, Feng Wushuang and Liao Shijie personally handled it, while Yuwen Ya managed the medicinal ingredients, and Han Tianci took care of the supplies.

For a time, everyone knew these four were the Emperor's right-hand men.

The commoners were living better days, and naturally didn't want foreign invaders, so Chu Yu issued another decree that for every man who enlisted from a household, there would be a five-year tax exemption, and if two enlisted, a ten-year exemption would apply.

Though the Great Zhou underwent a change of dynasty, it did not lose much vitality, especially since Chu Yu was well-prepared, with money and grain in hand.

Jinnian also gave all her money to Chu Yu, and the Han Family fully supported him. The court officials, led by Marquess Zhuangyong, aimed to accomplish real work and achievements, which felt more rewarding than relying on sisters entering the palace.

Chu Yu upheld the principle of full trust in those he employed and not suspecting those he did not employ, allotting many tasks.

To say who was the most leisurely in the palace, it had to be the Empress.

She would amuse herself with a few children, even playing hide and seek with them.

A twenty-year-old adult, playing with a few children aged four to five, could spend the whole day in the great hall.

Even after years of marriage, they had not had a child, but the ministers were anxious; they were aware that the current Emperor truly cared for the common people, even though there was a legitimate son, who, although now was considered the Princess's child, was still the Emperor's son. If the Empress continued to have no child, this child would be the future son of heaven, perhaps a reason why the Empress loved that child dearly.

Otherwise, why would Princess Jinfeng be so at ease with giving the child to the Empress, leading a group of women and forming a women's army to achieve merits at the border?

Now, she was a mighty great general.

Many talented women Hidden Guard members came forth from the shadows, fighting on the battlefield without losing to men.

Many from the Wangyue Sect also stepped from the shadows into the light.

All of Chu Yu's policies could be implemented because the silver and money came from the Wangyue Sect, or should we say it came from Jinnian.

As the children hid, it was not easy to find them; Jinnian searched everywhere but couldn't find them and began to coax them.

"I can see you all, don't think I can't find you, hmm?"

Under the table, under the bed, inside the wardrobe, behind the curtains, no one was there.

Jinnian took a round but still couldn't find anyone, so she sat on the steps outside Weiyang Palace, wondering where those children hid.

Chu Yu, taking leisure amidst his busyness, came to glance, and seeing Jinnian daydreaming on the steps, "What, still can't find them?"

"Mm, can't find them, these kids hide too well!" Jinnian said in frustration.

Chu Yu chuckled, leaning in and whispered to Jinnian, "Be careful, they can move about, otherwise, how else could you not find them!"

After a moment of thought, Jinnian agreed, "Right, that makes sense, I thought the great hall was just this big, with palace maids watching, how could they disappear?"

"Your Majesty, wait for me, I'm going back to find them!"

Jinnian joyfully entered the great hall, this time observing more keenly, she indeed found some little ones moving about and pretended she hadn't spotted them.

In the great hall, they continued to play again.

Seeing this, Chu Yu smiled knowingly.

No matter how tired, returning to see the ever more innocent and charming Jinnian, his heart was always happy.

Fatigue seemed to disappear significantly.

"Let's go, we'll head back to Yangxin Hall and continue handling the noon tasks!"

After Chu Yu went far, Jinnian caught a few children, letting them play by themselves, then left the great hall, casting a glance towards Yangxin Hall with a faint smile.

He wished for her to live without worries, so she lived happily without concerns.

He wished for her to not understand anything, so she didn't delve deeper.

Together, like this, in earnest, they might remain truly happy and enduring.

In a blink of an eye, the world was settled, the Great Zhou was defeated, forced to cede land and make reparations yearly; only then did the war, lasting seven years, cease.

Jinnian was already twenty-three, Chu Yu twenty-nine, and still, they had no children.

Yet, they seemed unbothered by it.

The ministers, however, were getting anxious, and someone suggested selecting a concubine, to which Chu Yu merely cast a bland glance at that minister, "The matter of my household needs not concern my dear minister!"

After court, returning to Weiyang Palace, he found Jinnian lying asleep on the Chaise Longue, with the frame beside her holding the herb said to be as potent as the Snow Lotus of Tian Mountain in detoxifying all poisons, now in bloom, filling the hall with fragrance.

Chu Yu sat beside the Chaise Longue, looking tenderly at Jinnian.

Though married for years, his love remained profound.

He asked the palace maid to bring over a picture book Jinnian had read, Chu Yu leafed through it, searching for traces of what Jinnian had read between the lines.

When Jinnian awoke, Chu Yu immediately noticed.

Jinnian reached out, holding Chu Yu's hand, placing it on her abdomen, "Your Majesty!"

"Mm?" Chu Yu didn't quite get it.

"Tianci came into the palace today, did you know?"

"I knew, he said he wanted to see you, brought some toys that you liked?"

"I liked them!"

"As long as you like them, next time I will take you out of the palace to have fun, where would you like to go?"

"Let's go to the back mountain of Yingci'an, I remember, back then, you cooked a bowl of longevity noodles for me, it wasn't very tasty, but..."

"..."

Chu Yu clasped Jinnian's hand, tears falling at once, "Jinnian..."

"I haven't recalled everything, just a bit!"

"It's alright!" Chu Yu wiped his tears away swiftly.

Jinnian smiled, "And there's one more thing!"

"Hmm, go ahead, I'll listen to you regardless!"

"Hehe," Jinnian giggled, then couldn't help but say, "Your Majesty, you're such a big fool, haven't you realized by now?"

"What?" Chu Yu asked, cluelessly.

Looking at where his hand was placed, comprehension dawned on him, "Jinjinjin..."

He stuttered, unable to form a complete sentence.

"I..."

"Yes, you're going to be a father!"

The following year in March, Jinnian gave birth to a son, with the pet name Momo, and the formal name Chu Zhi.

To love you for a lifetime, unwavering and true!