

Indulgence 861

Chapter 861: Angel's Death

Xu Xinmo carefully observed Old Madam Yun, knowing that she no longer needed to worry about this matter.

"Grandmother?"

"Hmm?"

"What are you planning to do?"

Old Madam Yun pondered for a moment before speaking, "This matter is of great importance. If handled poorly, it will not only tarnish Yun Jinnian's reputation but also yours, especially yours. How could I bear to see your good name sullied?"

Her Xinmo was destined to become the Empress.

What she feared most was Yun Jinnian's indiscretion bringing trouble upon Xu Xinmo.

It must be said, Old Madam Yun had some affection for Xu Xinmo, but her calculations were far greater.

Xu Xinmo sneered inwardly but obediently nestled in Old Madam Yun's arms, "Grandmother, thank you for thinking of me. In the future, I will be sure to honor you and make you the most revered lady under the heavens!"

Although it was a grand promise, Old Madam Yun was still very pleased. She embraced Xu Xinmo for a long while before saying, "Ming Liu, go fetch my gilded box!"

"Yes!"

Xu Xinmo knew that Old Madam Yun was about to give her something again.

Ming Liu quickly brought over the box. Old Madam Yun opened it, revealing several silver notes, each worth one hundred thousand taels.

Xu Xinmo's eyes widened, "Wow, Grandmother, you are so wealthy!"

Old Madam Yun smiled at Xu Xinmo, "This is my last reserve. To dress you beautifully, even Mu Si and Mu Lan have not received anything like this. You must not tell anyone!"

"Don't worry, Grandmother, I promise not to tell a soul!" Xu Xinmo quickly responded.

Old Madam Yun laughed, handing her two notes, "Your birthday is approaching. Use these to buy some beautiful clothes and jewelry. Make sure to dress yourself splendidly and outshine everyone!"

"Yes, yes, Grandmother, you are the best! I love you the most!" Xu Xinmo hugged Old Madam Yun, laughing incessantly.

Two hundred thousand taels in silver notes were enough to buy many things.

It was clear that her grandmother was quite wealthy. She would have to visit more often and push her buttons. Who knows, she might get even more silver.

"Alright, go back to Yicai Garden. Tomorrow, head to Jinshang Pavilion to make the dresses!"

"Yes, yes, I will listen to Grandmother!"

Xu Xinmo cheerfully left Cixin Academy and returned to Yicai Garden, handing the silver notes to Granny Jin.

"Did your grandmother give you these?" Granny Jin asked.

"Yes, she said they were for making new clothes and buying jewelry. She also has a gilded brocade box filled with silver notes, amounting to millions of taels!" Xu Xinmo said, taking back the silver notes and placing them in the brocade box.

"..." Granny Jin remained silent.

Unexpectedly, Old Madam Yun had so much silver, which was quite surprising.

"Granny, what are you thinking?" Xu Xinmo asked softly.

"Nothing, if she gave them to you, you should keep them!" Granny Jin replied nonchalantly but thought that perhaps someone should visit Cixin Academy. If they could find that gilded brocade box, it would provide the much-needed silver for major endeavors.

Xu Xinmo smiled, carefully storing the silver notes before happily leaving Yicai Garden and walking towards Niannian Garden.

She needed to ask Yun Jinnian how the preparations for the coming-of-age ceremony were going.

Were the clothes and jewelry ready?

Niannian Garden

Yun Jinnian, after hearing the Hidden Guard's report, was utterly shocked, "Are you saying that An Ge'er is gone?"

Chapter 862: Issuing an Expulsion Order

"Yes, the Wang Residence declared to the public that he died of illness, but in reality, An was drowned!" the Hidden Guard continued to report.

Yun Jinnian remained silent for a long time before saying, "Can we still enter the Wang Residence now?"

"No, the Wang has ordered that no one is allowed to enter or leave the residence freely!"

"You may leave."

Chu Yu had informed her of some things, so she knew who had poisoned.

She was puzzled, did the Emperor know what Consort Le was doing? If he did and still allowed it, she didn't know what to say?

Poor Mrs. Dai, after so many blows, could she bear it?

And poor little An, such a small child, with a bright future just beginning...

Xu Xinmo came cheerfully and saw Yun Jinnian sitting by the window deep in thought, "Cousin?"

Yun Jinnian looked up and nodded at her, "Why did you come over?"

"I suddenly remembered that next month is your coming-of-age ceremony. Are all the preparations ready?"

"Mother is handling all that. The Empress has just passed away, so it will be simple," Yun Jinnian replied calmly.

Xu Xinmo responded with an "Oh."

In her heart, she was somewhat gloating, the coming-of-age ceremony signifies a lot, and Yun Jinnian was unlucky to have it done so simply.

When her own ceremony comes next year, she will make it grand and impressive, attracting everyone's attention.

"Xinmo!"

"Yes?"

"Do you have any business? If not, go back first; I need to go out!"

She directly issued an eviction order.

Xu Xinmo's expression changed slightly before she stood up, "Then I'll head back first!"

"Alright!"

Once Xu Xinmo left, Yun Jinnian called for Nanny An to come over, "Start organizing the items rewarded by the palace, and find an opportunity to move them all to the Princess Residence!"

"Yes!"

After giving the instructions, Yun Jinnian left the house with Hemei and Henuan.

They headed to Huiquan Tower.

Upon arrival at Huiquan Tower, they went directly to a private room on the third floor.

The shopkeeper soon followed them into the room, respectfully saluting, "Greeting, Commandery Princess, I have sent someone to inform His Highness, and he will be here shortly!"

Yun Jinnian nodded slightly, "Bring a pot of tea and some pastries. Also, serve good tea and prepare some pastries for my coachman!"

"Yes!"

After the shopkeeper retreated, Yun Jinnian leaned against the window, watching the bustling street outside. Soon, it would be February, but the wind still made people shiver.

Suddenly, a few snowflakes drifted down from the sky, and soon they grew more numerous.

"..."

"Commandery Princess, I feel like this situation is going to escalate," Hemei said.

Yun Jinnian nodded slightly, "That will depend on how the Wang handles it, but this matter won't end peacefully!"

Wang Residence

The Wang looked at his grandson lying on the bed, having aged significantly overnight.

Beside him, Mrs. Dai and the Princess wept until they nearly passed out, while Chu Xinhuan and Chu Xinkai stood silently.

However, their clenched fists and tense bodies revealed their intense anger.

"Your Highness, Prince Rui has arrived!"

The Wang spoke indifferently, "Tell him to go back, I will see no one!"

Chu Xinhuan hurriedly said, "Father, let me speak to him!"

It was rare for Chu Yu to visit, and he knew Chu Yu was not here to mock them.

But the Wang suddenly shouted, "Prepare the carriage, I am going to the palace!"

He reached out to hold An in his arms and strode towards the door.

Mrs. Dai and the Princess were shocked speechless.

But Chu Xinhuan and Chu Xinkai immediately understood, "Father, we will accompany you to the palace!"

Chapter 863: Heartless and Immoral

"Very well!"

The family of three left the Wang Residence.

Chu Yu immediately walked over, "Uncle Wang!"

The loyal prince looked at Chu Yu, his eyes red, "Ayu, if I do not get a satisfactory answer from this trip, please take care of this family."

"Uncle Wang, the deceased are gone. You must be strong and take care of yourself. Try to move on..." Chu Yu consoled.

But in his heart, he also understood that if the loyal prince backed down this time, who would be next?

Of course, Chu Yu still hoped that the loyal prince would become disillusioned with the Emperor, and henceforth grow distant, never aiding the Emperor any longer.

And turn to help him instead.

But he would never harm a child.

Just then, Mrs. Dai rushed out holding Rujie'er, seemingly deranged, "Help, help!"

Chu Xinhuan immediately ran forward, taking Rujie'er from her, while Mrs. Dai collapsed weakly to the ground, "Go find, go find..." She was too agitated to speak clearly.

Chu Xinhuan, holding Rujie'er, saw her eyes tightly shut, "Rujie'er?"

Chu Yu stepped forward, feeling for Rujie'er's breath, pulse at her neck and wrist, and slightly shook his head.

Chu Xinkai suddenly roared in anger, "Too much, this is too much!"

Under such heavy guard in the Wang Residence, who could possibly harm the child?

Chu Xinhuan held the child, too grief-stricken to cry.

Once they had been so joyful with these two children, now they were utterly despondent.

The loyal prince remained very calm, "Enter the palace!"

He then carried the body of An Ge'er onto the carriage.

Chu Xinhuan hesitated for a moment, then said to Chu Xinkai, "Third brother, stay in the Wang Residence!"

"Second brother..." Chu Xinkai called softly.

"My father and I will go!" Chu Xinhuan said, as he also got onto the carriage, holding Rujie'er.

Father and son, each holding a lifeless body.

"Father, my heart is filled with hate!"

The loyal prince looked at Chu Xinhuan, tightened his grip on An Ge'er's arm until a cracking sound was heard, "Endure. Only if we live can we avenge An Ge'er and Rujie'er!"

Whether it's the Emperor or Consort Yue, he would not spare any of them.

Absolutely not!

Chu Yu watched the carriage leave and patted Chu Xinkai's shoulder, "Be brave and strong like a man!"

Then he signaled the maid to help Mrs. Dai back inside.

He was not good at comforting others, but he knew that at this moment, he had to be strong enough to make others fear him, only then could he protect his loved ones.

He would never become the second loyal prince.

Luoyi came over and whispered a few words into Chu Yu's ear, to which Chu Yu nodded slightly, then spoke a few words to Chu Xinkai before quietly leaving for Huiquan Tower.

Chu Xinkai looked at the gates of the loyal prince's residence, thinking of his father's loyalty, feeling it was a colossal joke.

Such loyalty, costing the lives of two innocent beings, was it worth it?

Chu Yu quietly arrived at Huiquan Tower, standing in front of Yun Jinnian's elegant room, and knocked on the door.

Hemei immediately came forward to open the door.

"Your Highness!"

Chu Yu nodded, then saw Yun Jinnian standing by the window, with snow falling outside, "In this cold weather, catching a chill would not be good!"

At his words, Yun Jinnian prepared to close the window.

To avoid being seen with Chu Yu.

But Chu Yu stepped forward quickly, holding Yun Jinnian's hand, standing with her by the window, "But if you enjoy watching the snow, I'll stay with you!"

"An Ge'er..." Yun Jinnian began softly.

"Gone, even Rujie'er is gone!" Chu Yu's voice was very light.

Yun Jinnian was utterly shocked, unable to believe, "You're not joking?"

"I wouldn't joke about this!"

Chapter 864: Everyone Abandons Me

Yun Jinnian bit her lip and lowered her head after a while, looking out the window, "No wonder it's already February and it's still snowing. There must be grievances!"

An Empress Dowager, and now two innocent children, what exactly does the Emperor want?

Yun Jinnian lightly leaned into Chu Yu's embrace, "Ayu!"

With the warm fragrance of a soft jade in his arms, for the first time, Chu Yu did not dare to act recklessly or even have other thoughts, "Hmm?"

"You must take good care of yourself, and always have enough people with you!"

Yun Jinnian knew that Chu Yu's abilities were far beyond what he showed, and she believed he had enough self-preservation ability, but all things cannot be afraid of ten thousand things, only the one thing.

Seeing the Emperor dare to poison the Empress Dowager, and dare to indulge Consort Le in attacking the two children of the Loyal Commandery Prince Residence, he is simply a madman.

Chu Yu held Yun Jinnian tighter, "Don't worry, I will. You too, always bring more people with you. Normally when you go out, just having Hemei and Henuan is not enough; you need to bring two more people at least!"

"I have a lot of poisons with me, and also the bracelet you gave me. I've been waiting for the people from the Yun Residence to make a move against me. That night, you deliberately let people see you, but until today, no one has taken action!"

"No rush, those people won't be able to stay quiet for long!"

Holding his beloved girl, he was reluctant to let go.

But there were still many things waiting for him to do, to deploy. Chu Yu lowered his head and lightly kissed Yun Jinnian's brow, "Jinnian, I have to go now!"

"Go ahead, the Loyal Commandery Prince must be heartbroken after losing his grandson and granddaughter all at once!"

If the Emperor truly hurt the Loyal Commandery Prince's feelings, then Chu Yu going now would surely make the Loyal Commandery Prince remember Chu Yu's kindness.

In this life, having a woman who loves you, and you love her, and she understands your thoughts clearly, is enough.

"You should go back early too; Huiquan Tower recently developed a few new pastries. Take some back to eat!"

"Okay!"

Despite the reluctance, Chu Yu still stepped away.

The place of beauties, the grave of heroes. Chu Yu used to not believe it, but now he truly does.

He could guarantee, once Yun Jinnian spoke up to ask him to stay, he surely wouldn't leave!

After Chu Yu left, Yun Jinnian asked Henuan to buy some pastries and then left Huiquan Tower.

"Uncle Cheng, head towards the Imperial Palace and take a look!"

"Yes, Commandery Princess!"

The news of the boy and girl twins' sudden death at the Loyal Commandery Prince Residence quickly spread throughout the Capital City.

Prince Zhenguo's Princess Residence

The Princess remained silent for a long time before calling her sons over to her side, "Remember, you must act with utmost prudence and caution, never allowing anyone to catch fault. The children must be strictly disciplined. If anyone bullies others outside, beat and lock them up directly. The girls should also stay at home if there's nothing important!"

"Yes, Mother!"

The Princess waved her hand, "Yanyan, stay behind. The rest of you can go!"

Prince Yanjun looked at the not-so-well Princess with concern, "Mother, should we have Jinnian come over to take a look at you?"

Prince Zhenguo's Princess smiled, "Jinnian is also very busy. How can we call her over for a bit of headache or fever? Yanyan, I do not wish to force you, but you can see the current situation in the Capital. The Emperor is mad, letting a woman act against the Loyal Commandery Prince. That Loyal Commandery Prince who supported him loyally to ascend the throne!"

The Loyal Commandery Prince fell into this trap because he valued the Emperor too much, thinking the Emperor would remember the old sentiments.

But who would have thought the Emperor dared to poison even his foster mother, let alone the Loyal Commandery Prince who might ally with Chu Yu!

"Mother!" Prince Yanjun called softly.

"Yanyan, if you have no one in your heart, then marry and have children, alright?"

Chapter 865: Chilled to the Heart

The Prince Yanjun, upon hearing the words, immediately sat up straight.

"Mother..."

"Yanyan, I don't want to force you, but you should know that marrying and having children is something you must do. If there is someone in your heart, who is that person? If there isn't, then just marry. Even if you can't have children, you can adopt one of your brothers' children, Yaya is a good choice!"

When naming, the pronunciation of 'Yuwen' and 'Yu' were somewhat similar, but the Grand Princess had always intended for Yuwen Ya to be adopted by the Prince Yanjun, hence the chosen name.

"Mother, please let me think about it!"

Mother is so old, and has worried for him all her life.

How dare he let her continue to worry about him.

Perhaps...

"Mother, what do you think of that girl?"

The Grand Princess smiled, delighted, "You're already in your forties now, marrying a fifteen or sixteen-year-old girl doesn't seem appropriate. But there are still many girls in the Capital City who are willing to marry you. How about you think about what kind you like? I'll pick one for you!"

The Prince Yanjun dared not say that he has someone in his heart.

Although the person has become very vague, he did once have feelings for her.

"I have a rather dull personality. As long as the girl is passionate, cheerful, lively, articulate, likes to laugh, and can cheer up mother, it's good enough!"

"Saying that, I really do know a girl who is lively, cheerful, filial and sensible. I've met her a few times and am very fond of her, but..." the Grand Princess sighed.

The status doesn't match.

Her aunt married the Emperor, and the Emperor is Yanyan's cousin, so it wouldn't be appropriate.

"No, no, the status doesn't match!"

The Prince Yanjun smiled, "Mother, we don't need to rush, let's take it slow!"

"You say that, but it's rare for you to agree to marry..." the Grand Princess said, reaching out to hold the Prince Yanjun in her arms, "Forget it, I won't force you anymore. If you don't marry, you don't marry. We'll adopt Yaya under your name, and you can be considered to have an heir!"

"Mother!"

After all, his mother truly loves him and is unwilling to force him in the slightest.

But this lifetime, he really does not want to marry. If he actually marries, it would be unjust to the girl.

The Grand Princess looked at her youngest son.

This child, born with poison, tormented for decades, is now finally cured. She truly should not force him.

Let him be, as long as he's happy.

At the gate of the Imperial Palace

When the Imperial Guards saw the Loyal Prince, they immediately stopped him, "Prince..."

"I wish to see His Majesty!"

"Please wait, Prince, we will send someone to report!"

The Loyal Prince stood at the palace gate, looking at the myriad of stars, unable to hold back his tears.

His grandchildren, who were supposed to be at their most adorable age, were cruelly murdered.

Now, he has come to seek justice.

Soon, Eunuch Hai arrived, "Greetings to the Prince, His Majesty requests you to return. His Majesty will not see you!"

The Loyal Prince, upon hearing this, laughed heartily after a long moment, "His Majesty will not see me?"

He staggered back several steps before saying, "In the end, I've overestimated myself!"

"Father..." Chu Xinhuan called softly.

The Loyal Prince waved his hand, "Let's go back. This trip has cleared my mind, I will no longer be so foolish!"

And the Emperor is no longer the one who needed his support back then.

However, he would see how long the Emperor could occupy the Dragon Throne.

"Father, why bother!" Chu Xinhuan asked softly.

Looking at the flying snow everywhere, "Father, does Heaven also feel that my two children died unjustly..."

Chapter 866: Moving Stuff

So February snow falls.

The Loyal Prince looked at the high walls of the Imperial Palace, said nothing, and boarded the carriage.

Chu Xinhuan also followed onto the carriage.

"Return to the Wang Residence!"

Imperial Palace, Yile Hall

Consort Le laughed heartily, "Everyone who has harmed this consort, this consort will not let a single one go!"

The Loyal Princess thought that this was the end, she was dreaming.

"Your Majesty, the Emperor is here!"

Upon hearing this, Consort Le hurriedly went to greet him, "Your Majesty!"

The Emperor looked at Consort Le and sighed deeply, "Beloved consort, let this matter rest here, in the future, do not act against the Loyal Prince's Residence anymore!"

"Why does Your Majesty say this?" Consort Le inquired.

"Earlier, uncle came to seek an audience, I refused him at the palace gates. I thought, Uncle must be cold-hearted towards me now, and will no longer protect me as he once did!"

"Your Majesty, he is your subject, and you are the ruler. What are you afraid of? Besides, without the Loyal Prince, you still have the Duke of Chu, your own uncle who will surely assist you wholeheartedly. Why not elevate the Duke's Residence further?"

"How?"

The Emperor indeed wished to elevate the Duke of Chu, but in recent years, the Duke's Residence had no notable achievements.

"By, for instance, showing meritorious service in saving the emperor!" whispered Consort Le into the Emperor's ear.

After hearing this, the Emperor laughed, "Beloved consort's strategy is good, I will arrange it!"

Consort Le laughed.

But after the Loyal Prince returned, he claimed to be ill and requested leave, ceasing to attend court. The Emperor sent medicine, but the Loyal Prince did not accept it, nor did he allow anyone into the Loyal Prince's Residence.

The Loyal Prince's Residence did not hold a mourning ceremony, only stating that the children would be buried after the Empress Dowager's funeral.

Everyone in the Loyal Prince's Residence acted extremely low-key.

In the blink of an eye, it was February.

Yun Jinnian brought all the rewarded items from the palace to the Commandery Princess Residence, totaling twenty carriages, swaying as they exited the Yun Residence.

Xu Xinmo, Yun Musi, Yun Mulan, three concubine brothers, and three concubine sisters all came along, saying they were here to help.

Upon arrival at the Commandery Princess Residence, it had already been cleared.

Yun Jinnian had people carry the chests inside and handed the items to Mammy Qian, "Mammy Qian, please arrange these, I've labeled the main courtyard, have someone move the items there!"

"Yes!"

Once the chest opened, it was truly glittering and dazzling.

So beautiful that it was blinding.

"How beautiful!" Xu Xinmo praised.

She reached out to touch it.

She always thought she had money but knew that Yun Jinnian was even wealthier.

Every time Yun Jinnian brought out her things, Xu Xinmo would feel a pang of jealousy and resentment.

Yun Jinnian smiled but did not offer anything.

Xu Xinmo felt quite embarrassed.

After tidying up, it was lunchtime, and today's lunch was simpler than usual, yet still exquisite and tasted good.

Xu Xinmo, Yun Musi, and Yun Mulan ate absent-mindedly, while the three concubine brothers and sisters ate heartily.

After the meal, they chatted in the hall, and Xu Xinmo said, "Cousin, my birthday is in a few days, I need to go to Jinshang Pavilion to buy clothes, will you go?"

"The Commandery Princess Residence is not yet tidied, I won't go!"

"Then I'll take Musi and Mulan, and after buying the clothes, we'll return directly to the Yun Residence, is that fine?"

"Fine!"

After seeing Xu Xinmo off, Yun Jinnian felt the air in the Commandery Princess Residence was much better, "Kuankuan, you're the elder brother, take the two younger brothers to play, but don't go far, and don't climb the rockery or go near the Lotus Pond!"

"Then, sister, what do you want us to play? How about you read to us?"

Chapter 867: Winning People's Hearts

Yun Jinnian laughed out loud upon hearing this, "Yes, but Sister is busy. How about letting Sister Zimo read to you?"

"Alright!"

The three children remembered well that Yun Jinnian liked scholarly people, so they were particularly attentive.

Yun Jinnian looked at them and smiled.

She then took Hemei and Henuan to the hall.

The servants of the Princess Residence were all there. Yun Jinnian read out a name from the Servitude Contract, and someone stepped forward to salute.

Hemei distributed the rewards.

"According to different individuals, the items vary in value. For women, there are pearl hairpins; for married women, fabrics and silver; for men, daggers and longswords. The daggers and longswords are from my grandfather's collection, and this is the only time I will distribute them. I only hope that you remember that no matter what kind of life you led before, I will try to improve your lives from now on, and give you more work to do!"

Yun Jinnian paused before continuing, "There are two large houses next door that I plan to tear down and use for planting herbs. Your task is to ensure that none of the materials, plants, or trees from the houses are discarded. Everything must be preserved and cleaned. I've already put up signs to see if anyone wants to buy them!"

"Commandery Princess, what about this Princess Residence?"

"This Princess Residence was bestowed by the emperor, so it cannot be demolished. However, aside from the servants' quarters at the back, the extra space will also be used to plant herbs. You might think I'm being excessive, but just look around among the common people. Many cannot afford food, medicine, or treatment. If you still think I'm being excessive after seeing that, then I have nothing more to say!"

Yun Jinnian's benevolence was so great that no one dared to object.

The two large houses were soon found by buyers interested in their plants, trees, faux rocks, stones, beams, and windows.

Yun Jinnian did not bother with these matters herself, as she had Little Dengzi to manage them.

To Yun Jinnian's surprise, despite being a eunuch, Little Dengzi was clever and quick-witted. Having served in the palace and attended to the emperor, he handled matters quite impressively.

In just five days, all the items from the two large houses were sold off. All that remained was to wait for the funds and proceed with the demolition.

"Commandery Princess, the items from the two large houses sold for a total of 1.75 million taels of silver. The few thousand taels in change were given to the few runners as compensation, based on my own decision."

Yun Jinnian smiled, "You did very well!"

It was a pity that Little Dengzi was a eunuch; otherwise, she would have loved to betroth Ru Yue to him.

Little Dengzi smiled, "Thank you, Commandery Princess, for your praise!"

"I praise you because you truly did a great job. Little Dengzi, do you have any wishes?"

"Wishes?" Little Dengzi was quite puzzled.

"Yes!"

"When I was young, my family was poor, and we often didn't have enough to eat. There were many younger brothers and sisters, so my parents sold me to the palace. I used to want to find my way back home, but after searching for many years without success, I gave up."

"Do you still want to find your family? If you do, I can send someone to help you search!"

"Commandery Princess, they can't be found!" Little Dengzi said dejectedly.

"Perhaps we won't find them. But what if we do? Don't you think so?"

Little Dengzi couldn't find them because he had no power or influence. Who could he send to look for them? Perhaps he spent money and the people he hired didn't even try to search.

Little Dengzi knelt down before Yun Jinnian, "Thank you, Commandery Princess, thank you, Commandery Princess. I am willing to serve you diligently and repay your great kindness!"

"There is no need for that, get up and speak properly. You are now the great butler of this Princess Residence. Kneeling so easily is improper!"

"The Commandery Princess is right, I was wrong!"

Chapter 868: Infuriating to Death

In a blink of an eye, it was the fourth day of the second month.

The fifth day of the second month was Yuwen Ming's wedding day.

After tidying up, Yun Jinnian took Xu Xinmo, Yun Musi, Yun Mulan, Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingqing, and Yun Qingzhi to the Princess Residence, to bring wedding gifts for Yuwen Ming.

Yuwen Ming looked at Yun Jinnian with a smile, "Jinnian, come sit!"

After the two sat down together, Yuwen Ming said, "I didn't expect you to bring your sisters to give me wedding gifts!"

"Why didn't you expect it? They are older now, it's time for them to come out and socialize!"

Yuwen Ming understood Yun Jinnian a bit, so didn't ask much.

"Anyway, thank you!"

Yun Jinnian smiled and handed a brocade box to Yuwen Ming, "I know you have everything, this is just a little token, quite tacky!"

Yuwen Ming opened it and found a silver note.

A deposit slip for one million taels.

"You..."

"You're marrying far away, who knows when you'll be able to return, and being far from the Capital City, there will be many places where Silver is needed. I intended to give gold and silver jewelry, but Silver is more practical. Don't think I'm tacky!"

It would be a lie to say she wasn't touched.

Such a large amount of Silver, enough to buy many gold and silver jewels.

Of course, it was also because of those two houses, otherwise, the gifts wouldn't be so costly.

They were all smart girls and understood well without more words.

Xu Xinmo and the others also gave gifts, which were not particularly expensive but still appropriate.

Yuwen Ming received them with a smile.

She was very nervous about getting married the next day.

She wanted to talk to Yun Jinnian for a while longer, but there were too many people bringing wedding gifts, so Yun Jinnian took Xu Xinmo and the others out of the bridal room.

Xu Xinmo was unhappy in her heart.

Because the next day was her birthday, but Yuwen Ming was getting married, everyone would come for the wedding feast.

It really made her furious.

But at least she could show off the new clothes she had made.

The fifth day of the second month

Yuwen Ming got married.

Early in the morning, Yun Jinnian accompanied Mrs. Han and took Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingqing, and Yun Qingzhi out.

Xu Xinmo wanted to go with Yun Jinnian, but Grandma Yun was also coming for the wedding feast, so she had to stay with Grandma Yun.

Yun Musi and Yun Mulan followed Mrs. He.

In the carriage, Yun Zuomo and the others were very nervous, Mrs. Han glanced at them, smiled and said, "You don't need to be nervous, I don't eat people!"

The three were slightly startled but still very nervous.

Mrs. Han glanced at Yun Jinnian, Yun Jinnian smiled helplessly, leaned closer to Mrs. Han, "You'll get used to it!"

Today, the Princess Residence was very lively, everyone who should come had come, and the carriage couldn't get close to the main gate, it had to stop on the main street outside.

Mrs. Han, Yun Jinnian, Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingqing, and Yun Qingzhi got off the carriage together and happened to meet Dai Hanmi and her entourage.

Old Madam Dai smiled at Yun Jinnian, "Jinnian girl!"

Mrs. Han quickly led Yun Jinnian and the others over, slightly curtsying, "Greetings to Old Madam, Marchioness!"

"No need for formalities, no need for formalities!" Old Madam Dai smiled.

Looking at Yun Zuomo and the others behind Yun Jinnian, she was slightly startled, "Who are they?"

"To Old Madam, these are my three concubine-born daughters!" Mrs. Han said softly.

There was not much affection, but no disdain either, just stating the facts.

"Oh, so they are your daughters, all pretty and sensible children. Come to the Marquis Residence to play in the future!"

As Old Madam Dai spoke, the maid behind her immediately handed purses to Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingzhi, and Yun Qingqing.

"These are not valuable things, take them to play with!"

Chapter 869: Clothing Turmoil

Dai Lao Tai Jun smiled kindly.

Upon giving the greeting gift, it was considered an acknowledgment.

Yun Zuomo and the other two respectfully accepted, "Thank you, Lao Tai Jun!"

"All good children!"

Dai Lao Tai Jun said, pulling Yun Jinnian closer, and headed towards the Princess Residence.

She complained, "Child, you don't come to the Marquis Residence to see this old woman, are you shunning me?"

"Of course not, just been swamped with trivial matters lately, so couldn't visit your residence!" Yun Jinnian quickly explained.

"Grandmother, grandmother, Jinnian is fooling you, she has been busy reorganizing the Princess Residence these days. Once it's done, we'll stay there forever, how about that?" said Dai Hanmi hurriedly.

"Alright, alright, let's listen to Mimi!"

Mrs. Han and the Marchioness had met early on, and again several times afterward; now reuniting, they found no shortage of topics to discuss.

The Crown Princess walked beside the Marchioness.

The Second Lady, due to her sizable belly, had to stay home and nurse her pregnancy.

Though ignored, Yun Zuomo and the other two were extremely excited.

They encountered several ladies along the way, who upon learning their identities also gave them greeting gifts.

Not for their own prestige but for the temple's sake; despite the Yun Residence not being prominent, with Mrs. Han and Yun Jinnian willing to bring these three along, face was still given anyhow.

Moreover, the greeting gifts weren't anything of significant value; one might need Yun Jinnian's help in the future, it's always wise to foster relationships.

The group had quite an enjoyable time.

Upon reaching the main entrance, the butler Granny welcomed them into the back garden to see Yuwen Ming.

Groups entered and exited, speaking auspicious words, Yuwen Ming in bright red attire, sitting upright with a smile radiant like a flower.

Yun Jinnian and Dai Hanmi spoke auspicious words together, then left the bridal chamber, making way for others to enter.

The young ladies from the Princess Residence came over to greet, each having their own places to go, the elderly women enriching their social circles.

Today, Yun Zuomo and the other two were exceptionally curious.

Learning they were Yun Jinnian's half-sisters, though puzzled, they greeted kindly, neither causing trouble nor showing excessive enthusiasm.

The few daughters from the Princess Residence were no exception.

No matter their pride, with Yun Jinnian having introduced them, none dared to neglect, fearing poor hospitality reaching the ears of the Grand Princess, their grandmother, they'd stand no chance.

When Xu Xinmo, Yun Musi, and Yun Mulan arrived, Yun Zuomo and the other two had already made several acquaintances, gathered around drinking tea and eating snacks, discussing amusing topics.

Yun Zuomo and her companions were rarely out, curious about everything said, fulfilling their vanity, thus increasingly willing to speak to them.

The trio listened intently, applauding at exciting parts.

Realizing everyone was looking, blushing shyly.

Without pretentiousness and sincere, they won much affection, befriending several others.

"Cousin!" Xu Xinmo cheered upon seeing Yun Jinnian, running happily to her side.

At that moment, Yun Jinnian was surrounded by Commandery Princesses and County Princesses, Dai Hanmi, though not officially titled, her aunt was the current Empress.

Yun Jinnian nodded at Xu Xinmo, "You've arrived!"

"Mm!"

Xu Xinmo responded, standing by Yun Jinnian's side, reluctant to leave.

Yuwen Ming's cousin immediately summoned a maid to bring a stool over, placing it beside Yun Jinnian.

Xu Xinmo promptly sat down.

Dai Hanmi glanced at Yun Jinnian, then at Xu Xinmo, "Jinnian, your cousin's outfit is quite nice!"

A girl lodging at her maternal grandparents', dressed better than her rightful cousin, where did that silver come from?

Chapter 870: Clothing Turmoil

She remembered that Xu Xinmo's father seemed to hold the official position of Prefecture and was currently posted elsewhere.

Could it be corruption?

The other women also looked at Xu Xinmo's clothes, "Oh my, this outfit is the latest design from Jinshang Pavilion, and it's said to cost twenty thousand taels of silver!"

"So expensive?"

"Isn't it? Look closely at the embroidery, it's double-sided. And the silk velvet on the flowers is carefully crafted with the threads individually broken and hooked! "

"Such delicate work, no wonder it's so expensive. I wanted to buy it last time, but my mother princess outright refused. To think that the cousin of Princess Yijia managed to buy it!" This was said by Yuan Siqian, the Commandery Princess of the Wang Residence.

Although the Yuan Family carries an external royal surname, it was personally conferred by the late Emperor. Yuan Siqian is the youngest daughter born of the official wife of Prince Yuanzhen, and she has always been well-loved and spoiled.

The outfit on Xu Xinmo, there's only one set in the entire Capital City. Yuan Siqian wanted it initially, but Princess Yuanzhen rejected it. Wearing it on Yun Jinnian would have been fine, after all, Yun Jinnian is wealthy, but instead, it was worn by Xu Xinmo.

A girl living at her maternal grandparents' house wearing such luxurious clothes, what is she trying to show off? What is she proud of?

"Oh dear, Princess Yijia, your cousin is truly rich. Yet today is actually Commandery Princess Ming's wedding, is your cousin trying to steal her spotlight by wearing such an expensive outfit?" Yuan Siqian's good friend, Zhuge Xi from the General Residence, hastily chimed in.

Looking at Xu Xinmo with disdain.

No matter how well she dresses, it won't suit her.

Xu Xinmo was infuriated.

"I, I, I..." Xu Xinmo stuttered, feeling inadequate in front of a group of Commandery Princesses and County Princesses.

Seeing Yun Jinnian still smiling lightly, she grew even angrier, wishing she could tear that smile off Yun Jinnian's face.

Yun Jinnian looked at Yuan Siqian and Zhuge Xi, "I see that the clothes on both Commandery Princess Yuan and County Princess Zhuge are also quite expensive. And look at the pearl on Commandery Princess Yuan's hair accessory, it's so rare that it's priceless. Could it be that Commandery Princess Yuan is also trying to steal elder sister Ming's shine?" Yun Jinnian smiled as Yuan Siqian was about to burst in anger, "I don't believe that. Everyone knows Commandery Princess Yuan and County Princess Zhuge are the most kind-hearted people. Dressing up prettily today is to share in elder sister Ming's happiness, to bless her. Hoping she marries a suitable gentleman. If they came looking untidy, wearing old clothes from previous years, that would be absolutely unacceptable!"

Dai Hanmi laughed heartily, "Jinnian is right. Everyone has a love for beauty. Especially us girls, who doesn't want to dress beautifully? Even my grandmother spent the whole morning picking out her jewelry box!"

Several of Yuwen Ming's cousins also laughed and said, "That's true, we went to greet grandmother this morning, and she took quite a while to pick through her jewelry as well!"

Everyone was surprised.

Indeed, who didn't carefully select their clothes and jewelry for today's wedding banquet?

Everyone wants to dress better than others, to look more beautiful.

What's wrong with Xu Xinmo dressing well and looking luxurious? Yuan Siqian and Zhuge Xi are clearly just picking a fight.

"It's not right to talk about Aunt like this!" Qu Mianke spoke from not far away in a deep voice.

Everyone turned to look.

A few girls from the Princess Residence stood up, "So Aunt is here, please come and sit!"

Facing a Commandery Princess who was not liked by the Grand Princess, the girls from the Princess Residence were unafraid.

Qu Mianke snorted coldly, looked at Yun Jinnian, then Xu Xinmo, "Which family's daughter are you, dressed so lavishly? Is your father an official in the court?"