

Indulgence 921

Chapter 921: True Colors

After several years of training, Hemei has long been capable of managing affairs independently.

She handles matters with great skill and experience.

Yun Jinnian thought of it, and naturally, Mrs. He and Wang Yanran did too. They immediately locked up all the maids and servants in the courtyard and interrogated them harshly.

Yun Zhen hurried over, and Wang Yanran threw herself into his arms, unable to contain her tears.

Yun Zhen held Wang Yanran tightly, "Don't be afraid, I'm here. We'll have children again!"

"Husband..."

But after several maids and servants were beaten half to death, they turned on each other, yet the mastermind behind it all was not uncovered.

"Sell them all to the lowest grade brothels!" Wang Yanran screamed.

Yun Zhen waved his hand and allowed it.

Old Mistress Yun, upon hearing of Wang Yanran's miscarriage, knelt in front of the jade Buddha statue, reciting the Diamond Sutra, but her heart was in turmoil.

The Wang family quickly sent someone over. Madame Wang saw the pale-faced Wang Yanran and immediately burst into tears, "My poor daughter!"

Wang Yanran cried too, and mother and daughter embraced, sobbing together.

Mrs. He stood aside, her expression changing repeatedly, not knowing how to console them. At this moment, any comfort seemed hollow!

That was her precious grandson too!

Marquis Yuanshen Residence

Yun Muyou vomited badly, throwing up whatever she ate, her complexion also terribly pale.

Weng Jianrui gently patted her back and fed her water, "Feeling any better?"

"Mm!"

Yun Muyou nodded.

Her husband treated her like a precious jewel, and her mother-in-law had to reassume management of the household affairs because she was pregnant, while her brother-in-law and sister-in-law respected her immensely.

This was the life she had hoped for.

As for her sister-in-law at her natal home losing a child, she didn't take it to heart.

After all, she's still young. Without this child, she could recover and conceive again. But she still said, "Marquess, could you go back to my mother's home for me? No matter how you look at it, now that my sister-in-law has lost her child, I should go see her, but in my current state..."

Yun Muyou spoke weakly, leaning against Weng Jianrui.

"Alright, you rest well. I'll have Mingzhu accompany you. I'll be quick in going and returning. Is there anything you'd like to eat? I'll bring it back for you!" Weng Jianrui asked softly.

"I don't really crave anything. Don't trouble yourself, Marquess!" Yun Muiyou said, asking a maid for the storeroom keys, handing them to Weng Jianrui, "Marquess, choose something valuable from the storeroom!"

Weng Jianrui nodded, "Alright!"

He had long wanted to see what was in Yun Muiyou's storeroom, but never had the chance, which was why he had to have Yun Muiyou conceive.

Sure enough, once Yun Muiyou was pregnant, she handed over the management and storeroom keys.

Weng Jianrui went to Yun Muiyou's dowry storeroom, picked two items, and saw some remarkable jewelry, which he also took with him.

After a bit of sweet talk with Yun Muiyou, he left the Marquis Residence.

He went directly to the Yun Residence, delivered gifts as a condolence, sat for a moment, then left the Yun Residence and headed straight for a street.

This street housed many officials with minor ranks, and when Weng Jianrui's carriage reached a certain household, his servant looked around before inviting Weng Jianrui to get off the carriage.

As soon as Weng Jianrui dismounted, the door creaked open.

A stunningly beautiful woman in white stood at the entrance, smiling charmingly at Weng Jianrui.

"Marquess!"

"Jiao Niang!"

Weng Jianrui called out, entered the courtyard, and embraced the woman fiercely for a long kiss.

Only when both were breathless did Weng Jianrui carry the woman horizontally into the inner room, lay her on the bed, and quickly undressed her and himself, pressing her down and taking her vigorously.

Chapter 922: Knowing the Truth

The alluring lady originally came from a brothel, but she was just redeemed by Weng Jianrui with Silver and was kept in this small courtyard.

Weng Jianrui also came occasionally to enjoy himself, leaving behind some things and Silver before departing.

The lady knew Weng Jianrui was married; the Marchioness was from the Yun Family, not someone she could compare to in status.

But she was clever, striving to please Weng Jianrui, determined to win his heart and bear a son or daughter to rely on in the future.

Whenever Weng Jianrui came, she did her utmost to cooperate, ensuring Weng Jianrui left both physically and mentally satisfied.

"Marquess..."

"Hmm!"

"Give me, I beg you!"

It was this coquettish demeanor that Yun Muiyou lacked.

Yun Muiyou was the legitimate daughter of the Yun Residence, a bit spoiled; Weng Jianrui wanted to possess her thoroughly, but couldn't; often unable to fully enjoy.

So he kept one outside, with pleasures known only to him.

Weng Jianrui left satisfied, and Weng Jianxun then slipped in stealthily through the back door. Once inside the bedroom, he saw the alluring lady lying limply on the bed.

"Lady, has my brother been here?"

The lady smiled, extended her foot towards Weng Jianxun, "Second Master!"

Weng Jianxun laughed, swiftly grasped the lady's foot, and threw himself over, grabbing the quilt to cover the lady's face.

As he took her forcefully, all he could think about was that day at Huiquan Tower, Yun Jinnian clad in brocade clothes, beautiful as an immortal!

Prince Rui Residence

Chu Yu flipped through the gift list in his hand, meant for use when proposing to the Yun Family.

Personally reviewing the list, organizing the betrothal gifts himself, ensuring each item had to be perfect.

"Prince!"

"Hmm?"

Luoyi thought for a moment before saying, "Marquess Yuanshen is keeping a courtesan outside!"

Chu Yu heard it but didn't even look up, speaking nonchalantly, "What does it matter to me?"

Luoyi didn't understand why Chu Yu wouldn't expose Weng Jianrui, yet had someone keep watch — why was this?

Chu Yu couldn't be bothered to explain.

Yun Jinnian had not lived well in the Yun Family those years; he wouldn't easily let the Yun Family off, only that the time wasn't right yet.

"Just continue to monitor him, no need to intervene more!"

"Yes!"

In broad daylight, Prince Rui was attacked on the streets of the Capital City, the news spread wildly, and at night, the Crown Prince of the Great Zhou Kingdom also suffered an assassination attempt and was injured on the face. The Emperor sent people to express condolences, along with many gifts.

Chu Yu only had them stored in the warehouse without looking at them and didn't go to the palace to express gratitude.

However, in the Capital City, the Imperial Guards were arresting people everywhere, causing a state of tension.

Everyone was on edge.

Yun Jinnian, after spending an afternoon studying the three obediences and four virtues, stood up to gaze at the view outside the window.

"Commandery Princess, have some tea!"

Yun Jinnian received the tea, and Hemei said, "Yesterday, His Highness Prince Rui and Princess Jinfeng were attacked on the road!"

"..."

Yun Jinnian looked at Hemei in astonishment.

Yesterday he sensed the smell of blood on Chu Yu and had been busy without asking, even failing to properly entertain Princess Jinfeng.

Unexpectedly, he was attacked.

"Commandery Princess, rest assured, His Highness is fine!"

Yun Jinnian shook his head slightly, "It's not about whether he's fine or not, but about my lack of concern for him!"

Yesterday, he couldn't ask him directly but could have asked Princess Jinfeng instead.

"Commandery Princess..."

Hemei softly called, but Yun Jinnian had already entered the small hall.

Hemei quickly chased after him, seeing Yun Jinnian opening a medicine box in the study room, taking out several bottles of medicine, "Hemei, make a trip and deliver these to Prince Rui Residence!"

"Yes!"

Now that Princess Jinfeng is back, what about Nuannuan? Is she planning to return or continue staying at the Han Family?

Chapter 923: On Methods

For Yun Jinnian, it made little difference where the child stayed; she would treat Nuannuan well regardless.

It's just that it's now inconvenient to visit the Han Family at will.

However, with Tianci and the wet nurse around, she felt at ease.

When Chu Yu received the medicine sent by Hemei, he couldn't stop smiling.

Princess Jinfeng watched from the side, smiling slightly, "Brother!"

"Hmm?"

"When will you bring Nuannuan back home!"

Her child, she loved dearly, but was initially powerless. Now she understood clearly.

Since Leng Binghan had no intention toward her, she would not pursue it anymore and would just raise Nuannuan well.

"Alright!"

Chu Yu agreed.

However, she could still only be Chu Yu's child, which was a bit unjust to Yun Jinnian, who was pointed at even before marrying in.

Yet he firmly believed that Jinnian would support him in this matter!

Old Madame Yun was actually a very idle old lady, from copying the Three Obediences and Four Virtues on the first day, to later teaching etiquette, in the blink of an eye it was already the Empress Dowager's funeral day.

These days, people in the Capital City were abuzz about two matters: Commandery Prince Rui brought back a few months old child, said to strongly resemble Prince Rui in the eyes and brows.

The other matter was the genteel and graceful Prince Yanjun was getting engaged.

Imperial Palace, Weiyang Palace

The Empress had been sitting by the window for a long time; the Empress Dowager's funeral had all been arranged, she only needed to mourn a few days before the funeral.

But what she never expected was that Prince Yanjun was getting engaged.

Although the lady had not yet been decided, her heart felt as if it were being sliced by a knife.

"Shaoyao!"

"Your Majesty?"

"When will people from the Marquis Residence enter the palace?"

Shaoyao thought for a moment, then said earnestly, "They should be able to enter the palace in the next few days!"

The Empress nodded slightly, saying no more.

Prince Yanjun acted this way to imply to her that there was no possibility between them anymore.

He would marry and live his days, and she would live her wealthy life.

If she could, she wouldn't want this...

But she had no other choice.

For the Dai Family, for those who relied on the Dai Family, she could only sit in the Empress's position.

How much she wanted to be selfish once, disregard everything, leave this Imperial Palace, and live with the one she loved.

She sighed deeply, closed her eyes, and remained silent.

At the end of March, seven days before the Empress Dowager's funeral, those qualified to enter the palace to keep vigil filed in, a dark mass of people, but fortunately, the weather wasn't too hot or too cold, making it more bearable.

The Empress Dowager's funeral was kept simple, with not even a burial accompaniment.

Although it was the Empress Dowager's decree before she passed, the civil and military officials still saw that the Emperor had no filial affection for the Empress Dowager, coupled with the vague rumors in the Capital City saying the Empress Dowager was poisoned by the Emperor, the officials' initial disbelief had now planted seeds of doubt in their hearts.

Consort Le originally thought of raising a prince beside her, but seeing the Empress Dowager's end, she lost all intention.

Besides, the Emperor was still young, three or five decades wouldn't be a problem, during this time she could seek a favor to leave the palace someday...

"Your Majesty, the Emperor is here!"

Consort Le cheerfully went to greet him, "Your Majesty!"

Seeing the Emperor's weary face, she said lovingly, "Your Majesty, please sit and let me massage you to relieve your body!"

"You're still the one who cares for me!"

"Your Majesty is my heaven, if I don't care for Your Majesty, who would I care for?" Consort Le said, her hands becoming restless.

She had known the taste of passion from a young age and understood what kind of women men liked, having also been taught for months by the madam of a brothel; her skills were unlike those modest princesses who were bashful in bed.

Chapter 924: Joyful Consort's Thoughts

The Emperor was soon panting, enjoying and moaning aloud.

"Beloved concubine, your skills have grown today!"

Concubine Le laughed and exerted herself even more.

Yet the only dissatisfaction was the Emperor could not truly satisfy her, and there was no man in the palace.

No, there were men.

For example, those Imperial Guards...

Recalling the night in the abandoned palace, the man who brutally possessed her, Concubine Le became even more passionate, swearing to find him.

"Achoo!"

Lan Yichen sneezed.

The subordinate beside him hurriedly asked, "General..."

"No problem, it's just my nose is a bit itchy!" Lan Yichen said, rubbing his nose.

Yet his thoughts were fleeting.

He never imagined that the woman from that night was the Emperor's favored concubine, today's Empress Le.

Even more unexpected was that Empress Le, clad in splendid attire, was extraordinarily alluring, making one want to ravage her fiercely.

Standing beside the Emperor, it made him not dare to look directly!

Yet, in his mind, he couldn't shake off Empress Le's soft and tender, watery body.

"Hoo!"

Lan Yichen exhaled, instructing the Imperial Guards to continue their patrol as he headed to the Imperial Garden.

Wandering around the Imperial Garden, he encountered palace maids and eunuchs, using patrol as an excuse to dismiss them.

Yet he did not see Empress Le coming to the Imperial Garden.

Lan Yichen felt disappointed because of this!

Yun Residence

After the Empress Dowager was buried, Old Madam Yun was ill for several days.

"Let the second wife come and nurse the illness!" Old Madam Yun said weakly, lying on the bed.

Ming Liu was taken aback for a moment, "Yes!"

Turning to leave.

Old Madam Yun spoke again, "Ming Liu!"

"Servant is here!"

"You're not young anymore, how about sending you to serve the second young master?"

Ming Liu was startled, dropping to her knees with a thud, "Old Madam, servant, servant..."

"What is it? Are you aggrieved to serve the second young master?" Old Madam Yun said coldly, very displeased.

She wanted to send Ming Liu to the third young master, but she had been ill for several days, and the third young master hadn't come to see her, whereas the second young master had come several times.

Yet it was only to sit for a while, ask a few questions indifferently, and then leave.

The eldest young master Yun Zhen came every day, though.

"Servant dares not, servant dares not!" Ming Liu immediately cried out.

Second Master had a favored mistress, what good would it do for her to go? She might not receive the second master's favor.

The eldest master is different, he has several mistresses but treats each quite well.

Ming Liu believes that, being part of the old lady's household, the eldest master would surely regard her differently.

Originally, she aimed for the eldest, second, and third young masters, but none of the young masters took a liking to her.

"Since you dare not, then go..."

"Grandmother!" Xu Xinmo called sweetly, entering the bedroom and seeing Ming Liu kneeling on the ground, puzzled, "Grandmother, did Ming Liu upset you?"

Old Madam Yun said nothing, looking at Ming Liu, "Stand up!"

"Thank you, Old Madam!"

Ming Liu immediately rose and ran out, secretly thankful that Xu Xinmo arrived in time.

In the bedroom, Xu Xinmo massaged Old Madam Yun's legs, "Grandmother, what happened with Ming Liu?"

"This girl, I kindly intended her to serve your second uncle, but she was unwilling!"

Truly ungrateful.

Xu Xinmo smiled, "Grandmother, second uncle has a favored mistress who dares to even confront my second aunt. Ming Liu grew up by your side, soft-hearted and gentle, how could she possibly compete with the favored mistress. I suggest she goes to serve the eldest uncle instead!"

Old Madam Yun hesitated upon hearing this.

Thinking of Mrs. He, ever since she became the mother-in-law, she increasingly disregarded her.

And none of the mistresses around Yun Chen are good, none can compare to Ming Liu in service.

Chapter 925: Yun Chen Takes a Concubine

Xu Xinmo saw Madame Yun's expression soften and hurriedly continued, "Uncle has to manage the vast Yun Family, working tirelessly day and night, yet he doesn't have anyone close to assist him. Ming Liu has served Grandmother closely and attends to people with utmost care. If she were by Uncle's side, she would undoubtedly attend to him perfectly. With no worries, Uncle could focus more on managing court affairs. Grandmother, don't you think this makes sense?"

"Indeed, it makes sense!" Madame Yun thought it over carefully and agreed with Xu Xinmo's proposal.

Xu Xinmo left Cixin Academy with a smile.

In the evening, when Yun Chen came to greet, Madame Yun called Ming Liu forward.

"Mother?" Yun Chen called softly.

Ming Liu was quite good-looking, literate, and had spent many years by Madame Yun's side, possessing a good demeanor.

She was particularly charmingly dressed today, prompting Yun Chen to take a few more glances.

"You don't have anyone close by to take care of you. After much thought, I've decided to give you Ming Liu!"

"Mother..."

Yun Chen exclaimed in surprise.

Suddenly standing up, he saw Ming Liu kneeling on the ground.

Though the weather wasn't hot yet, Ming Liu dressed rather coolly, her chest was full, very ample.

The words of rejection were suddenly hard to say.

"Chenchen, in the past, I was muddle-headed and often made mistakes, but now I know I was wrong and am striving to correct. Giving you Ming Liu today is firstly to warm your bed, and secondly to take care of you!" Madame Yun said, pausing before continuing, "It's not that Mrs. He isn't good, but she manages the large household, busy every day, even organizing the marriages of several children. How can she have more time to care for you? You are my son, and I naturally have to plan for you!"

Madame Yun spoke with righteousness, appealed to emotions, and reasoned with logic.

Yun Chen had originally intended to refuse, but looking at Ming Liu's ample chest and considering that having another concubine wouldn't matter much.

"I'll listen to Mother!"

Thus, Yun Chen acquired another woman.

Madame Yun smiled, sending someone to call Mrs. He over.

Mrs. He, upon learning at Nuanxin Academy that Madame Yun gave Ming Liu to Yun Chen, was so angry her face turned blue.

It took a while before she cursed aloud, "That old hag, causing trouble for the second branch and now for the main branch!"

Yet she could only suppress her anger, swallow her pride, and went to Cixin Academy, accepting Ming Liu.

The main branch gained another Concubine Liu.

Niannian Garden

"Elder Brother took Ming Liu?"

"Yes!"

Yun Jinnian pondered slightly, "Send a congratulatory gift to Concubine Liu. It needn't be too extravagant, but shouldn't be too stingy!"

"Yes!"

Hemei immediately went to deliver the gift.

The main branch having another Concubine Liu didn't cause much of a stir.

Yun Chen did, however, prepare a table full of dishes and invited Yun Qi and Yun Bi.

The three brothers sat together, none speaking first.

After a long time, Yun Chen sighed and raised his cup, "Second Brother, Third Brother, I toast to you with this cup!"

Yun Qi raised his cup, clinked it with Yun Chen's, and took a shallow sip.

Saying nothing.

Yun Bi hesitated for a moment, raised his cup, drank it in one gulp, and stood up, "Don't invite me to drink so casually in the future. I don't really want to come. Besides, the three of us aren't that close, certainly not like our youth. Elder Brother and Second Brother were upright and worthy men, righteous and admirable. Now, to me, the two Yun gentlemen have become sycophants and traitorous hypocrites!"

Yun Qi drank his wine, remaining silent.

Yun Chen, on the other hand, was so furious that he smashed his wineglass, "Is this what you think of me?"

His blood brother saw him as a despicable person.

Thought of him so vilely.

Despite his ongoing efforts to mend the bonds between brothers!

Chapter 926: Brotherly Quarrel

"Isn't Yun Chen a hypocrite? Letting his wife mistreat his legitimate niece and allowing such a venomous niece to live with the Yun Family, why don't you use your brain to think about why the Xu Family hasn't come to take her away? You short-sighted despicable man, you think without that initial merit of following the dragon, you could become a third-rank official today? Dream on!"

Yun Bi's words were like uncovering Yun Chen's facade.

He was an Imperial Censor, but the most despised.

In the court, no matter whom he impeached, someone would always respond, "Lord Yun should first manage himself, manage the Yun Family, manage Lady Yun and the Old Madam, before impeaching others!"

Blocking him entirely.

It's said that a thousand-mile dam is destroyed by ant holes, and his future was destroyed by domestic affairs.

But what could he do? Initially, he genuinely did not know Yun Jinnian was being mistreated; after knowing, he did try to manage, thinking his wife and mother would heed his words, but they simply did not remember at all and continued as they pleased.

Yun Jinnian went to Yingci'an for a year; no one from the mansion visited, not a single penny, not a grain of rice was sent.

After knowing, he felt deeply remorseful.

Now isn't Jinnian living well? With her excellent medical skills, she's been enfeoffed as a Commandery Princess, and on the day of her coming of age, the entire Capital City's dignitaries sent their congratulatory gifts.

She is high above, endlessly glorious, living so well, so brilliantly, isn't that good?

"Yun Bi!" Yun Chen shouted angrily.

Yun Bi sneered, "What? Angry out of embarrassment? Yun Chen, let me tell you, you are unworthy of being a man, unworthy of being a father, unable to manage your wife, unable to educate your children!"

After speaking, he turned and walked out.

This family, it's better not to stay.

He would never come back again, tomorrow he would go to the clan and request to be removed from the family.

Yun Chen watched Yun Bi leaving in strides, then looked at Yun Qi drinking calmly, "You won't help me either!"

"The third brother is not wrong, neither of us are good people, both are hypocrites, he is right, why should I help you?" Yun Qi asked coldly.

One wrong step leads to wrong steps all the way.

Wrong is wrong, the harm is done, with no room for turnaround, he dared not think further.

Watching Yun Qi leave, Yun Chen slumped into the chair but accidentally tipped it over, falling to the ground.

"Hehehe!" He laughed coldly.

In the past, the three brothers were so good.

Entering and leaving together, encouraging each other, supporting each other.

But from when did the three brothers become like this today, incompatible as fire and water?

He looked at himself again, as Yun Bi said, his son and daughter were not taught well.

Three daughters were selfish, three sons clueless, spending every day outside doing who knows what?

This family had already begun to decline, he tried hard to turn the tide, but no effect at all...

No, there is still someone who can help the Yun Family.

"Jinnian, yes, Jinnian, as long as we obtain Jinnian's forgiveness, as long as she is willing to help her siblings, the Yun Family can definitely get through this crisis!"

Thinking of this, Yun Chen laughed heartily.

His mood instantly improved.

He got up, without gathering his clothes, rushed to the courtyard to find Ming Liu.

Ming Liu had long bathed, changed into clean clothes.

Having come to the Yun Family at a young age, witnessed Yun Family's prosperity, more so witnessed the household's strife, and knew well how to serve people.

Seeing Yun Chen, she called coquettishly, "Master!"

Her chest was large, revealing a snowy white.

Yun Chen felt a surge of heat, Ming Liu immediately handed over the wine, "Master, although I am a concubine, I also want to be with Master forever, harmoniously. Master, would you drink this glass of wine with me?"

Chapter 927: Sweet Disappointment

Concubine Liu dared not call it the wedding wine, because she didn't have the right.

Just like she could never wear red clothes in the future.

Besides, there was something that Xu Xinmo secretly gave her in this wine, saying it would ensure the master would fall in love with her and no one else.

Yun Chen looked at Concubine Liu, firstly for her health, and secondly because she had served the old madam for many years and knew too many things that he wished to find out from her.

Naturally, he followed Concubine Lian's example.

Having drunk the wine with Concubine Liu, Yun Chen didn't feel anything different.

However, Concubine Liu boldly grabbed Yun Chen's hand and placed it on her chest, "Master, tonight, I am all yours!"

"Liu'er!" With a shout, he pinned Ming Liu onto the bed.

He really used force.

The maids serving outside couldn't help blushing.

Never expected that despite Master's age, he still had such stamina; listening to Concubine Liu's soft yet irresistible voice was too much.

Several young maids instinctively tightened their bodies!

Truly unexpected, the demure Ming Liu from the old madam's quarters sounded so enchanting, and even less expected was that the usually serious master was so fierce.

Even those who originally had no such thoughts suddenly found courage.

Ming Liu was also a maid, and she could become a concubine, so they too could naturally become one!

Nuanxin Academy

Mrs. He downed the entire glass of wine; she was already drunk.

"In the past, he gave me at least a semblance of respect, but now he leaves me with none!" Mrs. He said, breaking into tears.

Though she had advised herself to be open-minded, when the old madam gave Ming Liu to Yun Chen, she felt both angry and scared.

Ming Liu knew too many things about the old madam and equally about her...

"Madam?" Tianmi softly called.

Mrs. He looked up at Tianmi.

Not badly formed, no longer young, she asked, "Tianmi!"

"Madam!"

Tianmi felt a thread of joy deep down.

She guessed the madam intended to give her to the master.

Ming Liu became Concubine Liu, so she could also become a concubine.

"Forget it!"

After a moment's hesitation, Mrs. He slightly shook her head, rejecting her initial thought.

Tianmi had been her head maid, serving her for years; how could she bear pushing her to that scoundrel Yun Chen.

Upon hearing this, Tianmi was instantly filled with disappointment.

Yet she concealed the emotions in her eyes.

"Tianmi!" Mrs. He called again.

"Madam?"

"Come here, let me tell you clearly!"

"Yes!"

Tianmi stood by Mrs. He, listening to her whispering, and looked at Mrs. He in disbelief.

Mrs. He seemed very drunk, but her mind was clear, so what she instructed was astonishing yet understandable.

The old madam gave the master a concubine; Mrs. He then arranged to buy two beauties proficient in music, chess, calligraphy, poetry, and song, to teach them for some days and also give them to the master as concubines.

This was to drain the master's energy and compete with the old madam.

"Go and handle it carefully, best if the two are sisters, always together in their activities!"

What's one compared to two!

Since the old madam didn't care about her son's wellbeing, why should she, the mother of his children, care!

"Yes!" Tianmi replied.

Not understanding why Mrs. He would seek far rather than near.

She too wanted to be a mistress, not serving others all day and being at their beck and call.

But the madam disagreed, and she didn't dare.

After all, among the concubines of the main house, aside from the second lady who was married off, and the third lady who disappeared, none had children.

The reason those women didn't have children was clear to Mrs. He!

And the problem certainly didn't lie with the concubines, but with the master...

Chapter 928: The Original Intention

No matter how many twists and turns in the main house, and how troublesome the second house is.

Yun Bi moved out regardless of everything.

When the Yun matriarch found out, she hurried to stop him.

"Are you trying to drive me to death!" the Yun matriarch shouted angrily.

Yun Bi looked at his mother who resembled a madwoman and smiled coldly, "All of you, get out!"

The maids and servants immediately retreated.

"What do you want to say?" the Yun matriarch asked, feeling particularly guilty.

"It's nothing much, just wanted to let the matriarch know that the servant you thought died years ago is still alive, those maids are also alive, and even the missing Yun Tai is alive!"

The Yun matriarch, frightened, stumbled back several steps.

"You, you..."

"Matriarch, let's make a deal!"

Upon hearing this, the Yun matriarch closed her eyes in despair.

The son she bore for ten months calls her matriarch and threatens her into doing things she doesn't want to do.

"Yun Bi, what exactly do you want to do?"

"I don't want to do anything, just want to leave this filthy Yun Family!"

If it weren't for Shuniang, Jinnian, and Tianci in the Capital City, he wouldn't have returned in this lifetime.

"You, you..."

The Yun matriarch pointed at Yun Bi, unable to utter a complete sentence.

She collapsed into the chair, crying out in anguish, "How did I give birth to such a beast!"

If she had known he would be so rebellious and unfilial, she should have strangled him back then.

Yun Bi coldly watched the matriarch cry her heart out and spoke coldly, "I will go to the clan shortly to ask for expulsion, henceforth having no relations with the Yun Residence. If the elders inquire, you just need to agree and speak ill of me, it's fine. If you don't agree, I don't mind resorting to drastic measures, exposing all the Yun Family's shameful secrets!"

After saying this, he stepped out.

He didn't care if the matriarch could bear it.

He had given them chances, ten years were enough for a person to reflect, right?

What was the result? No reflection at all, only becoming more overbearing.

The Yun Family is no longer as it was when father was present, foolish fathers and foolish mothers, that's what the Yun Family has become.

Yun Bi's departure did not cause much stir.

The clan sent someone to inquire, Yun Chen agreed, and even the matriarch agreed. Henceforth, the Yun Family no longer had a third master. Yun Qi threw out Yun Bi's belongings, which were taken by beggars.

This blow truly made the matriarch ill.

Ill to the point she couldn't get out of bed, muddled as if near death.

The Imperial Physician came and went but didn't help, yet the matriarch held on, preferring to invite the Imperial Physician rather than letting Yun Jinnian treat her.

Because of this, Yun Jinnian enjoyed some leisure.

News also came from Liao Shijie's side, coincidentally some promising young scholars planned to marry, not minding if the girls were legitimate or not.

Plus, with Liao Shijie as the matchmaker and it's Yun Zihan's sister.

And having an elder legitimate sister designated as Commandery Princess by the Emperor was appealing.

Liao Shijie's intention was for Yun Jinnian to bring Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingqing, and Yun Qingzhi to the Liao Family to meet and choose, if they liked each other, then they would marry.

After the imperial exam, they might become an official's wife.

For this, Yun Jinnian found Mrs. Han and explained the matter clearly. Mrs. Han looked at Yun Jinnian and sighed lightly, "Why do you toil so arduously for them? You might not even receive a word of thanks later!"

"Mother is right, but they risked being punished by the Lady to inform me back then. I'm just repaying that kindness!" Yun Jinnian said faintly.

This was her original intention.

Chapter 929: Persuading Yun Qi

"But this favor is too heavy to repay. How much silver did you give them?"

"A hundred thousand taels!"

Mrs. Han laughed in exasperation, "You are quite generous!"

"It's not really about being generous. At my coming-of-age ceremony, Father gave me a full ten million taels of silver notes, so this bit truly isn't much!"

Mrs. Han was stunned, "He actually gave you that much silver?"

"Yes, I had someone ask at the bank, it's available anytime, it's real!"

Mrs. Han fell silent.

What did Yun Qi plan by giving away so much silver?

But how could Mrs. Han know that Yun Qi sold all the family's properties that could be sold outside? He didn't intend to give anything to the three illegitimate daughters. Each of the three illegitimate sons got a three-entry house, a manor in the Outer City, two shops, and an additional hundred thousand taels of silver notes. He didn't give them any more than that.

Concubine Xi received only one manor and a hundred thousand taels of silver notes, and wasn't given any houses or shops.

Yun Qi still had some silver left in his hands, meant to be Yun Jinnian's dowry.

No matter how much he had ignored in the past, his true concern was still Yun Jinnian and Mrs. Han.

"Mother, do you think I should return it to Father?" Yun Jinnian softly asked.

She was indeed not lacking in silver.

"Since he gave it to you, just keep it. It's a good thing for a young lady to have silver in hand!" Mrs. Han said gently.

Understanding somewhat Yun Qi's intentions.

But after so many events, there was no longer any possibility between her and Yun Qi.

Being able to stand together and speak a few peaceful words was only because of Yun Jinnian.

If not for Jinnian, she would have already divorced Yun Qi.

"I'll listen to you, Mother!" Yun Jinnian replied with a faint smile.

After thinking for a moment, she added, "What about Grandmother?"

Speaking of Old Mrs. Yun, Mrs. Han was filled with anger. All day long, she only knew how to create trouble and harass people. Now it was better; she was lying in bed, unable to move, yet constantly coming up with wicked schemes.

"She doesn't allow you to come near her, so don't go. Let her be. Whether you read in Niannian Garden or come over to chat with me, both are fine!"

Yun Jinnian nodded, "Then, Mother, tomorrow I'll take Zimo and the others to Second Sister's house. If they fancy anyone, it's better to marry them off early!"

Mrs. Han sighed helplessly.

She had no choice but to nod in agreement.

Yun Jinnian then had someone notify Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingqing, and Yun Qingzhi to visit Yun Zihan's house the next day.

It would be the first time for the three since Yun Zihan's marriage, and since they were going for matchmaking, they were especially careful.

Concubine Su and Concubine Hua also racked their brains, determined to dress their daughters beautifully, and gave them lots of advice to ensure safety and find a good husband.

After chatting with Mrs. Han for a while and noticing Mrs. Han's fatigue, Yun Jinnian finally got up and left Qingjue Academy.

Qingjue Academy, Academy of Severed Affection.

Yun Jinnian pressed her lips together, "Hemei!"

"Commandery Princess?"

"Is... Father at home?" Yun Jinnian exhaled.

Hemei thought for a moment before saying, "I haven't heard of him going out, he should be home, probably in the study!"

"Let's go to the study then!"

This was Yun Jinnian's first time visiting Yun Qi's study since her rebirth.

The little servant guarding the door was quite shocked to see Yun Jinnian, "Commandery Princess!"

"Go and report in!"

"Yes!"

The little servant immediately went into the study to report.

"Second Master, Second Master, the Commandery Princess has arrived!"

Yun Qi paused with the brush in his hand, and Concubine Xi, who was grinding ink, stopped too, spilling ink into the ink stone.

Shocked, bewildered, and angry.

Why had she come? What did Yun Jinnian come for?

Yun Qi stood up, glanced at Concubine Xi, "You go out!"

"Second Master?" Concubine Xi called out in disbelief.

"Out!"

His voice turned cold, leaving no room for doubt.

Chapter 930: Thick-Skinned

Aunt Xi stomped her foot in anger, let out a huff, and stepped out of the study.

When she saw Yun Jinnian, she said, "Don't get too complacent!"

Complacent?

Yun Jinnian found it amusing.

She was a Commandery Princess, and Aunt Xi was just a concubine, nothing more than a dog or a cat; was she worth dealing with?

She stepped into the study.

Seeing Yun Qi standing in front of the desk, she called softly, "Father!"

"Hmm, why are you here?"

"I came over to chat with Father!"

Yun Qi was extremely surprised upon hearing this and pointed to the chair on one side, "Sit down!"

"Yes!"

Yun Jinnian walked over and sat down on one side, then looked at Yun Qi, "Father, I came today to ask about Zimo, Qingzhi, and Qingqing's marriage plans. Do you have any plans for them?"

Yun Qi remained silent for a moment before saying, "Their marriages will be arranged by their concubine mothers!"

The implication was that he wouldn't care about them.

Yun Jinnian nodded, "Then what about me?"

"Your marriage will be decided by your mother. I won't intervene!"

He couldn't manage the legitimate daughter, and he was too lazy and didn't want to manage the illegitimate ones.

The only difference was the dowry.

Yun Jinnian nodded, "And what about the dowry?"

Yun Qi looked at Yun Jinnian.

He knew that Yun Jinnian wasn't short of money and naturally wouldn't care about the dowry, so she must be asking for the three illegitimate daughters.

"..." Yun Qi remained silent.

He hadn't planned on preparing dowries for them at all.

"Father!" Yun Jinnian called softly, took a deep breath, and said, "You have four daughters and three sons. But among the four daughters, which one is close to you? Which one would think of you?"

Yun Qi said nothing.

Yun Jinnian stood up and said, "Father, even if you don't like them, you still need to give them some dignity. Also, I want to let you know that tomorrow I'll take them to Second Sister's home to have a look. Perhaps soon, they will be getting married!"

"..."

Yun Qi never dreamed that Yun Jinnian would help Yun Zuomo and the other two.

Mrs. Han no longer resented them?

"Father, I'll be leaving now!"

"Go back then!"

Watching Yun Jinnian leave, Yun Qi took a deep breath.

He wasn't a good father or a good husband.

Nor was he a good son.

For so many years, he was nothing!

After hesitating and pondering for a long time, Yun Qi finally made a decision, "Someone!"

"Second Master?"

"Go to the Outer City and buy three three-entrance courtyards, six shops, and then buy three estates!"

The servant, upon hearing this, agreed and went out to handle the matter.

Returning to Niannian Garden.

Hemei quietly asked Yun Jinnian, "Commandery Princess, why bother?"

Few would give away silver like that.

Yun Jinnian smiled, "I'm not short of silver!"

But she also didn't want to give Yun Zuomo and the other two too much, so she went to Yun Qi.

Her father, who prided himself on being sentimental, was actually the most ruthless.

Hemei still did not understand.

Yun Jinnian smiled without speaking.

She didn't want to explain unnecessary things, preferring to let things happen naturally.

After handling the affairs of the three illegitimate sisters, Chu Yu would soon propose, and she would completely leave the Yun Family, severing all ties.

But before leaving, some people had to be dealt with.

Xu Xinmo, upon learning that Yun Jinnian was planning to take Yun Zuomo, Yun Qingqing, and Yun Qingzhi to the Liao Family, was so angry her face turned black as a pot's bottom.

"What exactly does she mean by this?"

Granny Jin had received some information but didn't plan to tell Xu Xinmo.

After spending some days together, Granny Jin found Xu Xinmo too foolish; knowing more would only spoil things.

It was better not to let her know.

"Granny, do you think I should go with her tomorrow?" Xu Xinmo asked.

She hadn't considered putting Yun Matriarch in her heart at all.

Nor had she thought about attending the sick.