

## **Noble Wife 211**

### **Chapter 211 How Long Until You Become the Head of the Family?**

There was a strong smell of blood in his nose. Pei Yusheng took two steps back and looked at Pei Yuanjun's back with a frown as the latter left. His face darkened.

It was not that there were no sisters marrying an uncle and nephew among the citizens, but in the royal family, there was a rule that it would be fine if the sisters were cousins or relatives, but it would not be fine if they were biological sisters, and they had to think about it carefully. It was naturally fine for the sister who was first arranged to marry, but the latter one had to be carefully verified.

Pei Yusheng did not intend to let Qu Qiuyan become his Princess Consort, but he intended to let her be his Side Princess. After all, he was satisfied with Qu Qiuyan at the moment. No matter which lady he liked in the future, he felt that it was very appropriate for Qu Qiuyan to be his Side Princess. The two of them had been in contact privately for a period of time, and Qu Qiuyan was also a gentle lady.

If not for the fact that Qu Zhizhen's position was too low and he didn't have much power, he would have definitely intended to marry Qu Qiuyan as his Princess Consort.

Since it was a Side Princess position, he had to let the royal family verify it. Father had long known that Pei Yuanjun had taken fancy to Qu Zhizhen's youngest daughter, and it could be considered that it had already been arranged early. On the contrary, although the matter between him and Qu Qiuyan happened first, it was well concealed, so Father knew about it later.

It seemed that he had to think about it carefully. Was it a bit too much to give Qu Qiuyan the position of Side Princess? Pei Yusheng didn't want the Emperor to interfere in his personal matters at all.

Even if it were just an ordinary verification, it was best not to catch others' attention. This was what Mother repeatedly warned him.

"My Lord, do you want to go take a look first?" Seeing him standing there with a cold face, the guard reminded him in a low voice.

Lord Jing stayed behind to deal with the aftermath. At this time, he naturally could not leave.

Pei Yusheng frowned. He actually wanted to go back long ago, but this matter was ordered by Father that Pei Yuanjun was the one to take charge and he was the one to assist. Now that Pei Yuanjun had left, it was inconvenient for him to leave.

“Find a clean room for me to sit for a while, and have someone clean up the mess,” Pei Yusheng said.

In fact, he had wanted to leave a long time ago. In such a place, he always felt that some eerie things could appear anywhere. If not for to please Father at that time, he would not have taken this job.

Every time he came to this place, he would feel uncomfortable for at least several days.

“Yes, Your Highness, please come with me.” The guard nodded and led him to the place where Lord Yun rested. Lord Yun was different from Lord Jing. When Lord Yun was in the capital, he would come and visit this place from time to time. Lord Jing, however, was rarely seen. Even if he came, he would only ask things casually and not even take a seat.

“Uncle Yun rests here every time he comes?” Pei Yusheng stood at the door and did not go in.

“Yes, this is Lord Yun’s office.” The guard nodded.

“Get another place.” Pei Yusheng turned around decisively.

“Those rooms are a bit smaller than this one, and the decorations are also ordinary.” The guard hesitated for a moment and said.

“Any one will do!” Pei Yusheng said. Entering this kind of place would make him feel a lot of pressure. And this was Pei Yuanjun’s office. Pei Yusheng did not dare to think whether there was anything that would make him apprehensive around here.

It was already late at night. It seemed that he would not be going back early today. He had to find a place to rest, but the thought of lying on the bed where Pei Yuanjun usually rested was out of question for him. Pei Yusheng felt that he did not want to do this at all.

In the next few days, it was very peaceful in Qu Mansion, but this peacefulness seemed heavy. When Qu Moying went to pay her respects to the Old Lady, the Old Lady would have a gloomy face. Even though she was smiling, she was smiling very reluctantly. Qu Moying would then tactfully leave early. Currently, the matter was no longer up to Qu Mansion to decide.

In fact, there was not much that Qu Mansion could do.

At most, they could only wait.

What Qu Moying did not expect was that Granny Yan still stayed in Qu Mansion. She did not go back to the palace when Qu Moying entered the palace. She said that it was Dowager Consort Qu's idea to let her stay by Qu Moying's side. If there was anything wrong, she could also guide her.

To have such a high-ranking upbringing granny stayed by her side, Qu Moying knew that she was not the real reason. After returning to the mansion, she specially went to visit Granny Yan.

Unexpectedly, Granny Yan's attitude was much better than before. She also did not mention Qu Caiyue's matter. It was as if she did not intervene in this matter at all. She looked as if she had nothing to do with it at all.

Since she did not mention it, Qu Moying did not ask about it. She could not ask anything in a roundabout way, so she just asked people to take care of Granny Yan. It was just like feeding an extra mouth in her yard. As for the rest, Granny Yan was sensible. Even when she had nothing to do, she would definitely not try to be close to Qu Moying.

Although her attitude was still very arrogant, at least she could still talk to Qu Moying occasionally and give her some good suggestions. Qu Moying could not find a reason to make her leave, and that was why Granny Yan just stayed there.

Granny Yan did not mention anything, but Qu Qiuyan seemed to be very impatient. She had come to Qianyue House several times, clearly hinting that she wanted to see Granny Yan. Qu Moying did not stop her and asked someone to invite Granny Yan over directly. However, Granny Yan ignored Qu Qiuyan. Every time they went to invite her over, she would say that she was not feeling well.

As for the others, she would say that it was inconvenient for her to meet them.

After a few visits, Qu Qiuyan stopped coming. Qu Moying's place was finally quiet.

On this day, after Qu Moying reported to the Old Lady, she took Yu Chun to the street. Their carriage stopped at a bookstore. This was one of the few large bookstores in the city. She had already invited Concubine Xiang to meet her here. In her life as Ji Hanyue, she would often come over to take a look. After her rebirth, she had never come here.

It was a double-storey bookstore. There were a few small rooms on the second floor. In the past, there would be people sitting and reading, but they would need to spend money on tea. Moreover, the tea was not cheap. Therefore, many people would rather sit outside than sit in the small private rooms.

Reading was what made people feel comfortable, and it was not necessary to drink tea.

Qu Moying entered a private room with familiarity. A staff of the bookstore brought tea over. Yu Chun paid for the tea and retreated to the door to wait for Concubine Xiang at the stairs.

Concubine Xiang did not come alone. She also brought the Ji Family's second young master, the current Ji Family's Young Master, Ji Yuanhai.

Yu Chun hurriedly led the people to the private room.

After greeting each other, the guests were seated.

Ji Yuanhai still looked like a child, but his behavior looked calm. He first explained to Qu Moying, "Fourth Lady Qu, Grandmother doesn't allow Concubine Xiang to go out alone. And she only let her out if I follow her along. Do you need me to go out first for her to talk to you?"

"No worries! I was originally looking for you." Qu Moying smiled and shook her head. Her gaze fell on the youth before her. Under her eye veil, her eyes were slightly dark red.

Ji Yuanhai looked a bit like her father. Judging by his eyebrows, she seemed to be able to vaguely recognize her father's eyebrows.

"Looking for me?" Ji Yuanhai was stunned for a moment. He subconsciously raised his head and asked in surprise. Although he looked a lot calmer, he was still a half-grown child. He looked at Qu Moying in confusion.

"Young Master, how have you been these days?" Qu Moying asked with a smile. She really wanted to talk directly to Ji Yuanhai, but because it was not appropriate for a man and a woman to meet alone, and there was no direct relationship between them, it was really inconvenient. So she thought of asking Concubine Xiang to send a message. She did not expect that Ji Yuanhai would show up directly.

"What do you mean, Fourth Lady Qu?" Ji Yuanhai frowned.

Qu Moying said casually, "Is the Ji Family's second branch letting you go just like that?"

Although Ji Yuanhai was the second branch's concubine-born son, he was now the first branch's heir. From this point of view, when he met Ji Yong'an and Xiao in the future, he should address them as Second Uncle and Second Aunt. They were no longer his father and mother like before.

"How could he be fine? The Second Madam and the Old Lady have been pulling a long face at Young Master." Concubine Xiang interrupted and sighed. She was just a concubine. And she would be restrained in her days in the Ji Mansion. Although Ji Yuanhai had the title of Young Master, he was still a child. Moreover, he used to be the second branch's concubine-born son.

Now that his position was above the second branch's wife-born son, other than Ji Yong'an, everyone in the second branch did not feel good about it. When other people saw him, they would always show disrespect to him.

"Two days ago, Eldest Young Master even found a reason to beat Young Master up."

"What reason?" The corners of Qu Moying's lips curled up slightly.

“What other reason could there be? Naturally, he did it under the pretext of practicing martial arts. He said that the deceased Earl is a hero, so how could Young Master be an insignificant person? When I went to see him, Young Master was being mounted on and was beaten heavily,” Concubine Xiang said angrily.

One was already an adult, and the other was still a child. There was no chance of winning for Ji Yuanhai at all. At that time, Concubine Xiang was extremely angry, but there was nothing she could do. She could only help Ji Yuanhai back to his place with a distressed heart and ask people to apply some medication. Fortunately, Ji Yuanxing did not dare to go too far. He did not hit Ji Yuanhai in the face. Otherwise, Ji Yuanhai would not be able to come out to see anyone today.

“Concubine Xiang, don’t worry. I will practice martial arts properly in the future. I will definitely be able to win.” Seeing Concubine Xiang sadly wiping away her tears with a handkerchief, Ji Yuanhai hurriedly comforted her.

“How long?” Qu Moying asked leisurely.

“What?” Ji Yuanhai looked at Qu Moying in confusion, not understanding the meaning of her words.

“I’m asking how long will it take for you to beat Ji Yuanxing, or how long until you become the head of the family?” Qu Moying looked up and asked, leaning back against the back of the chair.

How long would it take to become the head of the family?

Ji Yuanhai was suddenly stunned. Ji Yuanxing had wanted to take over the family business since he was a child, so he started training early. He was different from Ji Yuanhai, a concubine-born son who was not valued at all. If Ji Yuanhai wanted to defeat him, he would need at least four to five years. At that time, he would be more mature. If he trained hard, he might be able to beat Ji Yuanxing.

As for inheriting Earl Ling’an’s title, there were too many variables. These few days, Ji Yuanhai had learned new things. It turned out that even though he had inherited the position of Young Master, the future inheritance of Earl Ling’an’s title was not so easy. If Concubine Xiang had not explained it to him, he would have thought that he had won.

If he could not inherit the title, then everything at present would be in vain. Not to mention becoming the head of the family. There were so many elders in the family. Moreover, he used to be a concubine-born son of the second branch. As for Concubine Xiang, she did not have the power to say anything regarding any important issue.

He needed time, but now that he thought about it, he felt that there might not be so much time for him to wait. He felt so sad that his head drooped.

Concubine Xiang also lowered her head and let out a long sigh. The current situation looked like they had won the first step, but in fact, Concubine Xiang was also very confused. She was so sorrowful that her eyes turned red.

Besides, the life and death of the Third Lady were still unknown.

“Concubine Xiang, your position is really not that high.” Seeing both of them react like this, Qu Moying slowly reminded them.

## Chapter 212 First Young Master Qi Who Liked Music Scores

Ji Yuanhai suddenly raised his head and looked at Qu Moying in shock. He asked seriously in his somewhat childish voice, “Fourth Lady Qu, what do you mean?”

“Nothing. I just feel that the status of Concubine Xiang is too low. She can’t protect you in the mansion, right, Young Master?”

Although she was asking him, Ji Yuanhai could tell that her words didn’t sound like a question at all.

Ji Yuanhai’s heart moved, and his eyes became excited. “Fourth Lady Qu, do you have a way?”

Although Fourth Lady Qu was not much older than him, he was inexplicably convinced. And one thing, although he was young, he could see clearly that Fourth Lady Qu had a lot of feelings for his family's first branch and how she wholeheartedly focused on the matter of his third sister. Ji Yuanhai had also been investigating the issue for the past few days, but unfortunately, he was too powerless to find anything.

"Fourth Lady Qu, that is impossible. The Old Lady won't agree." Concubine Xiang shook her head with a wry smile. She had been to the governor's mansion to complain and caused things to be like this, so how could the Old Lady be satisfied with her? These days, she had been using various methods to deal with her. If the Old Lady wanted to deal with a concubine of her son, naturally there were many ways to do so.

Besides, Xiao was also there to sow discord, and it could be imagined how Concubine Xiang's situation might be.

"Is the Old Lady going to take you to do a ritual in a few days?" Qu Moying asked calmly.

According to the capital's rules, whenever there was a death of a loved one, a ritual should be done in the temple. With Earl Ling'an's status, the Old Lady would definitely show up personally. Moreover, the venue would most likely be Dabei Temple.

The Ji Family had experienced unexpected issues one after another, and now was the time when they needed a good reputation the most.

"Yes, there will be a ritual. It has already been decided. It will be held at Dabei Temple." Concubine Xiang wiped the corners of her eyes with a handkerchief and nodded.

"On that day, can I trouble you to lead the Old Lady to the main hall where the eternal flames are lit, Concubine Xiang?" Qu Moying asked.

"Which hall?" Concubine Xiang thought for a moment and asked.

Dabei Temple was not small, and because of this, there were several halls with eternal flames. The Ji Family had lit up eternal flames for Earl Ling'an before, and they were in the best hall.



"The best hall. I'll light up two eternal flames for Uncle and Cousin Hanyue there," Qu Moying said. Those who lit the eternal flames in the best hall were of extraordinary status, and Qu Moying, the daughter of an assistant minister, was barely qualified. As a result, there were not many eternal flames in that area, and there were very few people who came to pay respects. It was the quietest place.

"Fourth Lady Qu, you're planning to..." Concubine Xiang asked in astonishment.

"Concubine Xiang, don't ask anything. Just cooperate with me when the time comes." Qu Moying shook her hand and interrupted Concubine Xiang.

Concubine Xiang was skeptical. She looked up at Ji Yuanhai and saw that he also looked thoughtful. She was a little uncertain. It was not that she did not believe in Qu Moying. It was just that she was really uneasy when she saw Qu Moying's thin and vulnerable appearance.

"Concubine Xiang, just promise Elder Cousin!" However, Ji Yuanhai was much more straightforward.

Then, he nodded without hesitation and said, "When the time comes, I will also go with you. If Elder Cousin needs any help, you can just call me. Maybe it is more convenient for me to do some things than Concubine Xiang. There are some things that are inconvenient for her to do, but I might be just right."

Since the Fourth Lady of Qu Mansion was also wholeheartedly helping him, as the Young Master of the Ji Family and now a member of the first branch, Ji Yuanhai felt he should call her Elder Cousin.

Qu Moying smiled and nodded. Back then, Ji Hanyue was indeed Ji Yuanhai's elder cousin sister. Now, it was really deserving of Qu Moying to be called cousin by Ji Yuanhai.

"Then it's a deal." Qu Moying nodded.

"Alright, I understand." Concubine Xiang nodded solemnly. Since Young Master had agreed to this matter, she would just work hard to cooperate. Granny Zhou had said that Fourth Lady Qu only wanted to find Third Lady. If Third Lady was alive, she wanted to see her in person; if Third Lady was dead, then she wanted to see her corpse. It was just that it was difficult for her to make a move in Ji Mansion. She could not help her regarding Third Lady's matter at all.

They had no evidence, and there was no trace of usable proof either. In fact, the most important thing was that they did not have any power. They only had a title, and they were being targeted. Even the servants in the mansion did not think highly of them at all. How could they say anything useful to them?

Since the matter had been discussed properly, Qu Moying did not keep the two of them. Concubine Xiang and Ji Yuanhai got up and left together. Qu Moying was not in a hurry to leave. She asked the staff of the bookstore to find some music scores for her. After checking them carefully, she bought a few books that were good and left with them.

The stairs to the second floor of the library were not wide and they were steep. Qu Moying walked very carefully, but the people who rushed up were not careful.

Seeing that the people coming up from below were about to rush up, Yu Chun hurriedly squeezed in front of Qu Moying, and she bumped into the person opposite her. Her body swayed, and she directly fell on her buttocks on the stairs.

"I'm really sorry." The person opposite her saw that he had bumped into someone and stopped. He looked at Qu Moying apologetically.

Yu Chun was dressed in a maid's outfit, so he could tell that she was a servant.

However, Qu Moying's dressing was rather very special. There were not many people wearing eye veils.

A few young masters came over from below. Behind them, young servants were holding writing brushes, ink, papers, and inkstones. One of them raised his voice and asked, "What's going on? Why did you stop?" When he got close, he saw Qu Moying pulling Yu Chun up. For a moment, he felt embarrassed.

The young man in the lead looked very refined. He was about twenty years old and looked kind. He was gentle and handsome. It was just that he was in too much of a hurry and his forehead was covered in sweat. He cupped his hands at Qu Moying and apologized, "I'm really sorry. I'm really sorry. My lady, if you're hurt anywhere, we can have you checked by a doctor immediately."

"It's fine," Qu Moying glanced at them and said slowly. She did not panic just because she saw so many young men. She lowered her head and asked Yu Chun softly, "Are you okay?"

Yu Chun moved her arms and legs and nodded. "I'm fine, my Lady."

"Let's go then!" Seeing that her expression did not change, Qu Moying knew that there was nothing serious, so she did not intend to stay.

However, the lower section of the stairs was blocked by the people below. They could not move for a minute and could only look at the young man opposite them. "Young master, could you please make way?"

"Sure, sure," the young man hurriedly said. He leaned to the side and the people behind him also leaned close to each other, making a path out. Qu Moying held Yu Chun's hand and walked through them gracefully.

After they left, those young masters from aristocratic families began to discuss at the stairs. "Was that the Fourth Lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion?"

Someone raised a doubt. "Maybe not. She might be the Guardian General's daughter. I heard that she also has an eye problem. From her natural and graceful appearance, she doesn't look like an ordinary lady."

"That's right. The Fourth Lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion lost her mother when she was a child. She did not have much upbringing. Moreover, she had been raised in the village. How can she be so decent and dignified?" Someone agreed.

"But rumors cannot be trusted." Another person retorted.

"Maybe it wasn't either of them. There might be other ladies with an eyesight problem." Someone teased.

Qi Xiuran's gaze fell on the front. He was Duke Qi's Mansion's eldest son, and his father was the current Heir-apparent of Duke Qi. Even though Duke Qi was no longer an active official, he was still ranked as one of the great aristocratic families.

"What's wrong?" Seeing that he had been deep in thought, a friend beside him asked in a low voice.

"Nothing. Let's go up and see if the music score is still there." Qi Xiuran sorted out his expression, turned around, and quickly walked upstairs.

They had heard that there was a music score here that was unique, but it was incomplete, and they wanted to take a look. That was why Qi Xiuran was in a hurry and almost bumped into Qu Moying.

When they heard him say this, none of them had the mood to gossip any longer. These people also liked music scores, so they quickly followed behind him.

When they reached the top, they found that there was no music score they were looking for at all. They called the staff to ask about it and found that they were a little late. It happened to be bought by a lady just now.

It was obvious that it was the lady with the eye veil just now. It seemed that her eyesight was indeed not very good.

The young masters all let out a sigh. They all felt that if they had come earlier, they would have gotten the music score in their hands.

Someone suggested that they could find this lady to buy it off at a high price. Anyway, the music score was incomplete. It was useless in the hands of ordinary people since they did not know how to complete it. Even if they do, it would not be something good.

These young masters all had outstanding family backgrounds, and when they discussed this, they felt right.

Therefore, the next thing they discussed was whether this lady was the Fourth Lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion or the daughter of the Guardian General.

The identities of these two people were completely different. They felt that it would be easier to get the score from the lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion. As for Miss Liu, they heard that she had been refusing visitors after she came to the capital. Even Lord Jing, who went to see her several times, was refused, let alone them.

"By the way, isn't your mansion going to hold a banquet? I heard that many ladies in the capital will be going. Maybe Fourth Lady Qu and First Lady of the Guardian General's Mansion will show up too. At that time, you can see which one of them has the music score. Maybe if you ask for it, they will immediately agree to give it to you."

Someone suggested.

Qi Xiuran was one of the few renowned noble young masters in the capital. There were many ladies from aristocratic families who had taken a fancy to him. There would definitely be many ladies who would be willing to grab the chance to impress him.

"Yes, exactly!" Someone said. Naturally, there were people who agreed and nodded repeatedly.

Then, one by one, they echoed each other. Qi Xiuran had no way to deal with them. He could only say, "Alright, I'll go take a look when the time comes. If the music score was really bought by the lady we met just now, I will definitely think of a way to get it from her."

He had really thought about that music score for a long time and had also searched for it for a long time. However, he had never found it. He had thought that it might no longer exist, but unexpectedly, a classmate told him that there was one in this bookstore. Unfortunately, he was still a step too late, and it was difficult for him to give up. After listening to their proposal, he felt that it was not too absurd, so he agreed.

If there really was one, he would definitely think of a way to persuade that lady to sell it at a high price. However, although he had only seen a little bit of her delicate face just now, there was an inexplicable sense of familiarity. It was very strange.

He was sure that he had never seen this lady before...

## Chapter 213 Shopkeeper of the Clothing Shop Was Surnamed Yu

Qu Moying did not return to the mansion directly. Instead, she went to the tea house where she drank tea the last time.

Previously, when Yu Dong saw an old maid receiving the money, she went up to reprimand and threaten her, and the old maid told Qu Moying everything in detail, which saved her a lot of trouble.

There were still two shops across the street. One was a gold jewelry shop and the other was a clothing shop. The Crown Prince's Mansion's gold jewelry shop became bigger and bigger, and the clothing shop on the other side also looked very good. It could be said that they complemented each other. In the clothing shop, one could buy clothes or textiles, as well as accessories related to clothes. In the gold jewelry shop, one could buy some precious jewelry and similar things.

It was a rare opportunity for Qu Moying to come out, so she naturally wanted to do things as well as she could in one go.

Yu Qian was the shopkeeper of the clothing shop. Everyone in the shop called him Shopkeeper Yu. He had been in charge of such a clothing shop for so many years and could be considered an experienced businessman. Apart from some small hobbies, he was a very capable person. Over the years, he had made a lot of money for Yu.

He looked chubby and his appearance showed good fortune. Yu treated him well and gave him many benefits.

As a remote clan member of Yu, he was able to get Yu's appreciation and had worked for her smoothly for many years, so he must have his unique abilities in addition to being extremely loyal to Yu.

Even though Yu was having a hard time in Qu Mansion, he still took Yu as his Master. The first thing he did after earning money was to send it to Yu. If it were in the past, he would do additional things to

make Yu happy. But now, he could not see Yu. The money that was sent in actually fell in the hands of Third Lady.

He did not doubt Third Lady. He just felt that Third Lady was much less talkative than Madam. Recently, he really had something to ask Madam for help.

Madam's life in Qu Mansion was not very good. Since the incident with Crown Prince's Mansion last time, people all said that Madam was vicious and cruel to the legitimate daughter of the first wife, and then Madam was sick again, so Yu Qian had not seen Yu for a long time.

He came out of the shop listlessly and looked around. However, he did not see anyone he wanted to see. Yu Qian sighed again.

Previously, he had asked Qu Mansion's servants to secretly send a message to Madam, saying that even if Madam did not appear, and Auntie Hai Lan, who was by Madam's side, appeared, it would do.

However, the message had been sent for several days, but he had not seen anyone from Qu Mansion. Yu Qian grew more and more listless. Just as he was about to go back, he suddenly saw a familiar person coming from the opposite side of the street. He hurriedly turned his head and pretended not to see the person. He wanted to go back to the shop.

Unexpectedly, that person was sharp-eyed. When he saw Yu Qian hiding, he immediately ran a few steps and shouted, "Shopkeeper Yu, Shopkeeper Yu."

Yu Qian wanted to pretend that he did not see the person, but that person's voice was too loud. Even the shop assistants heard him and turned to look at him.

Yu Qian could only stop and try to squeeze out a smile. He turned his head and looked at the person. "Oh, it's you, Shopkeeper Lu."

Shopkeeper Lu's shop was not far from him. The shop was smaller than his, but the two of them had a common characteristic—the shops both belonged to Qu Mansion.

Qu Moying sat in front of the window and saw the similarly plump Shopkeeper Lu holding Yu Qian's hand affectionately. The corners of her lips curved up silently. She had asked Yu Dong to keep an eye on this side, but she did not expect that she would really find something extraordinary. Whether it was this Yu Qian or Shopkeeper Lu, they were both Yu's confidants.

Moreover, their shops belonged to Mother. It was just that they were now under Yu's name, so all the profits were openly handed to her.

Yu probably hadn't intended to keep Qu Moying alive, so the handsome profits from these shops were not shared with Qu Moying at all. The shops fell into the hands of Yu as if it was a matter of course. Yu took over them in a flagrant manner.

To the public, Yu even declared that these shops were Qu Mansion's, or even her own.

Naturally, the shopkeepers under her believed her without a doubt.

At the moment, the two shopkeepers thought that the richest person in Qu Mansion was Yu. As long as Yu dropped a little bit of money between her fingers, it would be enough for them to solve all the problems. Unfortunately, they could not meet Yu now, so the originally small matter was escalating into a big matter.

The old maid who had been bribed seemed to act very fast. Today, Qu Moying did not bring Yu Dong out so that he could handle this matter. This time, it was just right.

"What's the matter, Shopkeeper Lu?" Outside the teahouse, Yu Qian had a smile on his face and looked like he was poking fun. He just wanted to get away as quickly as possible.

"Shopkeeper Yu, the money you mentioned before..." Shopkeeper Lu had been here a few times recently, but he did not see Yu Qian in person. This time, he finally saw him, so he immediately got straight to the point.

Talking about this kind of thing on the street was rather embarrassing. Yu Qian was anxious. He came up and grabbed Shopkeeper Lu's hand. "Come on, let's go. Let's drink some tea first."



As he spoke, he pulled Shopkeeper Lu over to the teahouse.

Upstairs, Qu Moying saw them enter the teahouse. She lowered her eyes slightly and ordered, "Go take a look."

Yu Chun nodded and cleverly walked to the door. She slightly pulled open the door and looked outside. Sure enough, she heard sounds coming from the stairs. Then, she saw the two shopkeepers book a private room and enter. It seemed that they were going to talk inside.

"My lady, they went in. The door is closed." Yu Chun turned around and reported. Coincidentally, the private room was on the opposite side of their room.

"Are there people in the two rooms on the side?" Qu Moying put down the teacup in her hand.

"There is one empty room, the one on the right, whose door is open. It looks like there is no one inside." Yu Chun looked carefully just now. The room was next to the room where the two shopkeepers entered.

Qu Moying stood up and gently pushed the cup on the table. The teacup was flipped over and the tea immediately wet the table. Then, the teacup rolled to the table and fell heavily to the ground. It shattered.

"Change us to the empty room. This room is messy now. Please help clean it up." When Yu Chun saw the situation, she understood. She walked outside, called a waiter over, and handed over a piece of silver.

Looking at the silver in his hand, the waiter smiled and nodded repeatedly. He brought them to the room they had talked about and served tea again before leaving.

This piece of silver was more than enough to pay for everything. Even if Qu Moying smashed all the snack plates inside, there was no need for this amount of silver.

Qu Moying sat down again and leaned against the wooden board.

These private rooms were separated by wooden boards. The effect of sound insulation was not good. If one talked a bit louder, the conversation would easily be overheard.

At this time, the two people in the room were talking in a low voice. It seemed that they were discussing something. Qu Moying could not hear them clearly. She lowered her eyes and took a sip of tea. Then she slowly put it down and closed her eyes to listen quietly.

With her eyes closed, her hearing also became a bit sharper. Slowly, some sentences fell into her ears.

"I really don't have money." It was Yu Qian's voice.

"It's been so long. If we don't have money, both of us will be in trouble. Can you really not see Madam?" Shopkeeper Lu said anxiously. He reached for a peanut on the table and threw it into his mouth. Feeling that the food was tasteless, he spat it out again. He was extremely annoyed. "Why don't you return the money to me first? Then think of a way for yourself."

"I really don't have money now." Yu Qian spread out his hands.

"If you don't have money, then look for Madam. To Mrs. Yu, all of this is nothing. You are a relative of Madam's family. You are different from us. If this drags on, I really will be crushed. When the time comes, they will find out the deficit, and I am not Madam's relative. And if I can't give a reasonable explanation, I will be doomed if Madam misunderstands me."

"Madam won't misunderstand you. I will explain it to her when the time comes," Yu Qian hurriedly said.

"You can't even see Madam. Why are you talking about this? I heard that two young ladies are currently in charge of the mansion." Shopkeeper Lu was not really ignorant. He reached out and pulled Yu Qian's sleeve. "Return the money of my shop to me first. I am going to stock up now. In the beginning, you asked me to wait for a few days. Now, a few days have passed and it has not been returned. I can't even stock up now."

Shopkeeper Lu regretted it. Why did he lend this sum of money to Yu Qian at that time? Now he could not take it back. He was so anxious that he could not eat or sleep well. He was afraid that something big

would happen. Recently, he had been feeling nervous. In fact, he had helped Yu Qian before, but every time, Yu Qian would return the money on time, so nothing had happened.

But this time, it had really been delayed for too long.

“Yes... Yes, these few days, in these few days... Soon... Brother, help me out again... In just a few days, I will see Madam again. If it really doesn’t work, I will see Third Lady... I will definitely return it to you.” The sweat on Yu Qian’s forehead popped up, and he hurriedly said. He reached out to wipe the sweat on his forehead and laughed to cover it up. “Recently, it has been very hot. It is going to be summer soon.”

“Will you really make it in a few days?” Shopkeeper Lu said with a serious face.

“Yes, in a few days. Very soon. Don’t worry, I will definitely not delay it any longer,” Yu Qian hurriedly said.

“Brother, I’ll give you another few days then. If this drags on, I really can’t help you anymore. When I went to report the accounts a few days ago, Third Lady asked me about the inventory. I said that I would stock up in a few days and that I haven’t chosen the goods yet. If there is any delay, I... I can only confess and sacrifice you.”

Shopkeeper Lu confirmed again.

“Don’t worry, there will definitely be no more delay this time. No more delay. Everything will be OK.” Yu Qian was trying his best to seize the last straw. He was almost swearing with his life. He couldn’t help but become excited.

Seeing that he was so sincere, Shopkeeper Lu could only believe him once more. After all, Yu Qian was from the same clan as Madam, wasn’t he?

After Shopkeeper Yu made such a solemn promise, Shopkeeper Lu did not stay any longer. He bid farewell and left, leaving Yu Qian alone inside to drink his tea. After drinking for a while, he felt boring, so he asked the waiter to buy a pot of wine for him. The more he drank, the more annoyed he became.

Speaking of this matter, it was really an accident. It dated back to a month ago. At that time, he really did not worry about this matter. No one would have thought that such a small matter would...

#### Chapter 214 A Mistake Made After Getting Drunk.

Yu Qian liked rooster fighting and bird fighting. This was actually nothing. Many people in the capital had those hobbies.

A while ago, Yu Qian got a good rooster. According to the seller, this rooster was very fierce. It was a piece of cake for it to fight a few other roosters. The breed was a mutant from the land of the far west. The price was not high either. Yu Qian liked it the moment he saw it. No matter what, he had to buy it.

He didn't have enough money at the moment, and coincidentally, Shopkeeper Lu was here, so he borrowed from him.

At that time, he didn't care much. In the past, when he took a fancy to a rooster or bird, it was not a big deal. He just bought it without hesitation. Even if he borrowed the money from the shop a little, he would quickly pay it back.

Yu was very satisfied with Yu Qian. She would send money to him not only during festivals but also every season.

Yu Qian originally was waiting for the money that Yu would send, and he would then return the petty cash, so he kept dragging it on.

He was indeed satisfied with the rooster. Whenever he brought it around, he would win repeatedly, and the money in his hand increased. For a moment, he got too excited, and when later he fought with others, he was instigated to make a big deal. Unexpectedly, something happened this time. The rooster that had never lost was actually defeated, and he suddenly owed a large sum of money.

With such a large sum of money gone, how could he not panic? If what he owed previously was not much, then this time it was really a big sum. Everything he had was gone.

He had always been winning. He never thought that he would lose this time. Almost all of his wealth was lost. After that, he had no choice but to borrow money from Shopkeeper Lu again.

Shopkeeper Lu had always been on good terms with him. In the past, he had also borrowed money from Shopkeeper Lu, so the latter did not think much this time. Shopkeeper Lu did not have much money in hand, so he took out his cash for buying goods. He thought it was just a matter of a few days. With Madam there, no matter what happened, she would interfere.

However, he did not expect that such a thing would happen. Qu Mansion had an accident, and Yu was "sick". Moreover, he had not seen Yu for a long time. No matter how Yu Qian tried, it was useless.

Now, the current person in charge was Third Lady. Although she was Yu's biological daughter, she was not familiar with these people in the past. At most, Yu Qian saw her from a distance when he was receiving instructions. How could he dare to expose this matter in front of Third Lady? She did not seem to be easy to deal with.

Yu Qian wanted to pay back the money. He did not expect that this matter was getting worse. The people to whom he owed money were urging him, so he turned to usury. His goal was to delay it for a while more. When he saw Yu, he would cry and beg for help. He just needed to buy several days off.

However, things were getting more and more out of their imagination. Yu had not appeared, and things were getting more and more urgent. Now, not only did the people to whom he owed the debt come to the door but so did the people from the usury. No matter how one looked at it, he was in a predicament.

Yu Qian grew anxious. When he went to Qu Mansion, he secretly asked an old maid to pass a message to Yu, but there was no news until now. Instead, he encountered Shopkeeper Lu who was pressing for payment of debt. Yu Qian was really out of his wits now. He did not know where else he could get money.

The other houses of his had been sold, leaving only this yard where he lived in. The store's money for buying goods had also been misappropriated. It had been a long time since the last batch of new goods were bought. When the customers visited the shop, there were even frequent customers who commented that there was no new product. They had all seen the current stock before, and it was not pleasing to look at.

After drinking a few glasses of wine, and since Yu Qian had something on his mind, he got drunk. His eyes drifted, and he directly lay on the table.

In a daze, he saw the door open. It was actually a woman who looked like a maid. Seeing the familiar clothes, Yu Qian became excited and stood up with the support of the table. "Is... Is it Madam who asked you to come?"

Could it be that Madam had finally gotten news of him and wanted to save him?

Even though he was drunk and confused, Yu Qian could clearly see that these clothes were one of the uniforms worn by Qu Mansion's servants. Besides, these clothes were custom-made in his shop. The clothes were made of the material that the shop had specially ordered from the South. The design and color were also specified by Qu Mansion.

"Shopkeeper Yu... Madam...asked you to make a trip... Take the account books..." The maid in front of him was sometimes far away, sometimes close. When she appeared a little far, she was somehow not that far. Her voice also sounded choppy. It could not be heard clearly. Yu Qian hated himself for drinking. At this time, he had to put in all of his energy to listen to the voice, but he still felt that he could not hear it clearly.

"The account books... Aren't they with... Madam?" Yu Qian said in a daze. He could not talk clearly.

Yu Chun looked at the swaying Yu Qian in disgust and said, "Not the ones with Madam, but the ones from the earliest time." This guy was really so drunk that he couldn't recognize anyone, just as how her lady said.

"The earliest? Do I have them?" Yu Qian didn't understand what Yu Chun was talking about. He thought for a while and answered with difficulty.

"Don't you have the account books from the first time you took over?" Yu Chun said.

"What... what do you want them for?" Yu Qian stuttered, somewhat unable to stand steadily. He only felt that maid of the Qu Mansion was spinning in front of him. His vision was blurry.

“Madam wants to investigate some things. The Fourth Lady has returned to the mansion now. Madam is afraid that there will be some disputes,” Yu Chun said. These words were taught by her lady, and it was easy for her to do as told.

“What... what disputes? Madam is the boss... What does... Fourth Lady have to do with us Yu family... Madam doesn’t have to... worry...” The figure in front of Yu Qian shook even more, “Madam... Madam... I... would like to borrow some money...”

“Madam has been sick recently... She doesn’t have money at the moment. How about you just sell the shop. The Fourth Lady happened to be looking for trouble with Madam, so it will save trouble if the shop is sold,” Yu Chun said.

“Sell... sell the shop?” Yu Qian lisped out his words. For a moment, he really felt that he had drunk too much. Why did the topic change to this? Weren’t they talking about the account books? Just now, the maid was asking for the account books. But all of a sudden, she was talking about selling the shop. Could this shop be really sold just like that?

“Yes, Madam’s situation is not very good... Fourth Lady is looking for trouble again... It’s about the account books and the shops, so it is better to temporarily sell the good shops so that Fourth Lady won’t find trouble in this matter.” Yu Chun waved her hand.

“Four... Fourth Lady? What does... this shop has anything... to do with the Fourth Lady...” Even though he was drunk, Yu Qian still felt curious. This was Madam’s shop, so what did it have to do with Fourth Lady Qu, who had just returned?

“This is not Madam’s shop. It belongs to the former madam’s... which means it belongs to Fourth Lady Qu...” Yu Chun’s voice was heard vaguely. Yu Qian was stunned, and he nodded. He understood. This should be the dowry of the former Mrs. Qu, which should be passed to Fourth Lady Qu. Previously, Madam had taken it, but now, Fourth Lady Qu wanted it back. Madam was busy with her own issues, and she could not help him either, so she asked him to sell the shop to solve the emergency.

It had to be like this. Madam was indeed good to him.

Yu Qian was moved for a moment. His eyes were red. He had been begging for help these past few days, but he still hadn't solved the problem. Now, Madam's words immediately gave him hope.

"Thank... thank you, Ma-madam..." Yu Qian shook his head and tried to sober himself up.

He was so drunk that not only were his eyes blurred, but he was also powerless. He saw a maid saying something to him and then putting down a purse before leaving.

Yu Qian staggered over, picked up the purse, and sat heavily on the ground. Then, he leaned against the corner and fell asleep.

Yu Chun quietly retreated and went to the private room next door. "My lady, I have done it."

"Let's go!" Qu Moying nodded and stood up. The two of them went out of the private room, walked downstairs, and left the teahouse.

When they came out of the teahouse, they saw a person coming out of the gold jewelry shop next to the clothing store. Qu Moying was stunned for a moment. It was the maid Chun Xiu. Not only did she come over, but she also came with a woman who looked like a lady. A big veiled hat covered most of her features, and only the slender figure of the woman could be seen.

It looked like the dress she wore when she pretended to be Lady Liu back then. Did something else happen here?

Qu Moying turned around quietly and took Yu Chun to the small alley next to the teahouse. It was inconvenient for her to be seen at this time, so it was better to avoid them for the time being.

At first, Yu Chun did not notice it and wanted to speak. But when she suddenly saw Chun Xiu, she immediately reacted and reached out to help Qu Moying. The two of them hurriedly entered the small alley.

Sure enough, the next moment, they saw a wide carriage stop at the entrance of the gold jewelry shop. Lord Jing Pei Yusheng appeared in front of the carriage. It seemed that he had just noticed the woman



who was wearing a veiled hat. He hurriedly stepped forward and saluted out of courtesy, blocking the woman's way. Unless she bypassed him, it was impossible for her to leave directly.

Then, it looked as if Pei Yusheng was offering an invitation, but the woman reluctantly refused and did not move.

The two of them spoke together and blocked the way by standing in the middle of the road. One of them was Lord Jing, so the scene was very eye-catching. It was impossible not to notice them.

The woman seemed to feel embarrassed and finally agreed helplessly. Then, she followed Lord Jing and left with him. It looked like they were going for a walk on the street together.

"My lady, does Lord Jing really take a fancy to this Lady Liu?" Yu Chun poked her head out from behind Qu Moying and looked outside, asking curiously.

Lord Jing came to the street in such an eye-catching way just to stop her. It seemed like he treated her differently. Qu Moying nodded. "Looks like it, but isn't Lord Jing very polite in the past? Why is he behaving with such impetuosity now?"

"Is he? I think it's alright!" Yu Chun said, puzzled. She looked ahead again. The pair was walking at a moderate pace, completely not in a hurry. At this time, they had already gone far away. Yu Chun was not afraid of being seen, so she walked out of the alley and poked her head forward.

"A little!" Qu Moying nodded thoughtfully. Her intuition told her that Pei Yusheng's attitude was different from the last time.

The last time they met, Pei Yusheng showed a kind of politeness, but now his action was much more urgent and impudent. Was it because of Qu Caiyue?

"He should be impetuous now!" A low and lazy voice came from behind them.

Qu Moying subconsciously turned around and found that there were many people standing beside her at some point in time. The first one was Lord Yun Pei Yuanjun, who had a strong murderous aura!

What a coincidence!

## Chapter 215 The Guqin Specifically Given to Mother

Lord Yun was wearing a light-colored brocade robe that was a little different from his usual style. Only the beautiful iris flowers at the collar, the bottom of the sleeves, and the edge of the circle looked dazzling to the eyes. Combined with his handsome and charming eyes, it was impossible for him not to attract attention.

He looked extremely handsome as if he was really a son of a rich family, elegant and peerless, quite unlike the gloomy and sinister person he used to be.

Behind him, Ji Hai bowed to Qu Moying with a smile and retreated to the side. There were four guards standing at the side.

However, such a narrow alley was actually extremely incompatible with the identity of this Lord!

“Greetings, my Lord,” Qu Moying said in a natural and graceful manner. She thought to herself that it was such a coincidence. Lord Yun should be just coming out of the alley and did not expect that she would hide in this place and thus he bumped into her.

“How is it?” Pei Yuanjun pointed outside, his thin lips curling up as he asked.

Qu Moying knew that he was referring to the scene just now, so she did not play dumb. “What does my Lord intend to do?”

If this matter had nothing to do with her, she would naturally not ask. However, she was the one who pretended to be Miss Liu in the first place. This might have something to do with her, so she naturally had to be clear about Lord Yun’s opinion on this issue.

"It's not about what I intend to do. It's about Lord Jing who has fallen in love." Pei Yuanjun elegantly put down his hand and flicked the non-existent dust off his sleeves.

"So what?" Qu Moying raised her head in confusion. Now that the two of them got closer, only then did she realize that Pei Yuanjun was too tall. If she wanted to talk to him, she had to raise her head.

"Of course, it's good. The strong works with the strong," Pei Yuanjun said with a smile. He seemed to be in a good mood.

Qu Moying was speechless. Lord Yun really seemed to be talking about marriage. Could it be that he really cared about Lady Liu and Lord Jing?

If this was the case, this Lady Liu really suffered a great loss. She had clearly never seen Lord Jing before, and she did not know if she was compatible with Lord Jing.

"Lord Jing's previous behavior... was not like this," Qu Moying pondered for a moment and said. She had a feeling that Pei Yuanjun was referring to something else. Something was faintly lit up in her heart, but it was not clear.

"The situation has changed. Minister Liu's House used to have a favorite opinion of Lord Jing, but now they might have to reconsider the issue. Pei Yusheng is not a decent guy, and after that incident, others will look down on him even more." Pei Yuanjun glanced at Qu Moying and said with a smile.

Qu Moying was shocked. She raised her head in surprise and asked almost anxiously, "Which family did County Lady Jingyu take a fancy to?"

"Why? Why are you so concerned about her?" Pei Yuanjun asked with a smile. For some reason, Qu Moying sensed a dark and gloomy aura. She hurriedly lowered her head. "I just feel that if it wasn't Lord Jing, could it be Crown Prince? But... but my cousin just passed away. Could it be that Crown Prince wants to..."

She didn't hide her feelings. Instead, she said what she thought directly. For some reason, she felt that this Pei Yuanjun in front of her was a little dangerous.

"Your cousin?" Pei Yuanjun curled his lips, "At that time, the union between the two families was like that of Lord Jing and the Guardian General's mansion. It might even be a little more secure." Pei Yuanjun lazily narrowed his eyes, his delicate eyebrows slightly raised, revealing a hint of evil charm that looked inadvertently enchanting.

The iris flowers on his collar reflected his delicate skin color more and more, making his lips seem to be painted with vermilion.

Qu Moying tightly pursed her lips, and her heart seemed to have been heavily hit by something. A chill surged in her eyes, and she raised her eyes to look at Pei Yuanjun again. "Your Highness is saying... that the cause... the cause of my cousin's death is not the same as described by the rumors outside?"

Her words were hesitant, and her heart beat wildly. She felt as if something had jumped out of her chest, making her almost unable to control her feeling. Did Pei Yuanjun know something? Did Pei Yuanjun notice something?

Few people in the world knew the cause of Ji Hanyue's death, but what about Pei Yuanjun? At that time, he was not in the capital. Did he really know something?

"I just think that's how it looks like." Pei Yuanjun said leisurely, his dark red lips curling up.

Qu Moying forcefully suppressed the shock in her heart and tried to calm herself down. Under the eye veil, tears welled up in her eyes. It was impossible for Pei Yuanjun to know anything. He would not know.

Even if Lord Yun could interfere in many things, it was Crown Prince's Mansion. Impossible, impossible...

"Don't worry, just keep an eye on Pei Yusheng!" Pei Yuanjun said meaningfully.

Qu Moying bit her lips and forced herself to calm down. "My Lord, why did you come out at this time?"

Originally, she did not care about the matter of Pei Yusheng, but now she inexplicably cared about the matter of Pei Yusheng and Liu Lanxin. Was the issue really like what she thought?

If her guess was really correct, then she should pay more attention to the matter of Pei Yusheng and Liu Lanxin. Could it be that there was really another secret behind her death in her last life?

Her heart was beating wildly, and she almost felt her heart was jumping out, but her face did not show any difference.

"I don't have anything else to do. I just came here to see a mistress," Pei Yuanjun said indifferently.

Qu Moying looked at the alley behind her for confirmation. This place really looked like a place where a mistress lived. However, did Pei Yuanjun's mistress need to live in such a place? And did he even need a mistress? Didn't he use her as a shield before?

Sensing that Pei Yuanjun was looking at her, Qu Moying smiled and sincerely said, "My Lord, the place that you arranged for your mistress is really not very good. Can't you arrange a better place for her to live?"

Since Pei Yuanjun said that it was a mistress, then she should believe him.

If the dignified Lord Yun, who had so much power and did not have a Princess Consort in the mansion, wanted to raise a woman in the mansion, did he need to keep such a low profile?

"It is indeed not very good. I will settle it when I find a good one." Pei Yuanjun looked at Qu Moying's serious face and suddenly smiled. He reached out and pressed on the top of Qu Moying's hair, causing her hairpin to tilt. Her hair became a little loose and messy.

Seeing Qu Moying standing there blankly with her messy hair and she looked like she had been frightened, Pei Yuanjun was in a good mood. He said, "In a few days, you still have to see Pei Yusheng." Then, he swaggered away with his men.

Qu Moying blinked her eyes twice before she regained her composure. The person who had deliberately messed up her hair was really Lord Yun.

"My lady, let's go back too!" Yu Chun finally dared to speak.

In front of Pei Yuanjun, she did not dare to breathe loudly. In fact, it was because she was timid. Even in the case of those officials with astonishing courage, who dared to speak casually in front of Pei Yuanjun?

Qu Moying nodded, turned around, and walked out of the alley.

They got on the carriage, and the carriage went back to the mansion. After getting off the carriage, she first went to tell the Old Lady that she was safe, and then she went back to Qianyue House with her maid.

After freshening up again, Qu Moying sat down in front of the bed by the window and took out the score she had bought today to read. When she was choosing books in the bookstore, there were a few books that were very rare. In the past, she had never seen them. She did not expect to see them all at once today. She was so happy to find those treasures that she carefully read them, and she even wrote something on a page.

But in the end, she still put down the writing brush and did not try to complete the music score. Even if she did, she still felt dissatisfied, so now, she still lacked a guqin.

She asked Yu Chun to call Granny Zhou over.

"Granny Zhou, does my mother have any guqin?" Qu Moying put down the book in her hand and asked.

"Well... Let me think about it," Granny Zhou said. After a moment of thinking, her eyes suddenly lit up.

"Yes, there is a guqin. It was around when Madam married over, but..."

"What's wrong? Is it not around now?" Qu Moying said indifferently. Most of Mother's things had now fallen into Yu's hands. She was not surprised that the guqin was not here. She could almost get Yu to spit out everything any time, so she was not in a hurry to ask for them back right now.

Even if the guqin was really missing, she could find another one.

“Yes, it should still be here. The guqin doesn’t look like anything special. Unless one had played it with one’s own hands, one really wouldn’t have known that it was an excellent guqin. This guqin was found by the old master back in the South, and he especially gave it to Madam. At that time, the one who liked the guqin was not Madam, but the old master gave it to her.”

“After that, Madam wanted to give the guqin to Yue, but the old master didn’t agree. He said that someone specifically wanted to give the guqin to Madam. Even if Madam didn’t like it, she had to take it. Moreover, it would be her dowry in the future. Madam had no choice but to bring it over as her dowry. When she was living in Yue Mansion, she had never played it. When she married into Qu Mansion, she laid the guqin aside and neglected it. Because the guqin looked unremarkable, it was hard to notice it. But the guqin was actually very good.”

Granny Zhou said with a serious face.

“How do you know it is good?” Qu Moying asked in surprise.

“I heard it from Old Lady Yue. She told Madam this, but Madam never cared. I thought that since Old Lady Yue said so, it must be good. My Lady, if you need it, I will go and look for it now,” Granny Zhou said. When Old Lady Yue was young, she was a famous talented woman in the South. Naturally, she would not be wrong.

Granny Zhou believed this without a doubt. However, Madam really did not like it, so she could only carefully put it away. Granny Zhou remembered that it was she who put it away at that time and it was put in an inconspicuous music instrument container.

“Okay, Granny, please go find it.” Qu Moying nodded. She was extremely fond of guqin. Similarly, Ji Hanyue’s biological mother, Yue, also liked the guqin. When it came to her, it was even more so. However, it was a little strange. Both of them are Grandfather’s daughters, but why did Grandfather give the guqin he found to Mother, who didn’t love guqin, and even said that someone had gifted it to her?

Did this mean that someone had specifically given it to her?

Qu Moying wondered who had given this guqin to Mother. Moreover, at that time, Mother should be young. It must have been someone of a generation older who had given it to Mother, but he didn't give it to Ji Hanyue's mother who loved guqin. It was a very strange thing done by a strange person.

Granny Zhou came back quite quickly. She brought a guqin with her. After wiping it clean, she passed the guqin to Qu Moying.

## Chapter 216 The Guqin with Its Name Crossed Out

This guqin looked very ordinary. It was not even as special as the guqins that Qu Moying had seen in those music instrument stores. Even though the dust on it had been wiped away, it still looked grayish and insignificant.

Qu Moying sat in front of the guqin and stretched out her hand to pluck the strings a few times. Her eyes lit up. Upon first sight of this guqin, she did not have any thoughts about it, but now she immediately determined that this guqin was a good one. Moreover, it was a rare one. This kind of guqin was even better than the one she used to play with before.

How could such a good guqin be nameless?

Qu Moying carefully examined it. However, no matter how she looked at it, the guqin did not have a name. But at the bottom of the guqin, she saw a spot that was scratched. There was a tiny spot where there should have been words. It seemed that the name of the guqin had been deliberately crossed out by someone.

"It was not crossed out by Madam." Granny Zhou saw Qu Moying's actions, and she hurriedly said.

Now, it was even stranger. Who would send a person a guqin with its name crossed out to Mother? Why didn't the person send a more ordinary one that looked beautiful?

Qu Moying cast away the doubts in her heart, put away the instrument, and asked slowly, "Before Mother got married, did she see anyone? Anyone outside the family whom she met alone?"



This instrument was too strange, and she couldn't help but ask about it.

"No, Madam has never seen an outsider before she got married." Granny Zhou shook her head with certainty.

"How is that possible? Had Mother never been to the streets before?" Qu Moying was shocked to hear the answer. Although typical noble ladies would be made to stay at home and not step through the gates, rules were rules. With elders accompanying them, or when it was necessary to go out, one could also go out.

For example, she had been allowed to leave the mansion today.

As long as one was careful with one's words and actions, occasional outings were allowed.

"No, Madam never went out on the street. Even Yue had been out of the mansion, Madam didn't." Granny Zhou shook her head, and a trace of sadness flashed in her eyes. "Madam had been quiet since she was a child and didn't like to go out. Old Madam and Old Master were strict with Madam, so she had never been out. Even if other mansions sent invitations to her, Madam wouldn't go."

"And the other people went?" Qu Moying became more and more surprised. This matter did not make sense.

Even if she enjoyed the quietness, it was impossible for her to not attend the banquets of other mansions. Was she not afraid of making people feel that she was not respectful enough?

"Yes, every time there was an invitation, the mansion would say that Madam was unwell and would not go out. Later on, there were even rumors that the Liu Family did not have any Second Lady at all. It was just that when Old Madam gave birth, the Second Lady did not survive. That was why this was especially said to appease Old Madam's feelings of missing her daughter."

Granny Zhou said.

Qu Moying's long eyelashes fluttered. This time, she was truly shocked. There were even such rumors outside. It could be seen how strange it was for Mother to never go out at that time.

Since that was the case, this issue was even stranger. Who would specifically give Mother, who had never seen an outsider, a guqin?

She plucked the guqin strings twice. The sound was beautiful, showing that it was definitely not an ordinary guqin.

"Mother had never been out of the mansion before she married Father?" Qu Moying asked.

"No, she never went out. When she got married, it was the first time that Madam went out. At that time, Madam was very happy and full of imagination about the future..." When Granny Zhou said this, her eyes were tearful and she choked up.

That day, Madam, who was wearing a big red wedding gown, was as happy as a child. In the past, she looked happy and carefree. She was gentle to the Old Master and Old Madam, but in fact, who would really like being locked up in the mansion? It was true that Madam had always told the Old Master and Old Madam that she was not willing to go out.

But in fact, every time the maids talked about the new things they saw outside, Madam would stand still and listen. Granny Zhou felt that Madam was willing to go out, but Old madam and Old Master did not allow her to go out. After that, she became accustomed to it.

It was also because there were few people in her life. When she happened to meet this young master Liu in the mansion, she fell in love with him at first sight. She did not expect that in the end, she got married with almost indecent haste and even lost her life.

"After Mother married into Qu Mansion, did she not like to go out too?" Qu Moying pondered for a moment and asked again.

"After marrying into Qu Mansion, Madam rarely went out, but she occasionally went out to socialize. It's hard to change her habits after so many years." Granny Zhou wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes with a handkerchief and nodded.

Qu Moying muttered to herself. This matter sounded strange, very strange.

It was no wonder she thought so much about this issue. At that time, Ji Hanyue was hailed as a rare noble daughter in the capital, and all the teachings she received were in accordance with the etiquette. Whatever she spoke or did complied with the rules, but there was never such a rule saying that a young lady must stay in the mansion all the time and should not go out. As the future Crown Princess, Ji Hanyue was well protected and did not need to be locked in the backyard.

So why did Grandfather and Grandmother keep Mother locked up all the time?

But Ji Hanyue's mother was not locked up. Was it because she was more strong-willed, or was it because of other reasons?

Qu Moying could not figure it out for a moment, so she could only let it go and ask Granny Zhou to leave first. She told Granny Zhou to find the old maid whom Yu Qian had contacted before and ask her to send a message.

Granny Zhou expressed that she understood. Then, she wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes and left...

Yu Qian came over late in the afternoon. He drank a lot of wine and got drunk in the private room of the teahouse. Later, the waiter of the teahouse woke him up. After sitting down again, he ordered a pot of cold tea. Yu Qian drank a few cups in a row before slowly regaining his senses. The previous scenes when he was half asleep made him wonder whether they were real.

Fortunately, he saw a pouch on the corner of the table, which made him believe what he thought had happened was real.

The material of this pouch was the same as the one he had sent to Qu Mansion before. This batch of cloth was also brought from the South. It was dyed quite well, but the quantity was not large. Moreover, the cloth was of small sizes and could only be used for small items. Yu saw that the cloth could not be used to make clothes, so she asked him to use the cloth to make some handkerchiefs, pouches, and the like for the maids and old maids in the mansion.

There were a few pieces of silver notes in the pouch, but they were not enough to pay for his debt.

Yu Qian sat in the private room, thinking about the issue for a long time, and finally figured it out.

It turned out that the shop that he had been in charge of belonged to the deceased Mrs. Qu. After Yu married into Qu Mansion, this shop fell into her hands.

Originally, after so many years, no one would think of this matter again. But now that Fourth Lady Qu had returned to the mansion, and it seemed that this Fourth Lady was not as useless as she was rumored to be, and she was even fighting with Madam. In the current situation, Madam's situation did not seem very good.

Previously, it was said that Madam harmed this Fourth Lady Qu and even made a scene before the coffin of the Crown Princess. These were all serious things. After that, Madam fell ill and outsiders were not allowed to see her. It seemed that there was another reason behind all these.

At this time, if this shop was sold, not only could it solve his predicament, but it could also make Fourth Lady Qu unable to find any clue. It could also be considered a favor for Madam.

Could he really help Madam by selling the shop? Yu Qian still had some doubts. After all, this was a big matter that involved a shop. Moreover, it was a shop that had been operating for so long.

After thinking about it, Yu Qian could not help but tidy up his clothes. He came out of the teahouse and hailed a carriage to Qu Mansion. If he did not get the words from Madam herself, he could not be at ease.

Although he felt that this matter should have been ordered by Madam, he was drunk at that time, so he was not sure.

Yu Qian had always been loyal to Yu.

The carriage stopped beside the gate of the backyard of Qu Mansion. Yu Qian got off the carriage and went up to knock on the door. An old maid, who was guarding the back door, opened the door and saw that it was Yu Qian. She was not surprised. In the past, Yu Qian would come over from time to time. Sometimes, he would go through the back door. The old maid in the backyard got a lot of benefits. Naturally, she would not stop him.

However, the situation had changed. Madam was not seeing any guests now.

Yu Qian said that he wanted to see Third Lady, so the old maid was generous enough to let him in. As long as he was not looking for Madam, everything could be discussed. Of course, even if he wanted to see Madam, he could not see her. She heard that there were people guarding the door of Madam's courtyard. It was the Second Master who forbade others to see Madam.

However, the old maid did not bother to tell Yu Qian about this.

Yu Qian walked on the familiar small path as usual. After walking for a while, he saw an old maid bending her back and sweeping the floor. At a glance, he could tell that it was the one he was looking for. He was overjoyed.

"Go and ask around if someone by the Madam's side went out of her courtyard today?" Yu Qian took out a piece of broken silver from his pocket and handed it to the old maid who was looking up.

This old maid was the one he had previously asked to inquire about Madam.

The old maid smiled so widely that her teeth were showing. She nodded repeatedly, threw away the broom in her hand, and ran off. After a while, she ran back panting.

"Shopkeeper Yu, I saw Aunty Hai Lan."

"What did she say?" Yu Qian said excitedly. Hai Lan was the person close to Madam. As long as she said something, it would definitely be accurate.

"She asked you to do as Madam said," the old maid said vaguely. Then, she asked curiously, "What did Madam say? Shopkeeper Yu, what did Madam ask you to do? If I hadn't almost bumped into Aunty Hai Lan just now, I wouldn't have said that you were outside the mansion and wanted to see Madam."

The old maid said proudly.

"It's nothing. I'm leaving!" Yu Qian was a little doubtful at first. But when he heard the old maid's words, his doubts disappeared. At this time, he had no mood to say anything more. He cupped his hands and turned to leave.

It was still inconvenient for Madam to see him, but Aunty Hai Lan's meaning was very obvious. Since Aunty Hai Lan said so, he should do his best to sell the shop as quickly as possible. Selling such a shop was no small business and he had to make sure that everything went on properly.

Yu Qian left in a hurry. All his doubts were gone. He turned around and rushed to the back door. When he was far away, Yu Dong appeared behind a big tree. He looked at Yu Qian's back and smiled coldly at the old maid. "You did well. I will tell the Fourth Lady when I go back. You will be spared this time."

"Thank you, Fourth Lady. Thank you, Yu Dong." The old maid nodded repeatedly. That was a weight off her mind. If the Master knew that she sent messages to outsiders for Madam, he would definitely beat her to death...

## Chapter 217 Tore Down the Facade of False Sisterhood

Early the next morning, Qu Moying got up and went to greet the Old Lady.

After paying her respects, she did not leave. She accompanied the Old Lady for a while. The Old Lady was not in a good mood and looked unhappy.

She knew that the Old Lady was worried about Qu Caiyue. This matter was started by Qu Caiyue herself. But now, Lord Jing only said a few words at the time of the incident. After that, there was no news about it anymore. Rumors had already been spread about the matter of the Second Lady of Qu Mansion.

The rumors were becoming increasingly outrageous!

Luo was so annoyed that she complained to the Old Lady several times. Now that such a thing happened, it would definitely affect Qu Xuexin's marriage prospect. It was good timing for Luo to find a good marriage for Qu Xuexin. Some families had already agreed to meet Qu Xuexin. Unexpectedly, now they directly said that they had already found someone else suitable or that it was inconvenient to meet her now.

Although they rejected Luo politely, their meaning was obvious. They disliked the fact that there was such a lowly woman in Qu Mansion who actually climbed into Lord Jing's bed. What was worse, at present, her identity in Lord Jing Mansion was still not clear, and Lord Jing Mansion obviously disliked her too. It was also said that the Imperial Noble Consort meant to give Qu Caiyue only the status of a bedroom maid.

For a dignified noble lady to fall into such a state as a bedroom maid, it was better for her to be dead, lest she embarrassed her family.

The Old Lady was also very angry, but she couldn't take Qu Caiyue's life for real.

Lord Jing Mansion didn't say anything and didn't send anyone to explain either. Qu Mansion could only wait. After all, no matter how one looked at it, it was Qu Caiyue's own fault. Although Qu Caiyue kept saying that this matter was really an accident, the Old Lady didn't believe her story, and the others also didn't believe it.

Could it be that Lord Jing had taken a fancy to Qu Caiyue himself, so he abandoned Qu Qiuyan, which was why there was such an accident?

"Old Lady, Third Lady has come to pay respects to you." A maid came in and reported.

The Old Lady nodded and said, "Let her in!"

It was already late, but the Old Lady was not in the mood to make a fuss about it.

Qu Qiuyan walked in. It had only been a few days, but she had become much more haggard and much thinner. She greeted the Old Lady in a very perfunctory manner. However, after she bowed and got up, she looked up and saw that Qu Moying was there. She was stunned for a moment. A trace of hatred immediately appeared in the corner of her eyes.

She projected all the anger in her heart on Qu Moying.

It was clearly Qu Moying who was supposed to be the victim. The person who had the accident should have blamed Qu Moying. Why did it end up with Qu Caiyue and Lord Jing being found in bed together? Even if Qu Qiuyan did not have the opportunity to ask Qu Caiyue in private now, she knew that Qu Moying must have done something. However, she had no evidence. She gritted her teeth in hatred, but she had to swallow this anger.

Granny Qing told her that she had to endure even more now at such a time, but she really could not bear it anymore.

These few days, when she paid her respects, she deliberately came late. On one hand, she was too lazy to get up early. On the other hand, she did not want to see Qu Moying. She was afraid that she would not be able to control herself when she saw Qu Moying.

Qu Caiyue had already been grounded by her father and no one was allowed to visit her. Qu Qiuyan could do nothing except guess and speculate, but she was definitely sure of one thing—all of this was Qu Moying's fault. It was Qu Moying who caused her to fall into this kind of dilemma. She had already secretly left the mansion several times, but she had never been able to see Pei Yusheng.

Originally, she had been convinced, but now she was flustered.

"Third Sister." Seeing her look over, Qu Moying smiled and bowed in a generous manner.

"How dare you..." These days, Qu Qiuyan was both anxious and hateful. When she saw the gloomy look in the Old Lady's eyes, she quickly shut her mouth and calmed her anger. She asked, "Fourth Sister, what happened that day when Second Sister left with you? Why did something happen to Second Sister but you were okay?"



Qu Qiuyan could not help but ask.

The smile on Qu Moying's face slowly faded away. "What do you mean, Third Sister? Do you think that something should have happened to me just because something happened to Second Sister? I didn't have any ill intentions, and I wouldn't casually enter any house in Dowager Consort Qu's palace. Why would something happen to me? Does Third Sister know something? Coincidentally, Grandmother is also here. Third Sister can just say what you know and let Grandmother judge. Why do you think that something should have happened to me?"

The Old Lady was a little unhappy about the quarrel between the two sisters, but the meaning in Qu Moying's words made her frown tightly. She looked at Qu Qiuyan but did not speak to stop Qu Moying.

Could it be that this matter was not what it seemed on the surface? It was just that Caiyue insisted that it was an accident, and the Old Lady could not ask anything out of her.

"Moying, what are you saying? I don't understand. Do you mean that I know something and want to harm you? After you returned to the mansion, you kept hinting that Mother and I wanted to harm you. If we wanted to harm you, how could you always be safe after so many years? What exactly do you have against Mother and me?"

Qu Qiuyan retorted, her eyes cold and angry.

Qu Moying had been alive and well, which meant that her mother had never harmed her. As for those unsuccessful cases, Qu Qiuyan believed that Yu had already dealt with them properly. It had been so many years. At that time, Qu Moying was still young. She did not believe that Qu Moying would remember so many things.

"Third Sister, since you said so, then I will ask frankly why Madam and you can't tolerate me, like during the Crown Princess' funeral, and now you are saying the same things? Before, two persons out of nowhere pretended to be my parents, and where did you find such a couple? As for why I can still live until now, it can only be said that I am lucky. Let's not talk about other things but how the fire right after I returned here to the mansion did not burn me to death. Isn't it just because I am lucky?"

Qu Moying said coldly. She looked through her eye veil and coldly stared at Qu Qiuyan. It seemed that Qu Qiuyan could not bear it anymore. Very well. Judging from Lord Jing's actions that day, he must not have the intention to soothe Qu Qiuyan at this time. Qu Qiuyan had been having a hard time these past few days. Now she saw that Qu Moying was living a good life, she could not hold back the anger in her heart anymore.

Very well!

This was the effect she wanted. She wanted the Old Lady to see clearly that Qu Qiuyan had never been kind to her. Everything she did was just a facade of peace.

It was just a false affection. Since Qu Qiuyan had made a move, she should directly break things off with her!

"You... How dare you say that..." Qu Qiuyan only thought of how Yu would not leave any traces behind for the matters in the past, but she did not think that the recent events were all badly planned and done. She gritted her teeth and her eyes turned red. She turned her head to look at the Old Lady, tears falling from her eyes. "Grandmother, look at her. What does she mean? Has she always been looking down on my mother and me? I have always thought of her as my own sister..."

"Your own sister? But the first thing you said was that I should have been the one that suffered? Third Sister, so you think that Second Sister should not have been the one in trouble but me, right? You mentioned the so-called sisterhood bond, but I don't know whom you regard as your sister. As for that fire, I almost died there. Is it really just a matter caused by a maid?"

Qu Moying raised her head and her gaze fixed on Qu Qiuyan's face, showing no sign of backing off.

There was no grievance at all in her tone. However, the words she said were even more heartbreaking. If this was really done by Qu Qiuyan, then Qu Qiuyan was on par with Yu in terms of ruthlessness.

The Old Lady choked for a moment. Although she felt that it was all Yu's fault back then, what if Qu Qiuyan was really involved? After all, that maid was Qu Qiuyan's private maid. And just now, she also noticed that Qu Qiuyan was full of hostility toward Qu Moying. Did she really treat Qu Moying as her sister?

Seeing that the Old Lady had been silent and her face was gloomy, Qu Qiuyan knew that the situation was against her. Just now, she could not hold back but attack Qu Moying. Now, Grandmother became suspicious. Her legs went soft and she knelt down. "Grandmother, what happened back then has already passed. What I'm talking about now is the current matter. Something suddenly happened to Second Sister. How can I not worry? When the accident happened, she was with Fourth Sister."

"Third Sister, so you feel that you would rather something happened to me than Second Sister? The one who should have been in trouble is me?" Qu Moying looked at the frightened Qu Qiuyan coldly.

The Old Lady's originally relaxed expression immediately tensed up. Qu Moying was her favorite granddaughter. How could Qu Caiyue compare with her?

Her hand slammed heavily on the table. "Yan, what exactly do you want to say?"

"Grandmother, I am really just worried about Second Sister." Qu Qiuyan explained in a panic. She did not expect things to get to this point. If she had known that she would be at a disadvantage, she would not have taken the initiative to attack.

She had come in a hurry today and did not expect to meet Qu Moying. Everything was out of her control now.

"Third Sister, don't say it's about Second Sister. You are more worried about Lord Jing, aren't you? I heard that you have secretly left the mansion to look for him several times," Qu Moying said bluntly.

She guessed that Qu Qiuyan had secretly been out these few times to see Lord Jing.

"What?" The Old Lady really did not know about this matter. When she heard this, her eyes became stern. Before this, when Qu Qiuyan and Lord Jing were together and were seen by others, it was no big deal and could also be interpreted as a coincidence. One party was the host and the other was the guest, and they just happened to meet.

But what was the current situation? Lord Jing was urgently expected to give Qu Caiyue a status, and it had nothing to do with Qu Qiuyan. Even if Lord Jing had feelings for Qu Qiuyan before, what she was doing now made her look insensible.

“Qiuyan, did you really go to see Lord Jing?” The Old Lady was furious. She asked in disbelief, her voice trembling.

“Grandmother, I... I...” Qu Qiuyan did not dare to tell lies. If the Old Lady investigated, she would definitely find out. The carriage driver who sent her there that day was from the mansion.

“You... you... how can you be so muddle-headed?” The Old Lady was so angry that her face was pale and she was gasping for breath. Since ancient times, the man was the one coming over to ask for the woman’s hand in marriage. How could a girl meet the man at his residence like this? Besides, the man even had such an ambiguous affair with the girl’s sister?

If Lord Jing really cherished her, he would naturally come and settle the matter with Qu Caiyue properly. After all, Qu Caiyue was only a daughter of a concubine. But now, how could Qu Qiuyan go to see him herself? Was she planning to embarrass the entire Qu Mansion by letting Lord Jing trample on them as he pleased?

Seeing the Old Lady was so angry, Qu Moying hurriedly stepped forward and patted the Old Lady on the back to let her catch her breath. She was afraid that the Old Lady would lose her breath due to anger.

## Chapter 218 The Eloquent Old Maid

“You... Go back and reflect on your mistakes. Copy the text from Lessons for Women a few times.” The Old Lady slammed the table angrily.

“Grandmother... I... I was just worried... I was afraid... I was worried...” Qu Qiuyan burst into tears and felt wronged.

“What a sin. What a sin. You... you... you may leave now!” The Old Lady was powerless to say anything else. She only felt dizzy and her vision was blurry. Qu Caiyue’s matter had not been settled, and there was Qu Qiuyan stirring up another trouble. The Old Lady had a headache. What if people found out that both these two granddaughters were to enter Lord Jing Mansion, and they were both low-ranking concubines.

Qu Caiyue was negligible. She was not liked by the Old Lady in the first place. Moreover, she was a concubine-born daughter of East Mansion. But Qu Qiuyan was different. She was also the wife-born daughter of Vice Minister's Mansion.

Getting the position of Princess Jing was a bit too much, but it was not completely impossible. The Old Lady's second son also said that as long as they planned carefully, she could naturally become Princess Jing. But now... what was going on?

Qu Qiuyan was taken away crying. Looking at her back, the Old Lady felt that she had to talk some sense into her second son. Back then, after listening to her second son talk about this matter, she originally opposed it. However, she gave her consent after his repeatedly saying that Lord Jing had fallen in love with her third granddaughter at first sight. He also said that Lord Jing was a man of virtue and would not do any indecent behavior.

But what was going on now? Was Qu Mansion so desperate to send a lady to Lord Jing Mansion?

"Grandmother, you take a rest first and take good care of your health." Qu Moying walked behind the Old Lady and said softly. It could be seen that the Old Lady was really sad.

However, even if this had not been exposed now, it eventually would. It was impossible for Qu Qiuyan to get the position of Princess Jing or even the position of Side Princess. When the time came, Pei Yusheng would have the final say on her fate. The Old Lady was kept in the dark, and it would be even more unacceptable for her when she found out the truth later.

"I'm fine." The Old Lady shook her head. Her smile was wry, and her eyes slowly closed. She leaned back on the chair behind her and muttered, "How can this be? How can this be?"

"Grandmother, I should have told you about this earlier, but recently, you..." Qu Moying knelt in front of the Old Lady. She put her hand on the Old Lady's knee, lowered her head and said, "I argued with her just now in a fit of anger. Please forgive me, Grandmother!"

"My dear child... get up first!" The Old Lady opened her eyes and looked at her. She looked a little tired, but her face was very kind. She reached out and pulled her up.

Qu Moying held the Old Lady's hand. "Grandmother, no matter when, you still have me."

Grandmother was the only person she truly wanted to protect. In this mansion, Grandmother was the only one among the so-called "relatives" that she wanted to protect.

"My sweet child." The Old Lady's eyes were red. She reached out and hugged her slender body into her arms. She patted her back and comforted her gently. "I'm fine. Don't worry."

"Ying, I know that Yu is not a good person. She failed to teach Yan properly. She is a little selfish and doesn't care about the dignity of a woman at all. But she is still... your sister. Even if you don't want to be on good terms with her, at least in front of people, you have to save face for her..." The Old Lady said with difficulty. Her voice was choked with sobs. If she had known that Yu was the root of the trouble, she would not have let her marry into Qu Mansion.

Or even if she accepted Yu into the mansion, she should have given her the status of just a lowly concubine. In that case, no matter how Yu made a fuss, it would be impossible for her to take over the position of the legitimate wife, and there wouldn't have been such trouble now.

"Grandmother, don't be sad. I understand, but I was too angry just now. I couldn't control myself," Qu Moying said.

These words made the Old Lady burst into tears. This scene reminded her of a somewhat similar scene. She remembered Yu and Yue back then. Yue had also tried to make peace by sacrificing herself like Qu Moying in the past, but in the end, she ended up that way. Thinking of this, Old Lady could no longer bear it. She wiped her tears with a handkerchief.

"Ying, if I find out that she really maliciously harmed you, like how her mother did, I will not forgive her," the Old Lady said.

After saying that, she felt sadder and sadder. If she had been so strong-willed back then, Yue might not have had to leave the mansion. It was all because Yu said that Yue deliberately caused her premature delivery, but in fact, it was quite usual for twins to be born earlier than expected. This could not be blamed on anyone.

However, her son listened to Yu and kept blaming Yue. He even flew into a rage and wanted to divorce Yue. In the end, the Old Lady had no choice but to let Yue avoid him by moving out to live temporarily in a convent. She did not expect that this would be Yue's death place. Now that she saw Qu Moying in front of her, how could the Old Lady not be sad?

This motherless child was really pitiful. If Yue was still here, how could Qu Qiuyan dare to be so arrogant? Not to mention that Yu even bullied this child so brazenly.

Qu Qiuyan cried all the way back to Furong House. As soon as she arrived, she lost her temper and smashed a few porcelain items in the room. The maids and old maids in the room did not even dare to breathe. All of them trembled in fear, afraid that they would be implicated.

A second-class old maid walked to the door and winked at Qing Ju who was inside and at a loss. Qing Ju immediately nodded and waved her hand. The maids and old maids in the room all left. This particular old maid came in with a cup of tea. She smiled and put the tea in front of Qu Qiuyan.

"Third Lady, why did you come back like this? I heard that the Old Lady even asked you to reflect on yourself." Just now, the old maid by the Old Lady's had sent someone to send Qu Qiuyan off to her door. When they arrived at the gate of the courtyard, they specially ordered Qing Ju, which made Qu Qiuyan feel even more humiliated.

"It's all because of that slut Qu Moying." Qu Qiuyan wiped away the tears on her face and said hatefully.

"Fourth Lady? Didn't you say you were avoiding the Fourth Lady these few days? How did you bump into the Fourth Lady?" The old maid asked in confusion.

"Granny Qing, I did what you said and deliberately avoided her. I was afraid that I would not be able to hold myself back if I saw her. Today, I did the same to avoid her, but she deliberately waited there to stir up trouble. She said that I wanted something awful to happen to her instead of that idiot Qu Caiyue." As she mentioned this matter, Qu Qiuyan felt even more resentful.

She gritted her teeth with hatred.

She wished that Qu Moying would appear right in front of her and she could directly smash her face.

“Third Lady, since you know that the Fourth Lady did it on purpose, why did you still go against her?” Granny Qing asked with a smile.

“I... I was just too angry at that time...” Qu Qiuyan lowered her head.

“Third Lady, no matter how angry you are, you can’t be like this. Fourth Lady is not easy to deal with. Just think about Madam and you will know. If Madam had listened to me at that time, she would not have fallen to this state now.” Granny Qing sighed. “I have seen this kind of thing many times. If any concubine in the palace wants to survive, she must be an expert in controlling her temper. Third Lady, you have to hold it in!”

“Hold it in? I can’t hold it anymore.” Qu Qiuyan slammed the table with hatred.

The table shook so much that the tea in the cup spilled out.

“Third Lady, I know it is very uncomfortable to hold it in now. But if you don’t, you may suffer a crushing defeat next,” Granny Qing calmly reminded.

These words made Qu Qiuyan silent for a while, and the expression on her face slowly calmed down. After a long time, she asked, “What should I do now then?”

“Be good and copy Lessons for Women. From now on, get along well with the Fourth Lady. Or at least on the surface, you have to get along well with her. Not that you have to be very friendly, but at least you can’t be all a tit-for-tat. Didn’t you do a good job before? Why did you suddenly lose your composure today?”

Granny Qing asked.

“That bitch Qu Moying, she was too evil. She deliberately provoked me and made me angry,” Qu Qiuyan said angrily.



"In that case, my lady, you have all the more reasons to keep calm. Third Lady, the Fourth Lady is just a blind person, and she has no upbringing. How can she compare with you in the future? She may not be anything in the future. When she sees you, she probably has to bow at you from far away. You are a pearl jade, and she is just a piece of debris. It is really not worth it for you to clash with her!"

Granny Qing advised.

These words made Qu Qiuyan's anger subside completely, and she nodded repeatedly. "Granny Qing, you are right. I will copy Lessons for Women later. Since Grandmother wants me to copy it, I will. But what about Lord Jing..."

At the mention of Lord Jing, Qu Qiuyan grew worried again.

"Third Lady, don't worry about Lord Jing. If Lord Jing really has feelings for you, he will naturally have a solution, and he won't let you down, but if..." When Granny Qing said this, her look was no longer as confident, and she seemed a little hesitant.

"What do you mean?" Qu Qiuyan's heart skipped a beat as she asked anxiously.

"If Lord Jing doesn't take you seriously, the situation might be extremely disadvantageous for you this time. No matter what, this time, you could see through Lord Jing thanks to this episode. Third Lady, you just wait for news in the mansion. Moreover, the Second Master thought highly of Lord Jing before. If Lord Jing really... Vice Minister would definitely ask him for an explanation."

Although Granny Qing hadn't been with Qu Mansion for a long time, she could see that there was an interaction between Lord Jing and Qu Qiuyan. Moreover, this interaction was approved by Mr. Vice Minister Qu.

"Yes, Father can help me out." Qu Qiuyan's eyes lit up and she nodded repeatedly.

"So Third Lady, just copy the Lessons for Women for now. Maybe, Mr. Vice Minister will come over in a while." Granny Qing smiled and retreated.

“Granny Qing, you ought to stop being a second-class labor maid. I will promote you in a while and let you be my nurse-in-charge.” Qu Qiuyan said when she saw Granny Qing retreating respectfully.

“Third Lady, thank you for your kindness, but I have only just arrived at the mansion. It is hard to convince the others, and I’m not clear on many things yet. If you still think that I am useful after some time, you can promote me by then. At that time, no one will gossip, and I can really help you.”

Granny Qing replied with a smile.

Qu Qiuyan was satisfied with these words. She felt that this Granny Qing was really useful. She would definitely promote her soon. Unlike the others around her, this Granny Qing had retired from the palace. She knew more and could be of greater help.

Qu Qiuyan put on a serious look and began to copy the Lessons for Women. Sure enough, later that night, Qu Zhizhen came. The father and daughter shut the doors and started a discussion...

## Chapter 219 Visited Yu at Night with Hatred

After Qu Zhizhen left, Qu Qiuyan sent someone to call Granny Qing over.

The door closed, and under the faint light, Qu Qiuyan’s cold gaze could be seen. “Granny Qing, I want to get rid of this bitch Qu Moying.”

Qu Qiuyan did not hide anything and went straight to the point.

“Why, Third Lady?” Granny Qing didn’t understand why Qu Qiuyan, who had previously said that she would endure it, couldn’t bear it anymore.

“Don’t ask why. Just think of a way for me. How can I take this bitch’s life?” Under the light, Qu Qiuyan looked very calm, but there was a hint of viciousness in the calmness.

Although her father's words were tactful, she clearly understood him. It clearly meant that she could not touch this bitch Qu Moying. He wanted her to stay away from her and even wanted her to take the initiative to get on good terms with her. Why? Why was this bitch more valuable than her in Father's eyes?

Even though her father did not say it clearly, every word made Qu Qiuyan jealous and hateful.

Since Qu Qiuyan was young, the West Mansion had only one young lady, which was her. Moreover, she was the wife-born daughter. All the servants in the mansion respected her. When did the mansion have another young lady?

From a young age, Qu Qiuyan had always regarded herself as West Mansion's only legitimate daughter. However, after she grew up, she was told that she had a sister in the village. Moreover, the existence of this sister reminded her mother of her unbearable past, as well as her background that she was most unwilling to mention.

It turned out that she was just a concubine-born daughter, just like the Qu Caiyue that she looked down on the most.

Back then, Qu Qiuyan, who had just learned of this news, ran to Yu's room and made a scene. Then, Yu had promised her that she would not let Qu Moying come back. She would definitely make her die outside.

However, she did not expect that after so many years, Qu Moying had been living well. Now, Qu Moying had even made her father, who had always been indifferent to her, pay attention to her. How could this be? Qu Qiuyan had always thought that even if she was not the only daughter of her father, she was definitely the daughter that his father was most proud of. She was also very capable, but what was happening now? Did she have to retreat just because of Qu Moying?

How could Qu Qiuyan, who had been the "only" daughter for so many years, tolerate this?

But now, she knew that she could not go against her father. The last words that her father said sounded like he was reminding her, but the intention of a warning was obvious. She had to tolerate Qu Moying even if she did not want to.

Her father had always been domineering. Her mother had repeatedly reminded her that she could not really go against her father. She had to be tactful and graceful.

“Third Lady, you want to take the Fourth Lady’s life?” Granny Qing frowned, looking a little hesitant.

“Yes, is there any good way to make Qu Moying die?” Qu Qiuyan gritted her teeth and reached out to pull Granny Qing. Her eyes flashed with a strange coldness under the light. “Granny Qing, didn’t you say that you had a sister who left the palace together with you? Is she now in Duke Qi’s Mansion?”

She had learned this from her chat with Granny Qing before. At that time, she took note of it. Duke Qi’s Mansion was much nobler and far more powerful than Vice Minister’s Mansion. Maybe this information would come in handy at any time.

She suddenly thought of Granny Qing just now.

“Third Lady...” Granny Qing panicked.

“As long as you help me this time, I will take you to Lord Jing Mansion in the future and make you the most important servant by my side. You will always follow me. Whatever I have, there will be yours to share.”

Now, the only one she could use was Granny Qing. In the past, Granny Qing had sounded resourceful, and she even came from the palace.

“Third Lady!” Granny Qing panicked and fell to her knees with a thud.

Qu Qiuyan pulled Granny Qing up forcefully. She reached out and patted Granny Qing’s clothes before sitting down. Her eyes were dark. “Granny Qing, just say it, do you want to help me?”

“I will naturally help you, my lady.” Granny Qing hastily expressed her loyalty.

"That's good. Go think of a way." The corners of Qu Qiuyan's mouth twitched, revealing a cold smile. "Even if I can't take this bitch's life, I must ruin her reputation."

She could not tolerate Qu Moying being a more valuable and important person than her in her father's eyes.

Why should she give in? After so many years, no one in West Mansion could make her do it. Why would she have to tolerate Qu Moying?

"Yes... yes. I, I will go think about it." Granny Qing didn't dare to refuse again. She responded carefully and lowered her head.

"Think about it quickly. You have only a few days." Qu Qiuyan gritted her teeth and said.

"Yes, I will think about it immediately!" Looking at Qu Qiuyan's ferocious face, how could Granny Qing dare to say no?

Qu Qiuyan waved her hand. "You may leave!"

Granny Qing carefully retreated. When she retreated to the outside, she stood in the shadow under the corridor. Only then did her frightened face slowly calm down. She turned back to look at the door of the room, pursed her lips, turned around, and strode away.

Not long after she left, Qing Ju carried a lamp and secretly walked out with Qu Qiuyan wrapped in a cloak. Although the Old Lady asked Qu Qiuyan to be grounded, Qu Qiuyan had been in charge of the inner yard these days. The old maid, who guarded the door, did not dare to stop her. Qu Qiuyan reached the outside of Yu's courtyard.

The people guarding outside had long since disappeared. They only saw that the courtyard's gate was tightly locked. They did not enter through the front door and instead turned to the back door. Qing Ju looked around and saw that there was no one around. She placed the lantern on the ground and took out a key from her pocket. Then, she opened the back door and led Qu Qiuyan into the yard.

The back door was closed again, and Qu Qiuyan had turned to head toward the main house in front of her.

It was quiet inside the yard. After Yu was locked up, there were only a few servants in the yard. At this time, they had already gone to bed. However, there was still light in the main house. When they walked to the door, they heard someone talking inside. It was the voices of Hai Lan and Yu.

Qing Ju went forward and knocked on the door.

Hai Lan came out and opened the door. When she opened the door and saw that it was Qu Qiuyan, she was surprised and said to the inside, "Madam, it's Third Lady. It's Third Lady who came to see you."

"Quick... Quick, let her in." Yu's weak but excited voice came from inside.

Qu Qiuyan pursed her lips, a trace of disgust flashing through her eyes, but she immediately controlled it well and followed Hai Lan inside.

On the bed in the inner room, Yu stood up. She did not look as weak as before but she actually looked a little energetic. She was excited when she saw Qu Qiuyan.

"Yan, my daughter..."

"Mother, have you been well?" Qu Qiuyan came over and bowed. There was not much intimacy in her expression, and there was a bit of coldness in her eyes, forming a sharp contrast with Yu's excitement.

"Sit down, sit down. Have you eaten well recently? Do you have all the things you need? Why have you lost so much weight? Was that bitch disrespectful to you again?" Yu reached out to pull Qu Qiuyan to sit by the edge of the bed. Qu Qiuyan took a step back and avoided her thin hand. She frowned with some disdain.

She said snappily, "Mother, you didn't kill that bitch at that time. You should have known that she would come back one day. Now that things have come to this, it is also you who brought it upon yourself."

"That bitch is too cunning. She..." Yu's face turned red with some anger.

"Mother, don't talk about this for now. Help me first." Qu Qiuyan interrupted Yu impatiently, "If this goes on, not to mention me, even my brother won't be able to get away with it. After all, she is the genuine legitimate daughter. She is Father's only direct descendant. I am not, and neither is my brother."

Her words mercilessly hit a nerve in Yu. For a moment, Yu's face turned red.

"These are all things in the past. What's the use of talking about these things?" Yu blushed and argued. She could not afford to lose face in front of her daughter.

"If Mother thinks it's over, I have nothing to say. If something happens to me, my brother won't be fine too. I really don't know what you have been trying to do all these years. Not only did you end up like this, but you can't even protect your own children. All you've done is in vain, and you even tarnished your own name."

Qu Qiuyan turned around indifferently, as if she was about to leave.

Being ridiculed by her daughter like this, Yu was angry and annoyed, but she was afraid that Qu Qiuyan would really leave. She hurriedly said, "Yan, what happened? Tell me, I have my ways to deal with that bitch."

"Mother, forget it. I've heard too much about these big words. I don't want you to do anything else now. Write a letter for me and ask Uncle to help me. I will deal with Qu Moying myself. Father said that if I see that wretched girl Qu Moying in the future, I should retreat. He told me not to compete with her. He told me to give in to her in everything. Otherwise, I am not a nice sister."

Of course, Qu Qiuyan's goal was not to see Yu and then leave. She turned around and looked at Yu. The corners of her lips were raised with obvious sarcasm.

"What? He actually said that?" Yu was stunned for a moment and then became furious.

“So, Mother, so what if you have more children? In the end, in Father’s eyes, none of us can compare with Qu Moying. Qu Moying is his only legitimate daughter.” Qu Qiuyan stared at Yu. Her gaze slowly slid down and finally fell on Yu’s abdomen that was half covered with the quilt.

Yu was shocked and subconsciously reached out to cover her belly.

“Mother, do you think Father will value you as before?” Qu Qiuyan became more and more impolite. Her eyes fell on Yu’s belly with some contempt. “Not to mention me, even my brother will have to make way for her.”

“What... What happened to your brother?” Yu asked anxiously. Although she loved her daughter, she still loved her son the most. Although this son had been raised in East Mansion all this time, in Yu’s heart, her son was clearly more important than her daughter.

“My brother is fine. He was only asked to avoid Qu Moying too. In the future, we might have to rely on Qu Moying. How could my brother dare to offend her? Even if something really happened to you because of Qu Moying, my brother was also asked not to say anything,” Qu Qiuyan said. “Mother, what’s the use of having more children? They are just Qu Moying’s stepping stones! Moreover, you used so much medicine. Did it really work?”

“That bitch!” Yu was so agitated that her face turned green and red, and she gnashed her teeth hard.

“Did it work?” Qu Qiuyan said directly. She only felt that the Yu in front of her was ridiculous. Now, she could only hide in a corner of Qu Mansion and not reveal herself. What was the use of her hiding here and cursing others? “Mother, write a letter to Uncle later and ask him to help me. As for you now... Actually, you can also plan something... It depends on whether you are willing or not. Of course, even if you are unwilling, it is useless!”

## Chapter 220 My Lady, This Is Impossible!

“My lady, I saw Auntie Hai Lan in the kitchen today.” Yu Chun came in with a food basket. She put the food basket on the table with a smile and took out the breakfast from the inside.



The breakfast that Qu Moying had in the morning was very simple. It was just simple porridge and pickled vegetables.

Both Ji Hanyue and Qu Moying liked to have some pickled vegetables in the morning. The crispy cucumber was a must. This time, Yu Chun also brought some.

“My lady, these pickled cucumbers have newly arrived. I don’t know if they suit your taste, but the kitchen specifically told me to ask for your comment.” Yu Chun smiled and looked at Qu Moying who came over and sat down. She handed the rice porridge in her hand to Qu Moying.

Qu Moying took the bowl, looked at the rice porridge, tasted it, and picked up a small piece of crispy cucumber. She immediately nodded, “Not bad. This one is actually better than the one from last time.”

“That’s good. Previously, I said that it was good. If it was not delicious, it was my responsibility.”

“What?”

“It’s just that the ones from before are almost gone. There are only some bottom ones left. I feel they would be more salty than usual. So I was afraid that you would not like the taste, so I asked the kitchen to get a new jar. However, the people in the kitchen did not know if you would like the new ones. Nor did I.”

Yu Chun smiled and took out the other dishes and placed them in front of Qu Moying one by one.

“Why were they used up so fast? Didn’t you say that the kitchen opened one jar only a few days ago?” Qu Moying asked casually. A few days ago, Yu Chun told her that the kitchen had just changed a new jar of pickled cucumbers. Why did they open a new jar in just a few days?

The Old Lady was old and did not like this kind of pickled cucumber, which was hard to bite for her.

“I asked the same thing. They said that it was Madam who took them away. They said that Madam’s health was not good and her appetite was worse. She could not eat anything, so she could only eat

some pickled vegetables. Not only pickled cucumbers, but she also has been eating a lot of other pickled vegetables recently. Many new pickled vegetables have been bought by the kitchen.”

Yu Chun reported.

The last time she saw Yu, her body was already so bad and she was still taking medicine. Many medicines and pickled vegetables were actually in conflict. Didn’t Yu know?

“Did Auntie Hai Lan come over to get them?” Qu Moying asked.

“Yes, I heard that Auntie Hai Lan specially came over to pick them. Madam has been grounded. Before, no one from Madam’s yard was allowed to come out. But after a few days, Auntie Hai Lan came out. I heard that it was the Lord’s order for Auntie Hai Lan to come and take Madam’s meals. He was afraid that what Madam ate would be in conflict with the medicine she takes. Auntie Hai Lan knows best what medicine Madam takes.”

Yu Chun said indifferently.

Qu Moying took a few more mouthfuls of porridge, ate a little pickled cucumber, and then put down the bowl and chopsticks. She gently pressed the corner of her mouth with a handkerchief and said, “I’m full!”

Yu Chun swiftly cleaned up the table and went down. Just as she was about to take the stuff to the wing room, she saw the door curtain was lifted and Granny Miao walked in. She called out to Granny Miao. After that, Yu Chun retreated outside the room.

“My lady, the old maid that Third Lady values the most now is called Granny Qing. She went out early this morning.” As soon as Granny Miao entered, she reported the news she had just heard to Qu Moying.

“Where is Qu Qiuyan?”

"I heard that she is copying Lessons for Women in her yard now, and she didn't make a fuss. However, I heard that the Second Master went to Third Lady's yard last night," Granny Miao said.

Qu Zhizhen's whereabouts could not be concealed. There were many people who saw him, especially since Qu Qiuyan angered the Old Lady yesterday. Many servants were waiting to see Qu Zhizhen's attitude about this matter.

"Not making a fuss, huh?"

"I heard that they talked for a long time when the Second Master was there yesterday, but no one heard the sound of the Second Master scolding her. It should be a nice and patient talk with Third Lady. I didn't expect him to be so patient with Third Lady." Granny Miao said, but she felt more and more that Qu Zhizhen was biased. They were both daughters, what did he treat her Lady this way and Third Lady another way?

It was obvious that he treated them differently.

Master treated the two of them as if the Third Lady was the biological daughter, whereas the Fourth Lady was adopted. She had been left aside and ignored for so many years. No matter how much Yu acted against Fourth Lady, he did not say a word. Granny Miao did not believe that Qu Zhizhen did not know anything about what Yu did. She had seen Qu Zhizhen a few times, and from whichever perspective, he did not seem to be stupid.

It could even be said that Qu Zhizhen looked smarter than ordinary people. He managed the mansion well, not just the outer yard, but also the inner yard. Wasn't Yu's matter an example?

When it was exposed that Yu wanted to frame the daughter born by his ex-wife and Yu even acted in an extremely disrespectful manner to Crown Princess at her funeral, he could still protect Yu and prevent Yu's two children from being affected, except being reprimanded a little himself. Granny Miao really felt that this Mr. Vice Minister was too smart.

"My lady..." Granny Miao wanted to remind Qu Moying to be careful of this Mr. Vice Minister, but when she opened her mouth, she felt that she couldn't say anything. No matter what, she couldn't ask a daughter to be on guard against her biological father!

“Granny Miao, continue to pay attention to this old maid and see what she wants to do!” Qu Moying said thoughtfully. Her finger gently pressed on the corner of the table.

This old maid was somewhat suspicious.

“I know. If there is anything, I will immediately report it to you,” Granny Miao said.

Qu Moying nodded and asked, “Are the clothes and accessories I needed at Duke Qi’s Mansion’s banquet ready?”

This matter had been handled by Granny Miao before, and Granny Miao was responsible for contacting the embroidery workshop. From the clothes that had been made before, Qu Moying chose one set that suited the scene and asked the embroidery workshop to add some matching patterns to the clothes. It should be almost done.

“My lady, the embroidery workshop said that it will be done in two days. I will go and urge them again later. No matter how, they can’t keep you waiting.”

A trace of anger appeared on Granny Miao’s face.

Seeing Granny Miao’s appearance, Qu Moying knew that something was going on. She immediately asked, “What’s wrong? The clothes have been taken away for several days. Why haven’t they been ready yet? Has the embroidery workshop been very busy lately?”

When she was Ji Hanyue, she had been in charge of things in the Ji Family. She knew that at this time, the embroidery workshop’s progress should be very fast. The Ji Family had many banquets to attend, especially Ji Hanyue. Every time she went out, she had to change into new clothes. They could not afford to let the future Crown Princess lose face. If the embroidery workshop was not fast enough, they could not finish their tasks on time at all.

Was Qu Mansion’s embroidery workshop’s efficiency so low?

“Yes, the embroidery workshop has been busy. People there said that they were making clothes for Madam. I heard that it was ordered by the doctor. He said that Madam had to wear light and loose clothes. Such clothes were better for people who are ill for a long time and can’t get out of bed. If they don’t wear light clothes, it is inconvenient for them to move.” Granny Miao said angrily, “The embroidery workshop caused so much harm to you, but the people there were only punished for a few days.”

“When did this happen?” Qu Moying’s heart skipped a beat.

“In the past few days. It’s just that they didn’t mention it before. When I took your clothes over, the embroidery workshop didn’t say anything. They only said that this time, we would have to wait for a while. Because they wouldn’t dare to neglect the Second Master’s orders. What did they mean? It was clear that the embroidery workshop’s people stood on Madam’s side. They did it on purpose.”

Previously, the manager of the embroidery workshop and Yu collaborated to frame Qu Moying once. After that, the manager was dismissed, but the people below were not changed.

Compared with Qu Moying, these people would definitely identify more with Yu. After all, it was Yu who had been supervising them for so many years. Even if Yu was in a disadvantageous situation now, weren’t there still Second Young Master and Third Lady? Who knew when Madam would be released again?

What matters had happened recently that alarmed Qu Zhizhen and even caused him to make concessions? Qu Moying’s heart inexplicably skipped a beat. Yu didn’t have a good appetite, she liked pickled cucumbers, and she needed light and loose clothes... There seemed to be an answer. However, this matter was really a bit incredible...

Seeing Qu Moying lower her head and remain silent, Granny Miao thought that Qu Moying was sad. She hurriedly advised, “My lady, don’t be sad. Now that Yu has fallen into this state, so what if the Second Master cares about her? Back then, she was disrespectful to you in front of the Crown Princess’ coffin. This kind of thing can’t be decided by the Second Master alone. Even the palace had reprimanded her.”

Although this matter was suppressed in the end, Yu still became “famous”. Moreover, the news was even spread to the Emperor. If there was no order from the palace in the future, it would not be so easy for Yu to restore her former glory. The royal family was unwilling to pardon her. Just based on this point, Qu Zhizhen could not do whatever he wanted to do. At most, he could try to make things easier for Yu in the mansion.

“Granny Miao, has the doctor been changed recently?” Qu Moying suddenly asked.

“This... I don’t know yet. I’ll go check it out later,” Granny Miao said.

After pondering for a moment, Qu Moying suddenly shook her head. “There’s no need to check it out. The doctor must have been changed.”

“How did you know?” Granny Miao was very surprised.

“The doctor and the female doctor from that time would definitely not be able to enter the mansion again. Therefore, they must be changed. Yu was really good at scheming at that time. No matter what happened at that time, the doctor must not be used anymore. She could even let this doctor say something else.”

Qu Moying sneered. Her eyes looked unfathomable. These things were really a good idea now that they were considered as a whole. Moreover, it was an excellent idea.

It could be seen how unwilling Yu was...

“My lady, what do you mean? I don’t understand.” Granny Miao really didn’t understand. After being stunned for a moment, she asked bluntly.

“Yu is pregnant!” Qu Moying said with certainty.

“What? How... how is this possible?” Granny Miao was stunned for a moment before she subconsciously retorted.

“Why is it impossible?” Qu Moying smiled slightly. Her eyes slowly calmed down, but there was a bigger wave in her heart. It was a coincidence. It was really a coincidence. It was such a coincidence that it was hard to believe that Yu had always been so lucky.

Yu was really lucky. Back then, after she had an affair with Qu Zhizhen, she was pregnant with Qu Qiuyan and Qu Mingcheng. After that, she relied on the babies in her belly to force the Old Lady to allow her to enter Qu Mansion with the title of “decent concubine”. This also paved the way for her to ascend to the position of the legitimate wife.

What about now? It was such a coincidence that she became pregnant at such a juncture. Qu Zhizhen only had one son and one daughter before, who were both born by Yu. If Yu had another son, her position would be even more secure...

“My lady, this is impossible!”