

Noble Wife 241

Chapter 241 If I Don't Have a Miscarriage, I Will Give Birth to the Baby

"Hai Lan, am I really not doing well?" After the doctor left, Yu asked Hai Lan, who was standing on the side, from behind the gauze curtain.

This was already the fourth doctor she had sent for, but every doctor's words were the same. Yu was very anxious. She had gained some weight in the past few days. Her figure was almost the same as before, but she looked a little gloomy.

"Madam, if you take good care of yourself, you might be able to give birth to the baby." Hai Lan didn't dare to answer too straightforwardly, so she phrased her words cautiously. She went up to lift the gauze curtain. Yu was sitting on the bed and stroking her belly.

Yu was pregnant. She found it after coming back from Crown Prince's Mansion, but at that time, she had already taken a lot of powerful medicines because her body was too weak. Only after consuming all those medicines did she survive.

Yu's face was gloomy, covering her belly with her hands, not saying a word.

The room quieted down. After a long while, Yu said, "If... something really happens, blame it on that blind girl."

Hai Lan was shocked and looked up at Yu. "Madam... are you going to give birth to the baby?"

The doctor said that the child was not in good conditions. Even if Yu could give birth to it, it might not be a normal child.

The medicines she took before were really too strong, and the child was bound to be severely affected.

"Even if I can't give birth to the baby, I can't just let her go. It was that blind girl who harmed my child and me. I won't let her get away with it." Yu said, gritting her teeth.

Yu had already heard that Qu Moying had come back safely. Yu realized that her brother had failed again. Thinking of this, Yu became even angrier. She thought Qu Moying had been lucky to survive till now.

She had taken action before. Whether Qu Moying was in the village or in Qu Mansion, Yu had plotted against her many times.

Hai Lan's expression was a little weird. As Yu's confidant, she certainly knew the truth. But even if she was Yu's confidant, she could not bear to blame Qu Moying.

She knew the cause of the matter as well as Yu did.

Hai Lan lowered her head and asked, "Madam, what should we do?" She was Yu's confidant, so she would follow Yu wholeheartedly. She didn't bother to care about Qu Moying because Qu Moying was not her master.

"Go get another doctor." Yu said.

Hai Lan hesitated for a moment and said, "Madam, we have sent for so many doctors, and they all said the same words."

"Go find Third Lady and ask her to send for another doctor for me. Tell her that I am not feeling well all of a sudden and that I seem to be dying." Yu said.

Hearing Yu's words, Hai Lan knelt down in horror. "Madam, please don't say such inauspicious words. You will be fine."

Yu shook her hand. "It doesn't matter. Let Third Lady go get me a doctor first, then think of a way to let that blind girl know..."

Yu paused. She touched her belly with her hand, and a hint of ruthlessness flashed in her eyes. "Lure that blind girl over here and make her a scapegoat. No matter what she will do, or even if she doesn't do anything, as long as she comes, she won't be able to get away with it."

"Madam... are you really going to give up this baby?" Hai Lan asked in a trembling voice. Being unable to keep the baby and taking the initiative to give up the baby were totally different.

"What is there to be afraid of? I've been through this before." Yu said coldly, a trace of coldness flashing through her eyes.

It reminded Hai Lan of what happened more than ten years ago. At that time, Yu was going to give birth, but she used the child in her belly to plot against Yue. She gave birth to the child early and blamed it on Yue, forcing the latter to leave. Later, Yue died in difficult labor in the nunnery because of the poor delivery conditions.

"At that time, I was pregnant with Yan and Cheng, yet I dared to do so. Now I am afraid of nothing. At most, I will have a miscarriage. If I could still carry the baby, then I will give birth to it." As Yu spoke, she clasped her hands together in the air and closed her eyes. She muttered to herself, "Bodhisattva, please bless me. After this matter is over, I will definitely get your body gilded. Bodhisattva, please bless me!"

Hai Lan didn't dare to move as she knelt in front of the bed.

When Yu opened her eyes again, her expression became kind. She reached out to pull Hai Lan. Hai Lan did not dare to struggle, and she stood up in response. Yu said, "After dealing with this blind girl, you can retire. I will give you a house. You and your child... you can enjoy family life in the future."

"Thank you, Madam. Thank you so much." After hearing what Yu said, Hai Lan choked and repeatedly kowtowed, her expression no longer as nervous as before.

The child was Hai Lan's secret. No one else knew about the child. The child was now living and raised in Yu Mansion.

"You have served me so many years. You don't need to thank me. Look around, the two of us actually depend on each other." Yu let go of Hai Lan and pointed at the surroundings with a mocking smile.

"Madam, everything will be fine. I will go find Third Lady later and ask her to send for a doctor first. Then, I will let Third Lady spread the news." Hai Lan said.

"That's good. Remember to remind Third Lady that she must get that blind girl here using whichever method she can think of." Yu said with a gloomy face. This time, even if she had to risk her life, she would try her best to drag Qu Moying into the mire. She believed that if Qu Moying "deliberately" caused her to lose her child, Qu Zhizhen would mind.

Although Qu Zhizhen still had Yu locked up after knowing that she was pregnant, he treated her much better and had even come to see her once.

Qu Zhizhen only had one son. If Yu could give birth to another son, it would mean a lot. Even if the child might be sick, Yu still wanted to give birth to it.

However, the child might be defective, and Yu could not stop worrying about this, so she decided to let nature take its course. If she didn't have a miscarriage after framing Qu Moying, she would give birth to the baby because it meant that heaven was blessing her, and she would give birth to a healthy baby.

After getting rid of Qu Moying, the entire mansion would be hers again. Moreover, she would give birth to a baby, so even if the Old Lady disliked her, the Old Lady should think carefully about how to treat her.

At this time, Yu was trying to perfect her scheme against Qu Moying, but she did not expect that something had happened to Qu Qiuyan. Qu Qiuyan was not in the mood to do anything for Yu. Hai Lan was driven out before she could see Qu Qiuyan. She was told to go to the Old Lady if she had anything.

"Did Hai Lan go to Third Sister?" Qu Moying put her hands on the qin strings in front of her and gently plucked them as she asked indifferently.

"Yes, but she didn't see Third Lady. Third Lady's maid came out and said that Third Lady wanted to copy the scriptures quietly. She said that if Madam really had something to do, she could go to the Old Lady."

"Did she go to the Old Lady?" Qu Moying frowned slightly and asked slowly.

"No, Aunt Hai Lan walked around outside Third Lady's room for a while and went back helplessly." Yu Chun reported, "Miss, are they planning to harm you again?"

Qu Moying pondered for a moment and thought about Yu's current situation. She suddenly smiled. "Did Hai Lan say that Madam is not feeling well?"

"I am not sure about this, but I heard Granny Miao say that Aunt Hai Lan said something like this. However, everyone in the mansion knows that Madam is not feeling well. Otherwise, why would she send for so frequently? Even now, she is still lying on the bed." Yu Chun said indifferently. Back then, Yu was able to escape the punishment thanks to her poor body. Now, even if she wanted to "recover", she probably couldn't.

"She is so seriously ill that she might not recover in a year or so."

This was good. At least during this period of time, Yu would be locked up so that she wouldn't be able to gang up with Qu Qiuyan to harm Qu Moying.

"Tell Granny Miao to keep an eye on them." Qu Moying already had some clues. The corners of her lips curled up slightly. Yu had always been thinking about harming her, and she was still trying to harm her even in this situation. But Qu Moying thought it was alright because after she returned from Dabei Temple, Yu could no longer keep her secret.

Yu Dong hurried in. Seeing that there was only Yu Chun and Qu Moying, he directly walked up to Qu Moying to report, "Miss, Granny Qing secretly went out. She went to Minister Liu's House."

After Granny Qing left the mansion, Yu Dong had specially asked his subordinates to keep an eye on her. He did not expect to find such a big surprise this time.

"Minister Liu of the Ministry of Works?" Qu Moying was slightly stunned. Her long eyelashes fluttered, and her eyes were full of surprise. It was really unexpected.

The connection between Qu Mansion and the Liu Family was that Qu Zhizhen was Minister Liu's subordinate, and there seemed to be nothing else. Except for this trip to Duke Qi's Mansion, Granny

Qing had been behaving properly after entering Qu Mansion. How did she get involved with Minister Liu's House now?

"Yes, she entered Minister Liu's House. Granny Qing was very cautious. She walked around Minister Liu's house several times and even walked around the backyards of nearby mansions before entering Minister Liu's House through the back door. Fortunately, the people I sent out were not ordinary people. They kept a close watch on her and found out where she went in the end."

"Is it County Lady Jingyu?" Yu Chun interrupted.

"What does County Lady Jingyu mean? Why does she want to deal with Miss? Is she helping Third Lady to plot against Miss? She wanted to frame Miss in Duke Qi's Mansion. Now, what does she want to do?" Yu Dong's face darkened. After linking everything, he thought of this.

In Duke Qi's Mansion, Qu Qiuyan had framed Qu Moying once. If there was no one familiar with Duke Qi's Mansion who wiped out everything for her, she would have left traces. The maid who sent the letter disappeared all of a sudden, which meant something was fishy.

Could it be that there was a grudge between Qu Mansion and the Liu Family? Qu Moying quickly denied this possibility. She had heard that Minister Liu and Vice Minister Qu were congenial. They were not only superior and subordinate, but they also had a good relationship in private. Minister Liu had no reason to deal with Qu Zhizhen. Moreover, the backyard was involved.

Apart from this, it would only be related to her. Did Liu Jingyu have any enmity with her?

Her heart skipped a beat. She slowly linked some things together...

Chapter 242 Long-term Hatred Since Childhood

When Qu Moying first met Liu Jingyu, she saw Liu Jingyu's unfriendly gaze from afar. Liu Jingyu set her up in Duke Qi's Mansion last time, and the incident fully reflected her malice.

Several things happened to Qu Moying in Duke Qi's Mansion: her clothes were wet by a maid. When she was going to change her clothes in the yard, the Eldest Young Master of Duke Qi's Mansion came over with a group of young masters. Then, Yan Yujiao, who later left with Liu Jingyu who appeared at the scene "by accident", suddenly got angry with her.

The last thing was done by Qu Qiuyan. She must have planned it long ago. Duchess Qi investigated the affair, but she found nothing. If Liu Jingyu had also intervened, it would make sense. After all, she was Duchess Qi's most beloved granddaughter. In Duke Qi's Mansion, she was more like a master than Qi Xiangyu.

Thinking of Liu Jingyu, Qu Moying felt a heavy blow in her heart. She didn't remember seeing Liu Jingyu before, but as she tried her best to recall, she suddenly realized that perhaps they had really met before.

When she was a little girl, she seemed to have met Liu Jingyu.

It was a long time ago. At that time, she was only about seven or eight years old. A mother with her daughter passed by to take shelter from the rain in the village. They were dressed in gorgeous clothes. Were they Mrs. Liu and Liu Jingyu?

At that time, Qu Moying was a loner and didn't like to talk. She avoided Granny Zhou and hid in a wing room. The wing room was in the front yard, so she saw the girl who was taking shelter from the rain. Was the girl Liu Jingyu?

If the girl was Liu Jingyu, then Liu Jingyu had hated her since then.

When the young Liu Jingyu saw Qu Moying, she first asked Qu Moying if she was the Fourth Lady Qu and mocked that she was not as good as a maid. Then, she gave a hard push to Qu Moying before leaving. Qu Moying was so thin that she was pushed to the corner of the table. However, Liu Jingyu didn't seem to be satisfied and even wanted to beat her.

At that moment, someone's voice came from outside. Liu Jingyu did not make any further movements and turned to leave.

Qu Moying was left alone, covering her bloody forehead and lying on the ground with tears in her eyes.

It had been many years since this matter happened. Qu Moying hadn't recalled it before because it happened too long ago. But as she recalled it now, she felt a sense of familiarity. That girl resembled the current Liu Jingyu. It should be her!

"Miss... Miss..." Seeing that Qu Moying remained silent and seemed to be deep in thought, Yu Dong called her a few times.

Qu Moying came back to her senses and looked at Yu Dong.

"Miss, should we catch that old maid and interrogate her?"

"No need, let's wait and see." Qu Moying shook her head. She really didn't understand why Liu Jingyu hated her so much. Liu Jingyu's hatred for her was similar to that of Qu Qiuyan. It was as if she had done something bad to Liu Jingyu which caused the latter to hate her so much.

But why did Liu Jingyu hate Qu Moying when they were both so young? Qu Moying had not seen many people at that time.

Qu Moying was not sure whether or not Liu Jingyu was the person who plotted against her. She had to observe first. If Liu Jingyu really had done it, Qu Moying would deal with her without mercy. Now, she had to find out the truth carefully. It was probably a big deal. However, she had to focus on Yu and Qu Qiuyan now.

"Fourth Lady, Third Lady sent someone over." An old maid reported loudly from the corridor.

Qu Moying glanced at Yu Dong, who immediately understood what she meant. Yu Dong lifted the curtain, walked out, and soon brought in an old maid from Qu Qiuyan's yard.

Qu Moying asked, "What's the matter?"

"Fourth Lady, Third Lady asked if you need to bring anything to Dabei Temple tomorrow. If you need anything, please tell me. I will go and prepare it right away." The old maid said with a smile.

Qu Qiuyan was in charge of most of the affairs in the mansion, so it was reasonable for her to send someone to ask Qu Moying. Although Qu Qiuyan wanted to tear Qu Moying apart, they were still sisters on the surface. Qu Qiuyan had to feign sisterhood in front of others, and she couldn't let the Old Lady find out she hated Qu Moying.

"Did Grandmother prepare anything?" Qu Moying asked after thinking for a while.

"The Old Lady has prepared a set of ordinary offerings." The old maid replied with a smile.

"Prepare a set for me as well, just like the Old Lady's. As for the rest, I can prepare them myself." Qu Moying said.

She needed to prepare one more set of offerings because Yue's eternal flame was also lit at Dabei Temple.

"Yes, I get it." The old maid did not try to please her. She nodded and then left. She was just here to ask about the offerings, not intending to do anything else. Now, everyone in the mansion knew that Qu Moying and Qu Qiuyan were not on good terms. She was just a servant, and she'd better not get involved. Although Qu Moying didn't seem to be powerful, she had been doing well after entering the mansion.

The servants in the mansion used to look down upon Qu Moying the most, but now no one dared to take her lightly.

"Miss, what other offerings do you want to prepare?" Yu Dong asked after the old maid left.

Qu Moying walked to the window, thought for a moment, picked up a brush, and wrote down the sacrificial offerings she needed on the paper. After the handwriting was dried, she handed the paper to Yu Dong and said, "Go to this shop to buy these things for me."

She pointed at the shop name at the bottom of the paper.

“Miss, I have never heard of this shop before. It isn’t a famous one, right?” Yu Dong looked at the name of the shop and thought for a while. He really couldn’t remember that there was such a shop selling offerings.

“Yes, it’s not a big one, but I want theirs. Although it is not famous, its goods are not bad’.” Qu Moying said. Then, she told Yu Dong about the way to the shop.

It was indeed not a famous shop, but because it was related to Earl Ling’an’s Mansion, Old Lady Ji would always send people to buy goods from this shop whenever she needed to buy offerings. Since Qu Moying had suggested this trip to Old Lady Ji, she would naturally use the same offerings as her.

“Purchase two sets of offerings according to the paper. Then, go to another shop to buy three sets of ordinary offerings. Bring these three sets back to the mansion. As for the first two sets, tell the shopkeeper that you will collect them tomorrow. After you go out tomorrow, go get them first. Then, order a carriage and go to Dabei Temple by yourself. Don’t bring these offerings into the mansion.”

“Miss, you don’t want others to know that you order these offerings?” Yu Dong immediately understood.

Qu Moying nodded and said, “Others don’t need to know. I am going to worship my uncle and cousin sister. I don’t want others to know.”

“Okay, I understand. I will go now.” Yu Dong nodded and left.

“Yu Chun, bring me the needle and thread. I am almost done with the sachet.” Qu Moying said softly, turning around and sitting down on the chair.

Yu Chun knew what she was talking about. She went to the inner room and took out the needle and thread box. Qu Moying picked out a half-done sachet from the box and began to seal it carefully. Although she was not good at needlework, she could do basic sewing. It was just that she was a little lacking in doing exquisite embroidery work.

Whether in her previous life or this life, she was only at an ordinary level in terms of needlework. But even so, she had started preparing this sachet long before. Actually, she had prepared a pair of sachets.

Her mother in her previous life and her mother in this life were both her mothers. She prepared one for each of them.

The second sachet was not sealed yet.

“Miss, let me help you.” Yu Chun knew that Qu Moying was not good at needlework, so she reached out to help.

Qu Moying shook her head and said, “No need, I can do it myself.”

She had prepared something long ago. These two sachets were the only things she needed to prepare now. Although they were not well-made, they were personally made by her. She bit her lips and inexplicably shed tears. Her heart was filled with sorrow.

After rebirth, it was not that she was no longer weak, but that she could rely on herself for everything!

No matter how difficult the situation was, she had to hold on. She had no one to rely on except herself.

Although she spoke gently, her words were very firm. Yu Chun had no choice but to step aside and help her thread a needle.

“That’s it?” Qu Qiuyan flipped over the thing in her hand and asked impatiently.

It was a small sachet. It was neither eye-catching nor delicate. It was just one of the ordinary sacrificial offerings, embroidered with very rough patterns. Inside it was the most ordinary herb called mugwort, which had a strong smell and didn’t smell good.

“Yes, this is it. I haven’t put that thing in it yet. It will be used tomorrow.” Granny Qing moved closer to Qu Qiuyan and said in a low voice.

There was no one else except the two of them in the room.

“Will it work?” Qu Qiuyan was still looking at this sachet, and then she saw that there was indeed a small opening at the bottom of the sachet. If she did not look carefully, she would not see it. She had thought that the opening was due to the rough needlework.

However, it was used for burning, so it would not be a big deal if it was not properly sealed. Nobody would care about this.

It was not for the living.

“I will stuff the medicine in it. Once it is lit, the smell will come out. It will make people dizzy and weak.” Granny Qing said.

“It will work, right?” Qu Qiuyan asked.

“Yes, I promise it will work well. When I was in the palace, there was such a thing, and Imperial...” Granny Qing stopped talking at once, knowing that she had made a slip of the tongue.

“Imperial what?” Qu Qiuyan looked sideways and asked. It seemed to relate to an imperial concubine who had fallen into the trap, but she did not know who it was.

“I was wrong. I heard it from the other maids. Please don’t take it seriously.” Granny Qing hurriedly shook her head. Her face was slightly pale, and she did not dare to continue.

It was really something she heard from other gossipers. She had heard of it by chance. If she had really been involved in it, she would not have been able to live until now.

Thinking of the scene of blood flowing like a river in the royal palace that day, Granny Qing shivered. She didn’t dare to say anything more. People who gossip about such a thing would be killed. Even her Master couldn’t bear the consequences, not to mention her. She would never mention it again.

“It’s not true?” Qu Qiuyan frowned, feeling a little annoyed. She couldn’t help but raise her voice and ask, “You mean it’s useless, and what you said before is not true?”

“No, Third Lady, that’s not what I mean. Of course, it’s useful. It has been used in the palace, but I shouldn’t talk about the exact thing. Moreover, I don’t know about the details of that thing. The only thing I know is that it is definitely useful. You can rest assured.”

Seeing that Qu Qiuyan had misunderstood, Granny Qing hurriedly explained.

Hearing Granny Qing’s words, Qu Qiuyan looked at the sachet doubtfully and then looked at Granny Qing’s expression. She threw the sachet to Granny Qing and said, “Then go do it. Be careful. Do it at night. Don’t make any mistakes.”

“Yes!” Seeing that Qu Qiuyan did not ask any further, Granny Qing heaved a sigh of relief and nodded. She was going to swap the things prepared by the mansion, and it was indeed more appropriate to do it at night...

Chapter 243 I Can Leave If You...

Granny Qing did take action at night. She walked very carefully and stopped at a turn to look behind every time. It was very quiet, and there was no one behind her. She walked around for a long time before walking to where sacrificial offerings were placed. Some offerings were placed there, but not many.

There were two sets of incense sticks and candles, some serving pastries, some rough straw paper, and a few ordinary offerings.

Since they were going to Dabei Temple, it was only natural for them to prepare the offerings to worship Yue.

The Old Lady was an elder, so she didn’t need to prepare much. Other than the incenses, there were only two ordinary sachets. Inside was the mugwort. It was just right to burn them together with the straw paper.

Noble families in the capital would prepare sachets if they were to worship deceased women.

A few sachets were enough. With sachets, it could show that the one being worshipped was a woman.

Each of the two bamboo baskets contained a set of offerings. Qu Moying did not ask for too many things. It meant that she would buy some herself. Granny Qing had heard that Yu Dong went out to buy some.

Granny Qing walked to the bamboo basket on the right, which was prepared for Qu Moying. She took out a sachet from the basket. Then, she put the sachet in her arms into the basket and turned to leave.

During the whole process, she didn't even light up the candle but just took advantage of the light from the window.

"Miss, Granny Qing really went to the place where the offerings are placed." Yu Dong came in to report, and Qu Moying was sealing the last sachet.

"What do you think it is?" Qu Moying asked without raising her head.

"I don't think it is an incense stick. Incense sticks are long, but what Granny Qing just put is not." Yu Dong thought for a while and said.

He followed Granny Qing very carefully. Originally, he wanted to get closer to Granny Qing, but Granny Qing was so cautious that Yu Dong could only follow her from a distance for fear of being discovered. Then, Granny Qing went in for a while and left. Yu Dong could not see anything.

"We'll see tomorrow." Qu Moying said indifferently. She put down the sachet in her hands. She had already washed up. Her long hair fell down, and her face became fairer and tender. Under the light, her long eyelashes cast a shadow under her eyes. Her eyes were darker than ordinary people's.

However, when she looked up, her eyes were clearer than ever.

"Miss, I will help you clean up. You can go to bed now." Yu Chun said.

Qu Moying nodded, walked to the bed, and lay down on it. She crossed her arms in front of her chest and closed her eyes.

After cleaning up, Yu Chun blew out the candles on the table and left with Yu Dong.

After Yu Chun and Yu Dong left, Qu Moying opened her eyes again. She stared blankly at the top of the bed and continued to think about the connection between Liu Jingyu and her.

If the girl she met when she was young was really Liu Jingyu, why did Liu Jingyu treat her like that? Noble ladies at that age should have been sensible, and Liu Jingyu was considered intelligent since she was young. She was friendly to others and had a good reputation.

She got the position of County Lady partly because she indeed had a better reputation than Qi Xiangyu.

Qu Moying couldn't figure out why a woman like Liu Jingyu hated her so much. Liu Jingyu even deliberately pushed her to the corner of the table at that time. Qu Moying felt lingering fear as she thought of this. If no one came at that time, would Liu Jingyu be more violent? Was Liu Jingyu going to kill her?

She was older than Qu Moying, and at that time, she was already sensible. She looked better than Qu Moying, who was weak and had an eye disease. It was a piece of cake for her to deal with Qu Moying. At that time, she did not have maids to protect her. It was strange. Had the servants been negligent?

She frowned slightly. Liu Jingyu seemed to have said something at that time, but Qu Moying was afraid and painful, so she couldn't remember it.

What was going on? Did Liu Jingyu plan to attack her back then? But Qu Moying was so young at that time, how could she offend the high and mighty Liu Jingyu?

Liu Jingyu was Duke Qi's maternal granddaughter. Duke Qi doted on her even more than his paternal granddaughter. She was the only daughter of Minister Liu, who had a much more promising future than Qu Zhizhen. At that time, Qu Moying was just an abandoned girl. Her mother had passed away, and her

father threw her aside. Yu had been eyeing her with hostility. From all aspects, Qu Moying was in a very bad situation.

Moreover, she had an eye disease, so her future was almost unpromising.

What was the connection between Liu Jingyu and her? Liu Jingyu couldn't help but want to harm her at that time. Now, Liu Jingyu had grown up, but her hatred for Qu Moying had never disappeared.

Why?

"Do you have something on your mind?" Someone touched her eyebrows silently and asked. Qu Moying suddenly widened her eyes and tensed up in shock. She almost cried out in alarm, her hands clenching the corner of the quilt.

In the darkness, she saw a pair of cold and handsome eyes. After recognizing who the person was, she heaved a sigh of relief and said, "Your Highness."

She glanced at the window at the side and found that the window was half open. Pei Yuanjun didn't sleep but came to her room in the middle of the night.

"I saw the light in your room just now, but it was off when I came in." Pei Yuanjun said lazily, putting his hand down from Qu Moying's eyebrow and sitting down on the bed directly.

Qu Moying was pushed to the corner of the bed. She thought for a moment and then moved further to the corner of the bed. Then, she sat up. Her black hair fell down, making her face look even smaller and her eyes look even bigger.

"Your Highness, what brings you here?" Qu Moying said.

Pei Yuanjun came to Qu Moying's room so casually, as if Qu Moying's room was a street store. But he was never a man who followed the rules, so it was useless to reason with him.

Pushing Qu Moying's slender body into the bed, Pei Yuanjun yawned ungracefully. "I am also tired!"

He leaned against the bed and closed his eyes.

"If you are tired, please go back to sleep! If you don't go back, people in your mansion will be worried!" Qu Moying advised him.

"No hurry!" Pei Yuanjun said with his eyes closed.

Pei Yuanjun was not in a hurry, but Qu Moying felt anxious.

"Your Highness, it's getting late. There have been a lot of assassins recently. If they see you, I'm afraid you will be in danger." Qu Moying glanced at Pei Yuanjun, who was so relaxed that he seemed to be in his own mansion. He looked so casual, not minding Qu Moying at all. However, Qu Moying was an aristocratic lady. If people found out that there was a man in her room, she would feel too shameful to live.

"I have dealt with the assassin." Pei Yuanjun said. Under the moonlight, he smiled faintly.

There was actually a hint of gentleness on his face.

Qu Moying felt that she must have seen wrong, but his words attracted her attention. She looked up at Pei Yuanjun in astonishment and asked, "Did he make a confession?"

"Yes!"

"Who sent him?" Qu Moying straightened up and asked anxiously.

"A petty official from the Ministry of Justice set him free and asked him to assassinate you. The official promised to help the assassin to get away. However, when we found the official, he had already died. Actually, he was already dead when the assassin went to assassinate you." Pei Yuanjun said indifferently.

“They’re all dead, so there’s no evidence?” After being stunned for a moment, Qu Moying knew that this matter was tricky. Otherwise, the official wouldn’t have been killed.

“It doesn’t matter if they are dead or not. The manipulator behind this is probably from the royal family.” Pei Yuanjun said. He was half lying on the bed, and his collar was loose. The iris flower embroidered on the collar was eye-catching, and a small part of his exposed skin looked even fairer.

“Your Highness, what do you want to do?” Qu Moying’s heart skipped a beat. She asked anxiously, looking nervous.

“Nothing, but I have to tell His Majesty, lest he doesn’t know that his sons are so lawless.” Pei Yuanjun said lazily.

Tell His Majesty?

Qu Moying frowned again. She thought for a moment and said, “Those Lords and I have nothing to do with each other. They can’t deal with me just because I am the daughter of the Vice Minister. Isn’t it like taking a spear to kill a fly?”

“It isn’t if I am involved.” Pei Yuanjun said. Suddenly, a cold smile appeared on his face. “What they did really made me scared. How could they live at ease?”

Did the manipulator casually let others take the blame? It was so unreasonable. She knew who it probably was, but it was inconvenient to tell him.

After thinking for a while, she said carefully, “Your Highness, we haven’t found out the truth yet. If something really happens to those Lords, you will inevitably be suspected. You’d better be careful.”

She was not worried about him but just worried that he would implicate her. Pei Yuanjun could bear the consequences, but she could not. After all, she was just a weak young lady.

"I don't need to be careful. Do you think they can testify against me?" Pei Yuanjun snorted. He reached out to push Qu Moying further inside and lay down at ease. "I am tired. I just came back from West Prison."

Qu Moying was pushed to the corner of the wall. Seeing that Pei Yuanjun was really lying down, Qu Moying wondered if he really thought that he was in his own mansion.

"Your Highness, since you have planned to do this, you have to go back to your mansion. Otherwise, people will suspect you because you are not in your mansion." Qu Moying said sincerely.

Pei Yuanjun narrowed his eyes and looked at Qu Moying's serious face. He asked with a smile, "Why? Are you afraid of people suspecting you? Aren't you bold?"

"I'm not bold. I'm just worried about your safety." Qu Moying raised her face and said seriously.

"You want me to go back?" Pei Yuanjun raised an eyebrow.

Qu Moying smiled and nodded honestly. "It's not good if you are found here!"

"I can leave, but..." Pei Yuanjun elongated his tone. Qu Moying immediately tensed up. Looking at her lively face, he could not help but laugh. She clearly wanted him to get out immediately, but she still pretended to be concerned about him. He found her really interesting.

"What do you need?" Qu Moying pursed her lips and felt that her cheeks were tensed. Then she calmed herself down and lowered her eyes to look at the corner of the quilt in front of her. She looked extremely respectful.

Chapter 244 Scoundrels

Pei Yuanjun reached out his hand and pinched a strand of Qu Moying's hair, twirling it with his fingers. Then, he raised his head and met Qu Moying's bright eyes. She looked at him in shock, not understanding why he was doing this.

"If I need anything, I will come and get it. I will leave it here for the time being." Pei Yuanjun loosened his fingers, and Qu Moying's hair slowly fell down from his fingers.

Then he stood up, straightened his collar, and glanced at Qu Moying with a smile. "I heard that you're going to Dabei Temple tomorrow."

"What can I do for you, Your Highness?" Qu Moying asked carefully.

Pei Yuanjun stood in front of the bed, the shadow of his tall figure almost covering her and making her unable to see the expression on his face.

"There is one thing. Let Pei Yusheng see Lady Liu again. It's time for her to go back to the border."

There were too many messages in his words. Qu Moying found it hard to understand for a moment, but she still nodded because she had promised him before. "Your Highness, send me a message when the time comes."

Unlike before, it was much more convenient to come in and go out of the mansion now.

"There's no need to send a message. I can tell you now. Do it in Dabei Temple." Pei Yuanjun said casually.

Qu Moying thought for a while and said, "But I'm afraid I can't make it tomorrow." There might be a lot of things to do tomorrow, and she was afraid that she couldn't make the arrangements in time.

"Then stay one more night at Dabei Temple." Pei Yuanjun had already made a decision for her.

"It is not up to me. It depends on Grandmother." Qu Moying tactfully refused. When the time came, the Old Lady would not be willing to stay.

"I ask you to stay there, and you just need to prepare for it." Pei Yuanjun snorted and said lazily. He reached out to touch Qu Moying's hair that felt as smooth as silk. Then, he evilly pressed her hair, causing her to lower her head. Qu Moying almost fell on the bed, and she couldn't help but let out a low groan.

When she looked up, his big hand had already left her head. Watching Pei Yuanjun's figure disappear into the night, Qu Moying stood up speechlessly and walked to the window. What kind of strange hobbies did he have? She closed the window and lay down again.

Perhaps she felt exhausted after talking to Pei Yuanjun. She actually fell asleep immediately.

The night was quiet. Early the next morning, Yu Chun came in to wake Qu Moying up. After helping her wash up, Yu Chun followed her to the Old Lady's yard.

The Old Lady also woke up early and was eating breakfast. Qu Moying got herself a small bowl of porridge. Just as they were eating, Qu Qiuyan came over. After the three of them finished having breakfast, they went out together.

The Old Lady only brought West Mansion's Qu Moying and Qu Qiuyan with her this time, but she still prepared three big carriages and an ordinary carriage. The Old Lady thought it was not a good idea to let Qu Moying and Qu Qiuyan sit on the same carriage, so she specially prepared two big carriages for them.

Qu Qiuyan and Qu Moying would each have a carriage, so they would not have to contend with each other.

At first, Qu Moying only wanted to bring one maid with her. But when she thought of what Pei Yuanjun said yesterday, she decided to bring two maids with her. She brought Yu Chun and Yu Dong and even secretly took two more sets of clothes. She had the entire carriage alone, which allowed sufficient space for her maids and her personal items.

Yu Dong had already left, and only Yu Chun was by Qu Moying's side now.

The offerings such as incenses were placed in the last ordinary carriage, and a few ordinary old maids who followed to serve were jammed in this carriage. As for the personal maids, they followed their masters in the large carriages in the front.

The four carriages drove out of the capital and headed for Dabai Temple early in the morning.

As soon as Qu Mansion's carriages left the city, Yamen's people sealed the city gate, saying that there were assassins who entered the city last night to assassinate someone.

Since the city gate was sealed, people inside the city couldn't get out, and people outside the city couldn't get in. For a moment, everyone was in a panic.

Many people were guessing what had happened. People were gathering inside and outside the city gate, and soon everyone was talking about this.

It was said that the assassins went to both the Crown Prince's Mansion and Lord Jing Mansion. The Crown Prince and Lord Jing were almost injured. Now the city gate was closed to capture the assassins.

An assassin tried to assassinate a noble lady on the street a few days ago, and now, assassins went into princes' mansions to assassinate them. Moreover, their targets were the two most promising princes. For a moment, everyone was discussing and speculating in panic. If something really happened, the consequences would be far more serious than sealing the gate.

Many people were talking about the issue at the city gate, but Qu Mansion's people did not know about it. The carriages quietly entered Dabai Temple and then arrived at the parking place.

Old Lady Qu got out of the carriage, and the other two young ladies of Qu Mansion also came down from the two carriages behind.

A reception monk had already come to welcome Old Lady Qu.

Old Lady Qu was a regular visitor here. The reception monk led them to a meditation courtyard for resting. They did not intend to live here, so the reception monk did not prepare rooms for them.

A young servant hurried in and whispered something to Granny Wu.

Looking at the sweating young servant, Qu Moying recognized that he was Qu Zhizhen's servant. It seemed that something had happened. She wondered what had happened.

It would be nice if she could stay in Dabei Temple for a night, and she did not need to rush things.

Granny Wu's face changed greatly after she heard the young servant's words. She rushed to the Old Lady and whispered to her. The Old Lady's face also changed slightly. She thought for a while and said to the reception monk, "Master, could you please prepare three rooms for us? I'm afraid we have to stay tonight."

"Yes, your ladyship. I will arrange it immediately." The reception monk said, clasping his palms together.

"Thank you, Master!" Old Lady Qu said politely.

"You are welcome!" The reception monk smiled and left.

"Grandmother, what happened?" Qu Moying took two steps forward, sat down beside the Old Lady, and asked softly.

"Something happened last night. It was said that there were assassins in the Crown Prince's Mansion and Lord Jing Mansion. The Crown Prince and Lord Jing were almost killed. Crown Prince's Mansion's Princess Ji was injured. As for Lord Jing Mansion, something happened to... Caiyue."

The Old Lady said seriously, "Your father just sent me a message, asking us to stay here for a night. He doesn't know when the city gate will open, so we'd better stay here for a night."

"What? The city gate is sealed?" Qu Qiuyan stood up and asked anxiously.

“It should be sealed at this time. Something has happened to the Crown Prince’s Mansion again. I’m afraid they are going to investigate the incident seriously this time.” The Old Lady said, frowning. It was already the third time that the Crown Prince’s Mansion had been in trouble. Accidents kept happening in Eastern Palace recently, which was quite ominous.

The first incident occurred at the Crown Prince’s wedding and the Crown Prince almost had an accident. Fortunately, the ex-Crown Princess was there at that time. The second time was when Eastern Palace caught fire. Almost half of the sky of the capital was illuminated by the fire. On that day, Qu Mansion also almost had an accident. The Old Lady remembered it very clearly. This time, the third incident occurred. The Crown Prince almost had an accident again. This time, it was Princess Ji who had an accident.

In comparison, although something also happened to Lord Jing Mansion, it was not that serious. The one who had an accident was Qu Caiyue. What exactly happened to her was still unknown. Qu Caiyue was the Old Lady’s granddaughter. Although she was disappointing, the Old Lady could not help but feel worried for her. If she had known it earlier, she would not have let Qu Caiyue go to Lord Jing Mansion so quickly. She did not expect that something would happen to Qu Caiyue soon after she entered Lord Jing Mansion.

The Old Lady was both annoyed and worried.

It had only been a few months since the ex-Crown Princess died. Qu Caiyue’s current situation was unknown. Although someone went to Lord Jing Mansion to inquire about the situation, the people in Lord Jing Mansion did not give them a clear answer.

“Grandmother, did something happen to Lord Jing?” Qu Qiuyan’s expression changed drastically.

“I don’t know. Well, these things have nothing to do with us.” The Old Lady waved her hand impatiently, not wanting to talk about it anymore.

The reception monk happened to come in. He had already prepared the rooms for them. The Old Lady stood up and followed the reception monk. Since they had decided to stay for a night, they could tidy up first.

The reception monk prepared three middle-sized yards for them. The Old Lady would live in the yard in the middle, and Qu Qiuyan and Qu Moying would each have one of the two yards.

The Old Lady was not in good health, so she brought many people with her. Qu Moying brought two maids with her, and Qu Qiuyan also brought two maids with her, Qing Ju and Granny Qing. Since the two of them both brought enough people, the Old Lady did not need to arrange for the other people to come over.

Yu Dong went out early in the morning. After collecting the offerings that had been bought, he called for a carriage and arrived Dabai Temple before Qu Moying. When he saw Qu Mansion's carriages coming over, he hurriedly sneaked into the group of servants. No one noticed that he had not gotten on the carriage with Qu Moying before. Now that Qu Moying had a yard, he went out to bring the offerings into the yard.

When he arrived at the place where the carriages were parked, he suddenly heard a loud noise from the side. It seemed that some people were arguing. Yu Dong looked over and found that they were some scoundrel-like people. There were four of them, all dressed in fine clothes, but they were just so so in Yu Dong's eyes. It seemed that they had just come down from a carriage, and another carriage happened to come over and accidentally bumped into one of them.

In fact, they were fine, but they just stood there and blackmailed the people in the carriage, asking him to compensate them.

Not to be outdone, the carriage driver pointed at the ground and said that none of them was hurt and they shouldn't ask for any compensation. Just as they were arguing, a maid came out of the carriage. She looked up at the few people and threw out a piece of silver.

Seeing the size of the silver, the few scoundrels immediately stopped arguing. They happily picked up the silver and stopped being unreasonable. This matter was solved.

The scoundrels laughed as they walked towards the temple. "Great. It's an unexpected fortune. How lucky we are."

"Let's go. Hurry up. There must be something good waiting for us inside! We are called here so early. There must be something nice!"

“Of course, there is something nice waiting ahead. Come with me. Maybe we can see a beauty later.”

“Really? Then hurry up.”

The scoundrels chatted and laughed as they walked past Yu Dong. Yu Dong originally didn't care, but when he saw one of the scoundrels walk by, he suddenly stopped and looked at his back with a cold expression...

Chapter 245 Taking Advantage of Her Worry

The other scoundrels looked frivolous, but the one in the middle walked firmly, seemingly different from the other scoundrels.

Seeing such a strange person at this time, Yu Dong naturally had some doubts. After taking a few more glances at the person, Yu Dong already had an idea in his heart. He would send someone to check on these scoundrels later. If there was nothing wrong with them, that would be the best. But if they did harbor ill intent, he could make arrangements early.

As soon as Yu Dong brought the offerings into the yard, Qu Moying had tidied up. She held a sachet in her hand. Yu Dong did not see it clearly and thought it was the one made by Qu Moying. He asked, “Miss, is there anything wrong with this sachet?”

“Yes!” Qu Moying nodded. She put the sachet in front of her nose and sniffed. The smell of mugwort was very strong, almost pungent, but she could also smell another faint fragrance from the sachet. It was from a kind of rare herb, which was not from Central Plains. In the past, Granny Miao had taught her to recognize and crush this kind of herb and taught her to use it to make medicine.

Therefore, she could identify it even though its smell was faint.

“Miss, isn't this sachet the one you made?” At this time, Yu Dong found something wrong with the sachet and asked in surprise.

"It's the sachet from the offerings." Yu Chun said.

Yu Dong immediately understood and said, "As expected, the old maid must have swapped the sachet. Miss, is there anything wrong with the sachet?"

Qu Moying put down the sachet and washed her hands in the basin that Yu Chun was holding for her. She took out a handkerchief and slowly wiped the water on her hands. "There is a rare herb mixed in the sachet, which could hardly be smelt when mixed with mugwort. It seemed to be harmless, but when it is burned, it will make people feel weak all over. In the worst case, it will make people unconscious, but others could not find out about it afterwards!"

If an aristocratic lady went weak all over outside, she would easily be in danger. If she was unconscious, others could do whatever they wanted to her. At the thought of this, Yu Chun shivered, and Yu Dong's face darkened. They clearly knew what this sachet was used for.

"The Third Lady is really too vicious!" Yu Chun was furious.

Yu Dong looked at Qu Moying and asked angrily, "Miss, what should we do now?"

He firmly believed that Qu Moying would have a way. He had followed her for a period of time. Although she looked weak and was even a little weaker than ordinary ladies, she was firm, smart, and sensible. She was not the kind of noble miss who was spoiled, weak, and would be shocked by trifles.

Qu Moying looked at the sky and found that it was still early. Since the Ji Family's people had not arrived yet, she would take the first step to avoid bumping into them. She had prepared other methods, but since this sachet was here, she could utilize it. Qu Qiuyan must have made her plan flawless, so she probably would not make Qu Moying unconscious. The amount of that rare herb in the sachet was small. It would probably only make her feel weak all over, which was the perfect result expected!

"I will go to see Grandmother first, and I will tell her that I am going to worship Mother." Qu Moying said.

She asked the two maids to bring the offerings she had bought and the incenses and other things the mansion had prepared. Then, she headed towards the Old Lady's yard.

She guessed that Qu Qiuyan should be there at this time.

When she arrived at the Old Lady's place, she saw the Old Lady sitting in the room with an uneasy expression. Just as she had expected, Qu Qiuyan was sitting next. Her eyes were red, and it seemed that she had just cried.

This was very interesting. Previously, Qu Qiuyan had angered the Old Lady, but now, she was able to sit here and cry, and it seemed that she had said something to the Old Lady, which made the Old Lady depressed. It seemed that she had been well prepared, fearing that the Old Lady would go with Qu Moying to worship Yue, which would ruin her plan.

"Grandmother." Qu Moying took two steps forward and bowed to the Old Lady.

Seeing the offerings in the hands of Yu Chun and Yu Dong, the Old Lady knew that Qu Moying was going to worship Yue, so she said apologetically to Qu Moying, "Ying, you go to worship your mother first. I still have some things to investigate here. I will go later."

"Yes, Grandmother!" Qu Moying glanced at Qu Qiuyan calmly and saw that the latter had already lowered her head, making it impossible to see her expression.

"Yan, do you want to go with Moying to worship your aunt?" The Old Lady hesitated for a moment and looked at Qu Qiuyan. She knew the relationship between her two granddaughters was not good, so she wanted to take this opportunity to make them reconcile. Although she didn't expect the two of them to be like sisters, she hoped that they wouldn't be so confrontational.

She thought what her son said was right. After all, Qu Moying and Qu Qiuyan were sisters in the same mansion. Their relationship was strained now, and it was best if they reconciled as early as possible. If they wanted to repair their relationship one day after they got married, it would be hard.

The Old Lady did not want their relationship to be so strained. After all, Qu Moying had nobody to rely on. She might have to rely on her family after getting married. Mingcheng was Qu Qiuyan's brother and

would always stand on Qu Qiuyan's side. For this, Old Lady Qu felt that it was necessary to persuade Qu Moying and Qu Qiuyan to be on good terms.

"Yes." Qu Qiuyan stood up and wiped the tears from the corners of her eyes, looking obedient.

She was not as shrewish as yesterday. At the sight of Qu Qiuyan's reaction, the Old Lady's face eased. After saying a few more words, she let them leave.

Watching them leave, the Old Lady sighed heavily again. All of her granddaughters made her feel worried. Just now, when Qu Qiuyan mentioned Qu Caiyue, she felt as if her heart was pierced by a needle.

No matter how bad Qu Caiyue was, she was still her granddaughter. Thinking that Qu Caiyue might not even be alive, the Old Lady had no mood to worship Yue.

The more she thought about it, the more she felt regretful. She regretted not letting Qu Caiyue stay in the first place. Even if Qu Caiyue could only stay in Qu Mansion until today, it would be good. If Qu Caiyue was not in Lord Jing Mansion when the accident took place, she would be fine.

"Don't be sad, Your Ladyship. It's not settled yet. It was just a rumor which Third Lady heard. It can't be true." Granny Wu comforted the Old Lady from the side.

The Old Lady sighed heavily again and leaned back on the chair, blaming herself. "If I hadn't let Luo send her away early, now..."

Knowing that Qu Caiyue ran from East Mansion to West Mansion and caused a scene, the Old Lady was so angry that she even scolded Luo.

"It's not your fault, Your Ladyship. Lord Jing Mansion wanted us to send her over early." Granny Wu comforted her again.

"I know, but she could stay in the mansion for a few more days if I insisted." The Old Lady smiled bitterly.

Seeing how depressed she was, Granny Wu could only continue to comfort her, “Your Ladyship, it really isn’t your fault. Just now, Third Lady said that it’s her fault. If she didn’t quarrel with Second Lady, things wouldn’t have turned out like this.”

Just now, when Qu Qiuyan talked about yesterday’s matter, she blamed herself very much. At the same time, she told them what had happened yesterday. In her words, of course, it was Qu Caiyue who made trouble out of nothing. Qu Caiyue slandered her and asked her to beg Lord Jing to give her a title. Qu Qiuyan was so angry that she quarreled with her.

She didn’t expect Qu Caiyue to be so mad that she blamed everything on Qu Moying when she saw Qu Moying. That was also the reason why Qu Moying blamed Qu Qiuyan.

Qu Qiuyan kept blaming herself for losing her temper, saying that she knew Qu Caiyue must be on the verge of breaking down at that time, so Qu Caiyue was naturally talking nonsense. However, she did not comfort Qu Caiyue but even questioned her, causing Qu Caiyue to be even angrier. In the end, things turned out this way.

Qu Qiuyan admitted her mistake sincerely. Not only did she explain everything completely, but she also kept apologizing to show that she had realized her mistake. In the end, she even said that she would find a chance to explain it to Qu Moying.

The Old Lady and Granny Wu had similar thoughts. They didn’t really believe Qu Qiuyan. But thinking of Qu Moying’s situation, the Old Lady could only soften her attitude towards Qu Qiuyan.

In the end, Qu Qiuyan suggested that the Old Lady thought of a way to inquire about Qu Caiyue’s current situation, which was one of the reasons why the Old Lady was not in the mood to worship Yue.

The Old Lady thought she must find a way to ask about Qu Caiyue’s situation. Thinking of what happened to the ex-Crown Princess that day, the Old Lady could not be at ease.

It was said that the ex-Crown Princess died because she blocked a sword attack for the Crown Prince. She was seriously injured from the attack and died after a few months.

Would the same thing happen to Qu Caiyue? Thinking that her granddaughter, who was still pleasing her a few days ago, would probably die, the Old Lady was not in the mood to do any other things.

“Will something really happen to Caiyue?” The Old Lady cared for Qu Caiyue most at the moment.

“Don’t worry, Your Ladyship. Let’s wait and see. First Master and Second Master will definitely investigate it. If there is any news, they will send it over.” Granny Wu comforted the worried Old Lady.

“No, we have to get someone to follow up on the matter.” The Old Lady was still worried.

“Your Ladyship, the city gate is closed at this time. Even if you send someone back, it will be useless. It was not easy for Second Master to send out the young servant to deliver the message. I’m afraid he can’t go back now.” Granny Wu said.

“Then let him wait at the city gate. If the gate opens, he should go back to the mansion, ask about the matter, and report to me.” The Old Lady thought for a moment and said.

She wouldn’t feel at ease until this matter was settled.

She really didn’t like Qu Caiyue, but she could not ignore her at this time.

“Yes, I will arrange it now.” Granny Wu nodded and replied. She turned around and left. It was the only thing she could do now. Otherwise, the Old Lady would not be at ease. Ever since Qu Qiuyan came over to talk about this matter, the Old Lady’s mind had been filled with it.

The young servant was in the corridor. Granny Wu went over and said a few words. Then, the young servant nodded and hurried back. He planned to wait at the city gate. Once the city gate opened, he would go in to inquire about the situation.

Seeing the young servant leave, Granny Wu breathed a sigh of relief. She looked at the gate of the yard, only to find an old woman who was guarding the gate. She was a little confused. Did Qu Qiuyan really come here today for Qu Caiyue?

In the past, she had never seen Qu Qiuyan care about Qu Caiyue. The Old Lady might not have noticed it, but Granny Wu was a servant, so she had always seen Qu Caiyue following Qu Qiuyan and pleasing her. Qu Caiyue had been submissive to Qu Qiuyan, but Qu Qiuyan had never shown respect to Qu Caiyue.

But Qu Qiuyan seemed to care about Qu Caiyue a lot at this time.

Actually, Granny Wu didn't believe Qu Qiuyan, but she could do nothing now. She only hoped that Qu Qiuyan would keep her word and not continue to fool the Old Lady.

Chapter 246 Why Hasn't She Entered?

Qu Moying walked in front, followed by Yu Chun and Yu Dong with offerings in their hands. A few steps away was Qu Qiuyan, followed by only one maid. Qu Moying and Qu Qiuyan were a little far away from each other. They did not seem to be going together to the same place.

They seemed to be two irrelevant teams, each going its own way.

They did not say anything. There was only the sound of footsteps and the skirt sweeping the floor, which was light and disordered.

Eternal flames were placed in different Buddha halls in Dabei Temple, and they were placed according to the statuses of the people being worshipped.

Yue's identity allowed her eternal flame to be placed in the same Buddha hall as those powerful and high-status people, even though it was only at the corner.

When Ji Hanyue was still alive, she would come to this hall every time she came to Dabei Temple. Later, Qu Mansion's Yue's eternal flame and Ling Mansion's Yue's eternal flame were placed closer, so Ji Hanyue would also pay respects to Qu Mansion's Yue every time she came to Dabei Temple.

The door of the hall was open, and there was no one inside. Qu Moying stood at the entrance of the hall and turned to look at Qu Qiuyan, who was walking over, with a deep look.

"Moying, why don't you go in to pay respects?" Qu Qiuyan said with a natural look.

"Third Sister, do you want to go in with me?" Qu Moying looked at Qu Qiuyan and suddenly asked.

"Moying, do you want me to go in with you?" Qu Qiuyan asked calmly. She was well-prepared. Since she was here, she naturally had a way to get away with it. She didn't want to be dizzy and weak along with Qu Moying.

Granny Qing had already gone to call the scoundrels. It wouldn't be long for those scoundrels to come over. Qu Qiuyan would find someone to witness the scene. By then, Qu Moying would be unable to defend herself. Qu Moying would only be weak all over but still conscious, so they could do anything to her.

Even if Qu Qiuyan wanted to see the scene, she would come after it was finished.

"Third Sister, since you don't want to go in, then why are you following me?" Qu Moying sneered and bluntly asked. Her words were so straightforward that Qu Qiuyan did not know how to answer.

Qu Qiuyan tried to suppress her anger. She decided not to make a fuss about it because Qu Moying was going to fall into her trap.

"I just wanted to make Grandmother at ease. Grandmother is worried about us because we two are not on good terms. But I'd better come with Grandmother later to pay respects." Qu Qiuyan said.

"Since that's the case, you'd better leave now." Qu Moying waved her hand and asked Qu Qiuyan to leave.

According to Old Lady Ji's character, it was almost time for her to arrive. In fact, she should not come at this time judging by her past preference. But Ji Youran had just been hurt, and Old Lady Ji must be flustered at this time. What Pei Yuanjun had done actually helped Qu Moying.

Old Lady Ji had been easy to influence, but now it was even easier.

Although Qu Qiuyan had already planned to leave, she couldn't help but be furious because she was chased away by Qu Moying, and she almost couldn't hold it in. She suppressed her anger and turned to leave with a sneer, thinking that she could soon watch Qu Moying being trampled like a pile of mud.

"Miss, the Fourth Lady hasn't entered the hall." After walking for a short distance, Qing Ju suddenly said in a low voice.

"She's still at the entrance of the hall?" Qu Qiuyan paused.

"Yes, she is still there. She seems to be in a daze and hasn't gone in." Qing Ju secretly looked back and reported in a low voice.

Qu Qiuyan's face darkened. Everything was ready. If Qu Moying did not go in, it would be troublesome when the scoundrels came later.

She turned to walk to a forked road.

There were a few large trees on the forked road. They were flourishing, which could cover Qu Qiuyan's body once she hid behind the trees.

She turned around and looked out through the gaps between the branches and leaves. She vaguely saw the corner of Qu Moying's clothes. As expected, Qu Moying was still there. Qu Qiuyan could not help but frown.

"Miss..." Qing Ju panicked.

"Go and wait for Granny Qing outside. If you see her, let her stop the scoundrels first. Let them come a while after Qu Moying has entered the hall." Qu Qiuyan thought for a moment and said.

If Qu Moying didn't go in, she wouldn't burn the offerings. If the scoundrels went over at this time, they might even fight. It would be troublesome if they made such a scene.

The two of them only paid attention to Qu Moying and did not pay attention to Qu Moying's maids...

"I understand." Qing Ju nodded and left carefully. She went to the main road outside to wait for Granny Qing. Sure enough, Granny Qing walked over in a hurry not long after.

"Granny Qing." Qing Ju came out from the side and stopped Granny Qing.

"Where is Third Lady?" Granny Qing looked behind her.

"Third Lady hasn't come out yet. She's there." Qing Ju pointed at the hall.

"Did Fourth Lady stop Third Lady from coming out? What should we do?" Granny Qing asked anxiously.

Once the herb was burnt, everyone around it would be affected.

The scoundrels didn't know anything about the plan. If they offended Qu Qiuyan, it would be troublesome.

"Third Lady has come out, but Fourth Lady hasn't entered the hall yet. She is standing outside the hall. Third Lady asked me to tell you not to lead the people over at this time. Fourth Lady has not burned the offerings yet! Third Lady will let me inform you when the time comes." Qing Ju hurriedly explained.

"She asked me to wait?" Granny Qing said awkwardly.

"Yes, wait a little longer. It's useless to go over now." Qing Ju nodded.

"Alright, I'll give it a try." Granny Qing turned around helplessly. She had a connection with one of those scoundrels. As for the other scoundrels, they did not know about the plan.

The more people were in the know, the more likely it would go wrong.

This was the only thing they could do in this situation. After leaving Qing Ju, Granny Qing hurried back. Halfway along the road, she saw the scoundrels coming over and gave a look to one of them.

The one reacted quickly and immediately stopped.

“Brother Qian, why do you stop? Didn’t you say that we might meet a beauty?”

“Brother Qian, you were in a hurry to go over just now. Why do you stop now? Do you think of the tigress at your home?”

The rest of the scoundrels teased him.

“My old servant has something to tell me. I’ll go to the side to talk with her first. Wait for me.” Brother Qian said naturally.

Only then did they see Granny Qing. Seeing that she was really an old servant, they smiled and let him go.

Brother Qian and Granny Qing walked to a tree on the side. Brother Qian’s face darkened. “What happened?”

Actually, they didn’t talk to each other just now. When they passed by each other, the two of them exchanged a look, and he knew it was about time. He didn’t expect Granny Qing to show up at this time, which would mess up things. However, judging from Granny Qing’s expression, he knew something must have happened, so he couldn’t just make eye contact with her.

“Don’t go there yet. Wait a moment.” Granny Qing hurriedly said.

“Why?” Brother Qian asked unhappily.

"She hasn't entered the hall yet. It's useless to go over. When I come back later, you can go over there. Wait here for a while." Granny Qing said.

"Be quick, don't cause any trouble for me." Brother Qian frowned.

"I know, I know." Granny Qing nodded repeatedly.

After saying a few words, they both turned around to leave. When Granny Qing left, she heard those scoundrels talking and laughing with Brother Qian. Brother Qian seemed to say that the scenery here was good, and if they enjoyed the scenery for a while longer, perhaps beauty would fall from the sky.

On the other side, Qu Qiuyan was waiting anxiously. Even now, Qu Moying was still standing outside the hall. She did not seem to have any intention of going in, which made Qu Qiuyan anxious.

Things were about to come to the last step, and there was no room for any mistakes.

Qu Qiuyan had been staring at Qu Moying closely through the gaps between the leaves. Suddenly, she saw Qu Moying walk down the stairs. Her two maids still followed her. Then, the three of them walked around the hall and went further away. Qu Qiuyan could not see them clearly. She was so anxious that she took a few steps out and wanted to chase after them to take a look.

She had only taken a few steps when she saw Qing Ju running over with sweat all over her head. She pulled Qing Ju over, stood at the fork, lowered her voice and asked, "How is it?"

A few people suddenly appeared at the moon-shaped gate nearby. Qu Qiuyan was stunned and hurriedly pulled Qing Ju away.

Although she dodged quickly, she was still seen by the people at the moon-shaped gate.

Old Lady Ji, who was at the front, frowned. She did not see who it was, but she could realize that it was a young lady with a maid. They must be after no good because they were avoiding people.

"Which family's lady is she?" Old Lady Ji asked her personal maid, who used to follow her and had seen many ladies from aristocratic families.

Coincidentally, this old maid had seen Qu Qiuyan before.

"She seems to be the Third Lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion. I can't see her clearly, so I am not sure." The old maid did not dare to be too absolute. Qu Qiuyan was sneaking around with a maid, and it seemed that she was not doing good things.

Qu Qiuyan did not come up to greet Old Lady Ji, but she even hid to the side.

"Qu Mansion is becoming more and more unruly, and the several ladies of Qu Mansion are not good, either." Thinking of Qu Moying, Old Lady Ji sneered. Then she stepped forward, followed by Concubine Xiang closely.

Old Lady Ji brought Concubine Xiang this time. Xiao had never intended to come, and now, she could not come at all. She went directly to Crown Prince's Mansion. When she heard that Ji Youran was injured last night, Xiao was so shocked that she almost fainted. Old Lady Ji got up early and came to Dabei Temple according to the plan. It was lucky that she left the city early. Otherwise, she could not even leave the city.

Concubine Xiang silently followed Old Lady Ji. The group of people arrived at the entrance of the hall and entered it. There was not a single person inside because it was still early, and this place was not for ordinary people to visit. It was the place where the aristocratic families set up eternal flames, so normal people could not come here.

Earl Ling'an's eternal flame was lit and placed in the innermost place in the hall. With Earl Ling'an's status, he deserved an eternal flame in the innermost part of the hall. When Old Lady Ji walked to her son's memorial tablet, she saw that someone had already burned some offerings in front of Yue's memorial tablet. She could not help but frown. The offerings were only half burned, and the sachet was still there, which looked annoying to her.

The offerings were burned messy, and the incense sticks had just been lit. The people who burned the offerings seemed to have just left in a hurry.

Old Lady Ji only let her personal maid and Concubine Xiang stay. She asked the others to leave. The old maid and Concubine Xiang began to burn the offerings they had prepared. Old Lady Ji picked up the incense and looked up at her son's eternal flame, and her eyes turned red.

Chapter 247 Grandmother, You Are Finally Here

"Yongming, there's nothing I can do. You used to be filial and listen to me. Now, I need you to bless your younger brother... He... He had no choice... It was all your own doing. If you hadn't done...you wouldn't have ended up like this..."

Tears fell from Old Lady Ji's eyes as she spoke, and she placed the incense sticks in her hand into the incense burner as she muttered to herself.

Concubine Xiang looked up at the eternal flame, and tears immediately fell down. She couldn't help but sob. Ji Yongming was a hero back then, but now there was only his eternal flame, which made her feel sad.

Concubine Xiang knelt down on the praying mat. She picked up the paper money next to her and burned it, tears streaming down her face. She felt extremely sad.

Yue's eternal flame was next to Earl Ling'an's. Concubine Xiang knelt on the praying mat in between, sobbing.

The old maid was burning paper money for Earl Ling'an, and Old Lady Ji was speaking in front of Earl Ling'an's incense burner. Her voice was low, but Qu Moying could hear her.

Qu Moying came in from the side door.

Just now, Yu Dong sneaked into the hall. He went to the side door, opened the side door for Qu Moying, and led her in. Then, he waited behind the door. When he saw Old Lady Ji coming over, he lit up the sachet, and Qu Moying retreated to the back of the curtain.

The side door faced Qu Moying, and it stood ajar, so the wind could blow over. The wind blew back the smoke caused by the burning as the curtain slightly fluttered.

It fluttered gently, so it wasn't noticeable.

"Yongming, your niece is now the Crown Prince's Side Concubine, Eastern Palace's Princess Ji. Please bless her to rise to a higher position, and also bless our family to be more prosperous..." Old Lady Ji muttered to herself. Then, she wiped the corners of her eyes with a handkerchief and said, "Your younger brother even has his son adopted by you, for fear that no one will offer sacrifices to you in the future. Your younger brother always thinks about you, so you can rest assured."

She was a little tired from speaking, so she took a praying mat and sat down on it in front of her son's eternal flame. Then, she began to mutter again. She talked about what had happened recently, which made her nervous, especially what had happened last night. It reminded her of what happened when Ji Hanyue entered Eastern Palace, and she was scared.

After saying these words to her son, she felt a little comforted and didn't feel so panicked.

A trace of ruthlessness and anger flashed in Qu Moying's eyes. Even now, Old Lady Ji still felt that her second son was a good person and wholeheartedly prayed for the safety of Ji Youran.

Ji Yongming had died a long time ago. Old Lady Ji knew about the truth, but she and Ji Yong'an still pretended that everything was alright. She even asked Ji Yongming to bless the second branch and protect Ji Youran. Qu Moying could not bear Old Lady Ji.

Knowing that it was about the time, Qu Moying lowered her voice and called out, "Grandmother..."

Old Lady Ji touched her forehead, feeling weaker and weaker. She seemed to have heard Ji Hanyue's voice just now. Ji Hanyue was the ex-Crown Princess. Her eternal flame was also lit here but in an innermost small room. Not everyone could enter the room to worship her, not even Old Lady Ji. At most, she could only worship her outside the room.

"Grandmother..." Old Lady Ji vaguely heard the voice again, and it came closer and closer. "Is it Hanyue?" Old Lady Ji thought to herself. Compared with her other granddaughters, Ji Hanyue's voice

was much more dignified and gentler. It had a unique charm, completely different from others' voices. Old Lady Ji could tell Ji Hanyue's differences from others, even just in terms of voice.

"Did you hear anything?" Old Lady Ji said in a panic. She moved her hands, only to find that she was getting weaker.

Concubine Xiang knelt on the ground, motionless. She seemed to have fainted from crying.

The old maid looked up at Old Lady Ji and said, "Your Ladyship... I... I think I heard the Crown Princess' voice."

"Grandmother... you are finally here..." The ethereal voice came again. Old Lady Ji's face was pale, and she was trembling.

The old maid was so scared that her teeth chattered. The paper money fell down from her hands. She retreated and shrank into a ball. As Old Lady Ji's confidant, she knew some things. She felt that the hall was cold and gloomy at this time, but she was too weak to move.

She felt as if she was haunted by a ghost.

"Han... Hanyue, is it you...?" Old Lady Ji was equally panicked and powerless. She collapsed on the praying mat. She tried her best to be awake, but she didn't even have the strength to move. Her strength was almost used up after asking this question.

"Grandmother... I died so unfairly... Daddy also died unfairly... Grandmother, please seek justice for us..." Old Lady Ji heard the voice again, but she didn't know where the voice came from. At this time, she was dizzy. Everything she saw was chaotic. She felt as if she had vaguely seen Ji Hanyue who had blood on her face.

She saw not only Ji Hanyue, but also Ji Yongming. He was also covered in blood, but he smiled gently at her, just like when he was still alive.

"No... No... Don't come to me. It was not my fault... It was not my fault... I had no choice..." Old Lady Ji trembled. She felt that she had used up all her strength, but her voice was actually not loud. "It was the Crown Prince... It was the Crown Prince's idea. Because you..."

At this point, Old Lady Ji shuddered. She hurriedly shut her mouth and shook her head forcefully, and Ji Hanyue and Ji Yongming's figures seemed to fade a little.

"I am in the Buddha hall. Here is the place where eternal flames were placed. Hanyue is not here, and Yongming is not here, either."

"I am here to worship them. I will be fine! I will be fine!" Old Lady Ji comforted herself.

"Grandmother..." The faint voice sounded in Old Lady Ji's ear this time. She felt a faint breath from her neck. She saw that a strand of her hair was blown to her front, and she could still feel the cold breath on her neck.

"Ah!" Old Lady Ji screamed.

However, this voice sounded very low to those outside the hall. Qu Moying stood behind Old Lady Ji. Looking at Old Lady Ji, who was so scared that she almost fainted, Qu Moying smiled silently.

On the other side, the old maid was so scared that she closed her eyes. She was trembling on the ground, not daring to look around.

"Grandmother... I died so miserably. I'm here for revenge. I am looking for Ji Youran... Daddy has already gone to find Second Uncle..." Qu Moying whispered into Old Lady Ji's ear.

"Don't... don't... please don't..." Old Lady Ji felt like she was about to collapse. She stared straight ahead, and she could only plead subconsciously.

"Grandmother, Ji Youran set me up... She wanted to steal my position as the Crown Princess. Second Uncle set up my father, and he wanted to steal my father's title... Grandmother... Don't you think we

should kill them together? Not only them but also Xiao and Ji Yuanxing..." Qu Moying smiled sinisterly with coldness in her eyes.

If she could, she would like to do it herself.

"No, Hanyue. Please don't! Everything belongs to you, and they can't take them away. They had no choice. It was the Crown Prince's idea... Hanyue... Hanyue, the truth is really not like what you think... Hanyue, I... I don't know either. Really, your Second Uncle said that he would... investigate thoroughly."

Old Lady Ji cried incoherently. At this time, she told whatever she knew, not daring to hide anything.

"Ji Youran couldn't get my position... But what about Second Uncle... I heard that Second Uncle still wants to deal with the first branch... He wants to cut off the supply to the first branch and deal with Concubine Xiang and Ji Yuanhai..."

The voice was accompanied by a gust of cold wind, which made Old Lady Ji shudder.

"No, they didn't want to deal with Concubine Xiang and Yuanhai. The first branch still has Concubine Xiang and Yuanhai. No one will deal with them."

"Concubine Xiang is only a concubine, Yuanhai is only a Young Master..." The voice was getting closer and closer. Old Lady Ji felt like seeing a figure in front of her, and it seemed to be Ji Hanyue. The figure stretched out her hands with long and sharp fingernails and was about to grab her. She hurriedly shouted, "Concubine Xiang can be promoted to be a legitimate wife. In a few years, I will make a report to ask for a title for Yuanhai."

Old Lady Ji almost fainted. At this time, she agreed to everything. She didn't dare to say no. As a first-rank titled lady, she could directly submit a report to the court.

"Ask for a title? Grandmother... can you keep your word..."

"Yes... Yes. I will definitely do what I say. Please spare Youran and the others. I beg you and your father. They didn't mean it, but they had no choice. It was the Crown Prince's idea... Please don't blame them. They don't have the intention to take your place..."

Old Lady Ji burst into tears.

"Really?"

"Really, really! I promise... I promise you." Old Lady Ji nodded repeatedly.

"Then I'll wait and see... see if you promote Concubine Xiang... and protect Ji Yuanhai... Last night, we first branch... Ji Youran... After she died... I've also brought offerings to pay respects to father and mother..."

The voice became more and more erratic, and there was a faint sound of wind.

Old Lady Ji couldn't hear everything clearly, but she kept nodding, afraid that Ji Hanyue would kill her if she nodded too slow and that the whole Ji Family would die as a result of Ji Hanyue and her father's revenge.

Ji Yongming and Ji Hanyue both died on that day. Ji Yong'an said that Ji Yongming intended to rebel, and the Crown Prince ordered them to kill Ji Yongming. He told Old Lady Ji that if she did not cooperate, the entire Ji Family would be destroyed. Although Ji Yongming was her eldest son and the son she was most proud of, she had no choice.

But for the sake of the entire Ji Family, she couldn't say anything. She thought she should not be blamed. It was not her fault.

Her consciousness faded, and she only muttered a few words, "Promote Concubine Xiang... Protect Yuanhai..."

She was old, anxious, and scared. At this time, she was almost unconscious. Her head drooped down and she lay on the praying mat.

Qu Moying looked coldly at Old Lady Ji who collapsed on the ground. Then, she looked at the burnt-out sachet. She asked Yu Dong and Yu Chun to put down some of the sacrificial offerings and turned to leave. After leaving through the side door, she entered the hall again from the main door with Yu Dong and Yu Chun.

Not far away, Qu Qiuyan, who had been staring at the hall, was overjoyed. She waved her hand, and Qing Ju hurried out to find Granny Qing...

Chapter 248 Third Sister, Why Should I Be Afraid?

"Brother Qian, how can there be a beauty in such a place?"

"You'll know when you see it. Maybe there is one!" Brother Qian said with a smile. "If there is a beauty, you can't snatch her away from me."

"It depends on how beautiful she is. If she is gorgeous, I won't let you have her for yourself..." Another scoundrel teased.

They were playboys. They always went to brothels together, so they could say all kinds of nonsense.

"That's right. If it's really a beauty, you can't keep her for yourself. You should share her with us..." Another scoundrel said with a dirty smile.

"Alright, if we see a beauty later, we will share her." Brother Qian laughed out loud. He entered the door and casually walked up to the corner as he talked nonsense.

As they chatted and laughed, they did not see anyone.

"What's the smell? It is so strong." A scoundrel sniffed and asked.

"It must be the smell of mugwort. It is so strong. A lot of mugwort must have been burnt." Another scoundrel sniffed and said with a smile.

Brother Qian's heart skipped a beat. He followed the smell.

When he walked to the front and turned around, he suddenly saw a figure in the front. When he got closer, he saw an old maid and an old lady. Concubine Xiang was kneeling on the ground with her head down, and her face could not be seen.

"Is there really someone?"

"Maybe she really is a beauty."

"Why are they motionless? Let's go take a look." The scoundrels had been talking about beauties before. Now that they saw the motionless figures over there, they were immediately excited.

Brother Qian frowned. He was told that there would be a young lady with two maids. But what was the situation now? However, he did smell the mugwort. That place should be here.

But the woman he saw now didn't seem to be the right person.

He wanted to stop them, but the few scoundrels had already walked forward excitedly.

"Stop!" A low and cold voice came from behind them.

The scoundrels were stunned and quickly turned around. They saw a young lady followed by a middle-aged monk with two maids on her both sides.

The young lady's eyes were covered with a wide eye veil, and her palm-sized face was half covered. However, judging from the outline, she should be a beautiful young woman.

“Miss, why are you stopping us?”

“That’s right, miss, do you know anyone among us?”

“Tell us who he is. If you like him, he will be all yours...” The scoundrels laughed out loud, and their words were frivolous and disgusting.

“How dare you! How dare you harm Old Lady Ji!” Yu Dong took a step forward and stood in front of Qu Moying, shouting loudly.

“Who is Old Lady Ji? What nonsense are you spouting?” Brother Qian’s heart skipped a beat. He had a bad feeling. When he saw Qu Moying just now, he knew that thing had gone wrong.

The woman they were supposed to deal with had an eye veil on her eyes, so she was easy to recognize.

“This is Old Lady Ji, the ex-Crown Princess’ grandmother. How dare you harm her?” Yu Dong pointed at Old Lady Ji and shouted.

“Master, please call someone over quickly. If something really happens to Old Lady Ji, it will be serious.” Qu Moying said to the monk coldly.

Just now, Qu Moying, Yu Dong and Yu Chun entered through the main door and went out through the side door. They found this monk and told him that they saw Old Lady Ji faint here. Just as they entered the hall through the side door, they saw the few scoundrels coming over.

Old Lady Ji often came to Dabei Temple, and the monk knew Old Lady Ji. At this time, he was so frightened that his face changed dramatically. Old Lady Ji was no ordinary person. If something really happened to her here, Dabei Temple could not bear the consequences.

“This is Old Lady Ji. What are you trying to do?” The monk had to stand out.

Qu Moying winked at Yu Chun.

Knowing what Qu Moying meant, Yu Chun turned around and ran out. As soon as she reached the door, she put her hands on her mouth and shouted, "Someone, help! Help!"

It was still early, and the surroundings were quiet. Moreover, her voice was loud, so when she shouted, some monks and pilgrims immediately heard her and ran over one by one.

Qu Qiuyan, who had been waiting at the side, was overjoyed and relieved. Looking at Yu Chun's panic-stricken appearance, she knew that she had succeeded.

"Great! I finally trampled Qu Moying under my feet!"

Qu Qiuyan walked out from the folk and asked, "Yu Chun, what happened? What happened to Moying? Is she alright? It can't be something serious, right?"

"Third Lady..." Yu Chun cried in panic.

"Don't cry. Tell me clearly, what happened to Moying?" Qu Qiuyan pulled Yu Chun with a serious face and asked with concern.

The monks and pilgrims who came over were all confused, not knowing what had happened here.

"Third Lady... Third Lady..." Yu Chun pointed at the door, but she could not say a word.

"I'll go inside to see Moying." Qu Qiuyan was so happy that she almost couldn't hold it in. She coughed hard to hide the excitement in her eyes. She reached out to push Yu Chun away and rushed into the hall, wanting to see Qu Moying in an embarrassing state as soon as possible.

There must be many scoundrels groping Qu Moying, and she must be conscious and seem to be flirting with them. With this, Qu Moying could never clear her name.

Qu Moying's situation was not like Qu Caiyue's. At that time, Qu Caiyue faced Lord Jing alone, but now, Qu Moying was being groped by several scoundrels. Her reputation would be completely ruined.

Even Old Lady Qu couldn't protect Qu Moying.

Being pushed back, Yu Chun retreated and almost stumbled on the steps. Fortunately, a woman beside her supported her, so she did not fall down.

"Third Lady, why... why did you push me... what... what are you trying to do!" Yu Chun murmured and followed Qu Qiuyan in.

The few people behind her also followed in.

Qu Qiuyan walked the fastest. When she entered the hall, she saw Qu Moying and a few scoundrels. She was overjoyed, but she pretended to be righteous. "Moying, what happened to you? Did these scoundrels molest you? Don't worry. Father will not let them go."

"What do you mean, Third Sister?" Qu Moying turned around and said coldly.

"Moying, don't be afraid. Don't worry. No matter who they are, Qu Mansion will not spare them. What... what did they do to you?" Qu Qiuyan was complacent in her heart, but she still shouted anxiously, trying to let everyone hear her.

She did not notice that the monk from before was looking at her strangely.

"Third Sister, what do you think they have done?" Qu Moying sneered calmly. Qu Qiuyan seemed to think that her plan had worked as scheduled, so she was acting brazenly.

"Moying, don't be afraid..."

“Third Sister, why should I be afraid? What is there to be afraid of? Why do you think I am afraid? Do you know something?” Seeing the smug look in Qu Qiuyan’s eyes, Qu Moying sneered in her heart. Qu Qiuyan seemed to be sure that she had been molested by these scoundrels.

The group of people behind them looked at Qu Qiuyan blankly and then at Qu Moying. They felt that there was something going on here. It seemed to them that Qu Qiuyan was too anxious, but why?

A monk saw Old Lady Ji lying on the ground and his expression changed drastically.

“Junior brother, what’s wrong?” A reception monk stepped forward and asked the monk who was originally here.

“Master, those people want to harm Old Lady Ji. Please catch them. If Earl Ling’an’s Mansion comes to investigate, they will be the evidence.”

Yu Dong pointed at the several scoundrels in front of him and shouted.

“She had already fainted when we came here.”

“It has nothing to do with us. We are just passing by.”

“We didn’t do anything.” The few scoundrels were already panicking. They did act shamelessly on normal days, but if they were to blame for such a big deal, perhaps even the elders in their families would not be able to protect them. Earl Ling’an’s Mansion was the ex-Crown Princess’ parents’ family. How could they afford to offend them?

Although these scoundrels’ families could be considered rich, they were nothing compared with ordinary aristocratic families, let alone Earl Ling’an’s Mansion, a big power among the aristocratic families.

However, they couldn’t argue now. Dabei Temple’s monks had already held them in custody, not letting them leave.

Brother Qian looked at the people around him and then at the monks. He knew he could make no defense at this time. He could only stand aside with the few scoundrels and quietly wait and see.

Fortunately, the matter with Old Lady Ji had nothing to do with them!

“Moying... you... are you alright?” Qu Qiuyan was so shocked. She couldn’t believe it. She couldn’t help but look at the scoundrels and then Qu Moying.

“Third Sister, why am I not alright? Did you see anything wrong with me? Or is today’s matter related to you? Is that why you keep saying that something must have happened to me?” Qu Moying said impatiently and glanced coldly at Qu Qiuyan. Then, she ignored her and walked toward Old Lady Ji, who was lying on the ground.

“You... you...” Qu Qiuyan was tongue-tied. Her face turned red and then green. She glanced around the people, only to find them looking at her suspiciously.

She immediately panicked, and her face turned pale again. Her lips trembled, and she could not say a word.

She felt like falling from the sky, which made her panic. She looked at the few scoundrels on the other side and then at Qu Moying.

Qu Moying walked up to Old Lady Ji and reached out to help her up. She called Old Lady Ji softly, “Your Ladyship... Please wake up. Please wake up.”

Yu Chun helped Concubine Xiang up from the side and massaged the space between her eyebrows. She also called out in a low voice, “Concubine Xiang... Concubine Xiang, wake up...”

After a series of actions, Old Lady Ji slowly woke up. She had fainted because of fear. After hearing someone call her, she slowly opened her eyes. She saw a familiar face wearing an eye veil. It was not her granddaughter, Ji Hanyue. With a glance, she knew it was not Ji Hanyue.

She was fully relieved.

"It's not Hanyue. It's not Hanyue..." Old Lady Ji's voice sounded like she was crying, and she couldn't come back to her senses for a while.

"Old Lady Ji... are you okay? I am from Vice Minister Qu's Mansion. Do you recognize me?" Qu Moying sneered in her heart, but she looked gentle as she spoke in a low voice.

Chapter 249 It Was Done by Them!

People who had a clear conscience would not be afraid of ghosts, but Old Lady Ji had a guilty conscience, so she believed what she saw were ghosts.

"Your Ladyship... Your Ladyship..." Qu Moying called softly.

Old Lady Ji finally felt that she had come back to life. She could recognize the person in front of her was the Fourth Lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion at a glance because she had seen her before. She felt relieved because the person wasn't Ji Hanyue. She looked around and saw that there were many people around, including monks, pilgrims, as well as some madams and young ladies from aristocratic families.

"What happened to me?" Old Lady Ji touched her own hand. Her pale face turned a little red.

"When I came in with this master just now, I saw these people surrounding you. Did they harm you? If they didn't, how could you faint here?"

"Are these my uncle and aunt's eternal flames?" Qu Moying looked up at the eternal flames in front of her and asked.

She had been in the village all the time and had never been here, so it was normal for her to ask this question.

Hearing Qu Moying ask about Ji Yongming, Old Lady Ji felt her heart suddenly throb. What had happened just now came up to her again, and her hands were trembling uncontrollably.

“Your Ladyship, you actually brought so many things to worship uncle and aunt. You are really good to them.” Qu Moying looked around and said.

Old Lady Ji followed her gaze and saw the offerings on the side. Seeing that there was an unburned sachet in front of Yue’s memorial tablet, she almost fainted again.

She clearly knew how many offerings she had brought. There weren’t that many. However, those offerings looked the same as what she had bought.

There were incenses, candles, paper money, and other things, which were exactly the same as hers.

“Fourth Lady Qu, can you bring me the sachet?” Old Lady Ji said with difficulty.

Qu Moying nodded. Yu Dong went to the front of Yue’s eternal flame, took the sachet, and brought it to Old Lady Ji. Old Lady Ji held the sachet in her hand while trembling. When she saw the embroidered colorful butterflies and the orchid grass on it, her expression immediately changed. She was so shocked that the sachet immediately fell to the ground.

This kind of embroidery was Ji Hanyue’s favorite. She liked butterflies and flower embroidery. In the past, Ji Hanyue would embroider this kind of pattern on her collar and sleeves. Although Ji Hanyue was not good at embroidery, she could embroider butterflies well. The butterflies embroidery on this sachet was done in a somewhat different method from the other patterns.

Old Lady Ji immediately knew that this sachet was really embroidered by Ji Hanyue.

Dizziness overcame her, blurring her vision. She was flustered. It seemed that what she had seen just now was true. Ji Hanyue and Ji Yongming were really coming to kill Ji Youran and Ji Yong’an. What should she do?

“Your Ladyship... Your Ladyship, how did you faint?” Qu Moying asked gently as if she did not see Old Lady Ji’s fear. She pointed at the few scoundrels and asked, “Is it related to them? Otherwise, how could you suddenly faint? Why don’t we have someone investigate this place?”

“There’s no need to investigate. It was them who made me faint.” Hearing Qu Moying’s suggestion, Old Lady Ji hurriedly said. She was afraid that Ji Hanyue left something here to prove that she was killed unfairly, which would cause a great uproar. She was now in a panic, and all she thought about was making up for Ji Hanyue.

If she fainted alone, it might be because she was old and weak. However, not only her but also the two other persons fainted here together, so the former reason couldn’t explain this. Coincidentally, a few scoundrels came here, so they would be the guilty ones.

“Nonsense. What does it have to do with us?”

“We just came here. Your Ladyship, you can’t lie through your teeth.”

“Your Ladyship, we really just came over. We really have nothing to do with your fainting!”

The few scoundrels originally thought that it was nothing serious. Some people fainted, and even if the person was Old Lady Ji, it had nothing to do with them. They were just passing by.

They did not expect that Old Lady Ji would say that they had caused her to faint.

“Your Ladyship, is there anything wrong with this sachet?” Seeing that Old Lady Ji had been looking at the sachet, Qu Moying asked with a smile.

Old Lady Ji’s face was as pale as paper, and she was shaking as she looked at the sachet on the ground.

“Your Ladyship, don’t be too sad. If uncle and aunt see you so sad, they will be sad, and so will cousin sister. If cousin sister misses you, she will visit you in your dream. Your Ladyship... Your Ladyship...”

Before Qu Moying could finish her words, Old Lady Ji rolled her eyes and fainted again.

When she heard that Ji Hanyue would visit her in her dream, she could no longer hold it in and immediately fainted again.

The monks hurriedly sent Old Lady Ji to rest, and Qu Moying followed behind the Ji Family's people. She had been supporting Old Lady Ji just now, so she naturally followed them at this time.

As for the few scoundrels, they were also brought along.

After taking a few steps, Qu Moying suddenly turned to look at Qu Qiuyan. "Third Sister, I'm really fine, and I don't need you to seek justice from father. These scoundrels have nothing to do with me. It was lucky that I couldn't find my mother's eternal flame when I came over, so I went to look for the masters in the temple. Otherwise, these scoundrels would really run into me."

After she finished speaking, she left with the Ji Family's people without looking back.

Qu Qiuyan had already realized that she had failed again when Old Lady Ji woke up. She was angry, and she only wanted to sneak away.

Hearing what Qu Moying said, the pilgrims who had just watched the fun immediately looked at Qu Qiuyan. Qu Qiuyan's face instantly paled.

"So she's the Third Lady of Vice Minister Qu's Mansion." Someone in the crowd said. Qu Moying had just mentioned that she was Fourth Lady Qu, so they could tell that Qu Qiuyan was Third Lady Qu.

"It seemed that Third Lady Qu wanted to harm Fourth Lady Qu again." Last time, Qu Qiuyan also set Qu Moying up in Dabei Temple.

Coincidentally, a few of them witnessed that thing last time.

"Of course. Otherwise, why did she say such words just now? She seemed to be sure that something had happened to Fourth Lady Qu. How did she know?"

“She is so vicious, yet she is from a noble family...”

Some shook their heads, and some sighed. Most people were gossiping. Even if Qu Qiuyan wanted to explain herself, she didn’t know how. Her face was dark with anger. She turned around, wanting to leave with Qing Ju.

Seeing that Qu Qiuyan was about to leave, some women who hated her for being vicious deliberately bumped into her because there weren’t many people around. Finally, Qu Qiuyan managed to squeeze out of the crowd. Her hair was already messy, and there were some handprints on her clothes, making her look really dirty.

Qing Ju also managed to squeeze out and chase after Qu Qiuyan.

Outside the crowd, Granny Qing paced uneasily. At this time, she’d better not follow them. She only wanted to follow them from a distance and leave. Seeing that Qu Qiuyan had gone far away, she left. Just as she turned around the gate of a courtyard, she suddenly felt a heavy blow on her back. She blacked out and fainted...

The monks had prepared a room for Old Lady Ji, in which Concubine Xiang and the Ji Family’s old maid were waiting upon her. They sent for a monk who knew medicine. The monk said that Old Lady Ji was alright. She fainted because she was too frightened. As for the old maid and Concubine Xiang, the monk said they were alright, too.

The old maid insisted that she fainted because of crying. She said she felt dizzy when she entered the hall, and then she fainted while crying. In fact, she knew that she fainted out of fear. She seemed to see Ji Hanyue and heard Ji Hanyue’s voice, but she did not dare to tell the truth. Anyway, she would echo whatever Old Lady Ji had said.

Concubine Xiang also said that she was very dizzy at that time, and now she was still dizzy. She touched her head and said that she seemed to pass out not long after entering the hall.

Since not only Old Lady Ji but even the old maid and Concubine Xiang gave the same account, the Ji Family’s people immediately got angry. They called the few scoundrels to the side to interrogate them one by one. They were determined to find out why Old Lady Ji, Concubine Xiang, and the old maid fainted together. When Old Lady Ji fainted just now, she said that it was related to the scoundrels.

The scoundrels kept shouting that they were innocent. However, the other party was from Earl Ling'an's Mansion. Although Earl Ling'an's Mansion was a bit weaker now, it was still powerful to them.

Just as they were making a ruckus, an old maid suddenly fell from the crowd. Maybe it was because she fell too hard that she fainted at once.

Yu Dong's eyes were sharp, and he immediately noticed her. He shouted, "Is she Third Lady's old maid?"

"Yes. Why is Third Lady's old maid here? Did Third Lady send her to see miss?" Yu Chun also walked over, helped the old maid up, and patted her back. "Granny Qing, why did you come to see our miss?"

They immediately drew the onlookers' attention. The onlookers thought to themselves, "Third Lady Qu was the one who wanted to harm Fourth Lady Qu just now, but there was no evidence to prove it. Is there going to be evidence now?"

The noise attracted the attention of the few scoundrels, and they looked over. When they saw Granny Qing clearly, they immediately pointed at her and shouted, "It was her. She secretly talked to Qian Li just now. It was Qian Li who took us to find the beauty and said that we would definitely find the beauty."

"Yes, it was Qian Li who brought us there. This old maid was also there at that time."

"Qian Li, so it was you who set us up. You said that she was from your family, but she was Third Lady Qu's servant! Since when did Third Lady Qu become your family?"

A scoundrel punched heavily at Qian Li and said, "No wonder you said there was a beauty, and you wanted to take us to see the beauty just now. It turned out that you had ganged up with others to set us up."

The Ji Family's servants looked at Qian Li fiercely. It turned out that Qian Li was the culprit. Two people walked up to Qian Li and gave him two hard slaps in the face. Qian Li was in so much pain that he couldn't even speak.

At this time, Granny Qing woke up. Qu Moying slowly walked to her with a cold expression. "Granny Qing, is it really your plot? Since that's the case, let's go and ask what exactly is going on. You are just a servant, but you dared to hook up with evil outsiders to plot against the masters. You deserve capital punishment!"

After saying that, she turned around to walk out. The onlookers had a good impression of Qu Moying because she had just saved Old Lady Ji. They immediately made way for her.

Granny Qing had just woken up. Before she could figure out what had happened, she was dragged forward by Yu Dong. She stumbled and almost fell down. She was still in a daze...

Chapter 250 Granny Qing's Death

"What exactly happened?" Old Lady Qu pounded the table and almost stood up.

Granny Qing's matter was already very clear. The scoundrels had testified against her. The Ji Family's servants came over angrily to convey Old Lady Ji's attitude that Granny Qing must be punished seriously because she dared to plot against the Masters.

The Ji Family's servants complained angrily in front of Old Lady Qu, saying that Old Lady Ji had suffered an undeserved disaster and was inexplicably in trouble. Otherwise, it would have been Qu Moying who had been in trouble.

They asked Old Lady Qu to explain the matter to the Ji Family after investigating it.

They also said that Granny Qing should be punished immediately.

Granny Qing knelt down in the hall, shivering with a pale face. She kowtowed hard, making continuous "bang" sounds. Her forehead was red and swollen after kowtowing a few times.

With all the evidence, how could she defend herself? Even Earl Ling'an's Mansion's people testified against her. Although she knew the fact that Old Lady Ji fainted had nothing to do with her, it was

useless to say it now. She didn't know why Old Lady Ji insisted that she fainted because of the scoundrels.

Not only Old Lady Ji fainted, but also Concubine Xiang and the old maid. It was strange, but now there was a reason to explain it.

"Your Ladyship, please spare my life! Please spare my life!"

"Tell me, who asked you to do that?" Old Lady Qu said angrily.

She had already got enough trouble, but now, another thing had happened. Although she questioned Granny Qing, she was looking at Qu Qiuyan.

Qu Qiuyan could not sit still. She stood up, held Qing Ju's hand and walked to Granny Qing with tears in her eyes. She scolded hatefully, "Granny Qing, ever since you came to the mansion, I have treated you well. Why did you frame Moying and me? Did we mistreat you? Who asked you to do this to me? Who let you enter our mansion?"

At the same time, she winked at Granny Qing.

She couldn't let Granny Qing give her away, so she had to stand up now. She was the one who brought Granny Qing up the mountain, and Granny Qing was her old maid. No matter what, Qu Qiuyan couldn't deny her responsibility.

Qu Moying sneered in her heart. Qu Qiuyan had a glib tongue. She was originally a suspect, but she now portrayed herself as a victim.

Granny Qing looked up at Qu Qiuyan. Her lips trembled a few times, and then she looked at Old Lady Qu. "Your Ladyship, I... I acted on my own. I wanted to help Third Lady vent her anger... That's why I thought of such a way to scare Fourth Lady. I didn't really mean to harm Fourth Lady. It's all my fault."

Granny Qing actually took all the blame. Qu Moying turned to look at Granny Qing with interest, thinking, "This old maid is no ordinary. She actually dared to say such words at this time. Although she

tried to keep the matter under control, as a servant, how could she keep it under control? How could she be so powerful?"

Qu Moying leaned back and swallowed the words she wanted to say. She wanted to see how this matter would end or how it would be dealt with.

Originally, it was just the inner yard's dispute. But after seeing Granny Qing's reaction, Qu Moying thought that it was more than that. She thought Granny Qing's real master might not be Qu Qiuyan but somebody else, because Granny Qing was too capable and Qu Qiuyan was not able to have such a servant under her control.

Qu Qiuyan was overjoyed after hearing Granny Qing's words. Then, she covered her face and cried as she complained, "Grandmother, you see, this matter has nothing to do with me. This old maid did it herself. It has nothing to do with me. I don't know anything about this matter either. Otherwise, I wouldn't have been suspected like this."

"Are you still not telling the truth?" Old Lady Qu was furious. She couldn't believe Granny Qing's words, yet Qu Qiuyan used them to defend herself.

"Your Ladyship, I really did it on my own. It's true." Granny Qing gritted her teeth and said.

"Pull her down and beat her until she says who is behind all this." Old Lady Qu became angry and said harshly.

Two rough old maids came over and pulled Granny Qing down.

"Grandmother, you can also ask that scoundrel with the surname Qian. I heard that this scoundrel was the one who connected with her. If we investigate this scoundrel, there might be a result."

Qu Moying gently reminded Old Lady Qu.

Hearing Qu Moying's words, Old Lady Qu nodded and said, "Yes, that scoundrel..."

“Your Ladyship, I am really wrong. I went to find someone to scare Fourth Lady on an impulse... Your Ladyship, I will apologize with my life.”

Suddenly, Granny Qing jumped up, pushed away the two maids who were pulling her, and banged against the only pillar in the room with her head.

No one had expected that she would kill herself. They only watched helplessly as she banged against the pillar. Blood immediately flowed down from her head. She slowly fell down with her eyes wide open.

Qu Qiuyan stood right next to Granny Qing. Not only were her clothes stained with Granny Qing’s blood, but also her face was stained with blood. Seeing Granny Qing fall, she wiped her face and saw a large amount of blood on her hand. She screamed in fear and took a few steps back. She fell to the ground and moved further away from Granny Qing. Then, her eyes rolled up and she fainted.

She had always been vicious and casually ordered others to kill people, but she had never seen someone die directly in front of her, and the person’s blood even splashed on her.

The room suddenly became strangely quiet. Old Lady Qu was experienced, so she quickly calmed herself down and said harshly, “Pull her down.”

Two old maids came over gingerly and pulled Granny Qing out of the room. Other old maids came to clean up the room.

Qu Qiuyan was also helped up.

“Grandmother, don’t be angry. She did this because she knew she would die anyway.” Seeing that Old Lady Qu was so angry, Qu Moying gently cooled her down.

If Granny Qing took all the blame, she would definitely die in the end. Even if she gave Qu Qiuyan away, she would still be severely punished. She would be badly beaten and then kicked out of Qu Mansion.

However, she directly killed herself, which was not something that ordinary servants dared to do.

"How... how dare she do this..." Old Lady Qu was also frightened. Although she did not lose her composure like Qu Qiuyan, she was so angry that her vision dimmed, and she felt dizzy.

Qu Moying supported Old Lady Qu and found that her palm was cold. She hurriedly covered it with her hand and comforted Old Lady Qu, "Grandmother, don't worry. Since we have investigated to this point, let's investigate Granny Qing's background. She didn't seem to be an ordinary servant because she dared to do this."

Qu Moying saw it clearly that Granny Qing didn't want to die at first, but her expression changed when Qu Moying mentioned investigating that scoundrel surnamed Qian. Then, she decisively banged her head against the pillar. It seemed that she was protecting the scoundrel surnamed Qian.

"That's interesting. Is the scoundrel surnamed Qian related to Granny Qing that she would rather die to protect him?" Qu Moying thought.

"Okay! We must investigate it thoroughly." Old Lady Qu gritted her teeth and said.

Qu Qiuyan slowly woke up and looked at Old Lady Qu while crying. "Grandmother, Grandmother, I really didn't know that she would do such a thing. I also don't understand why she killed herself. I... I used to think that she was a clever person, but she... actually did such a thing. I... I am so scared. Grandmother, I am scared."

There was still blood on Qu Qiuyan's face, not only on her face but also on her hands. She was really frightened this time. Tears fell down her face, but the tears that fell were red. Thinking of the scene in which blood splashed everywhere and even splashed on her body when Granny Qing banged into the pillar just now, Qu Qiuyan trembled, and her eyes widened in fear.

Qing Ju, who was supporting her, was also trembling. Granny Qing was still alive not long ago, but she suddenly died in front of them in such a tragic way. The scariest thing was that Granny Qing's blood splashed on their bodies. Qu Qiuyan and Qing Ju were really frightened. They were as pale as dead people.

"Someone, help Third Lady down to rest." Qu Moying glanced at Qu Qiuyan indifferently and ordered.

Old Lady Qu waved her hand with a gloomy face. An old maid came over, and she and Qing Ju helped Qu Qiuyan leave. Qu Qiuyan's legs were so weak that she could hardly move. Later, another old maid took over Qing Ju's position to support Qu Qiuyan. They almost carried Qu Qiuyan away.

Old Lady Qu was furious as she watched Qu Qiuyan leave. It was obvious that Qu Qiuyan had played a part in the matter. The words of the passers-by reported by the Ji Family's servants indicated that the person behind Granny Qing was Qu Qiuyan. Otherwise, Qu Qiuyan would not have asked Qu Moying in front of everyone in a complacent manner at that time.

Old Lady Qu was really disappointed with Qu Qiuyan. She originally thought that Qu Qiuyan was good and was just misled by Yu. Now she realized that Qu Qiuyan had turned bad long ago and was just like Yu.

Qu Qiuyan was vicious and incompetent!

However, Qu Qiuyan was her granddaughter. She could not treat her like how she treated Yu. After all, her second son still doted on Qu Qiuyan.

Old Lady Qu knew that the main reason was Lord Jing, but was Lord Jing really reliable? She increasingly felt that Lord Jing was not good, but was Qu Qiuyan a good person?

Holding Qu Moying's hand, Old Lady Qu tried to force a smile to comfort her. Qu Moying almost got into trouble again this time. Old Lady Qu felt very guilty, and her smile looked bitter.

She had given up on making Qu Qiuyan and Qu Moying reconcile. She didn't care whether or not Mingcheng was willing to support Qu Moying in the future anymore, but she decided to arrange a good marriage for Qu Moying because Qu Moying deserved something better. As long as Qu Moying's future husband's family pitied and loved her, it would not matter if her parents' family didn't like her.

Thinking of this, Old Lady Qu had already made a decision in her heart. She had to quickly arrange a good marriage for Qu Moying. She decided to choose a husband for Qu Moying from the few juniors that she trusted. She would not let Qu Moying suffer anymore.

Qu Moying didn't know that Old Lady Qu had made up her mind to pick a reliable husband for her because of this matter. Old Lady Qu thought the one for Qu Moying didn't need to be rich, but he should be good to Qu Moying...