

## Overbearing 151

### Chapter 151: The State Preceptor's Vicious Tongue II

Tan Shuangshuang was indeed stronger. She could not endure a hundred whippings. But... at least it would not kill her.

Tan Shuangshuang bit her lower lip hard. Tears rolled down her cheeks. Her face was as pale as a sheet of white paper. She smiled bitterly. "I thought... I was very important to you. But I could never compete with your mother."

"Shuang'er!" Liu Yuchen held Tan Shuangshuang's hand tightly. "Don't worry. I'll search for good medicines to help you recover quickly. Trust me, okay?"

Tan Shuangshuang removed her hand quickly. She was crying hysterically now. "You have asked me to trust you. But have you ever trusted me? Am I the kind of woman who would not be bothered about my lover's mother? I've decided to endure the whipping no matter what your decision is. But I had still hoped that... you'd choose me."

Liu Yuchen was heartbroken and guilty after listening to Tan Shuangshuang's desperate and painful words. It was like a sharp knife stabbing him in his heart.

"Shuang'er!" Liu Yuchen held out his hand and pulled Tan Shuangshuang into a tight embrace. He closed his eyes softly. "I'm sorry that I did not trust you. My Shuangshuang is always kind. You'll understand me, won't you?"

'Kind?'

Tan Shuangshuang lowered her eyes and sneered. Her heart was ice cold.

'I had always thought that you're my most beloved person. But now, you have just given me up just like that.

'If that's the case, I'll make you guilty, and you'll suffer for the rest of your life because of me.'

"Princess." Liu Yuchen released the girl in his hug. He raised his head and looked at Feng Ruqing. He gritted his teeth and said, "Now, are you satisfied? You made me choose between my mother and Shuang'er just because you want to see us in a situation like this, haven't you?"

Feng Ruqing clapped her hands. "That's right. This good scene is indeed satisfying. Tan Shuangshuang, do you realize now? He's the man you have fallen for. He's so useless that he can't protect the woman he loves. What's the use of keeping him?"

"You..." Liu Yuchen was infuriated. His fists were clenched even tighter. "Princess, every man would make the same choice as me. Why don't you ask the other sons whether or not they'll not protect their mothers? What about the man you want to marry in the future?"

Everyone was silent.

One could always get a wife. But, there was only a mother in this world.

So, everyone present could understand Liu Yuchen's decision. Nobody would have thought that his decision was wrong.

"Qingqing." Qin Chen frowned. "I'll protect you. No one can hurt you."

Not even his loved ones were allowed to lay a hand on her!

"You're so obedient." Feng Ruqing stood on tiptoe and patted Qin Chen's head. She smiled then turned to look at Liu Yuchen.

She raised her eyebrows slightly. She seemed to give off a sense of being overbearing.

"But... If the man I love cannot protect both my mother and me, then why should I love him? My man doesn't have to make a choice. It's because he has to choose both."

"Moreover..." Feng Ruqing took two steps forward. She smiled even more widely. "I will never allow anyone to threaten him. So, this kind of thing will never happen to him."

Liu Yuchen was stunned. He was even angrier now.

### **Chapter 152: The State Preceptor's Vicious Tongue III**

All Liu Yuchen's anger was suppressed when he saw that Yuchen had been looking at him. He sneered and said, "Then, I'll wish that you can find someone like that."

"There's no need for your wishes."

Suddenly, a cold and calm voice came from outside of the spirit herbs shop.

The voice was beautiful; it was like the voice of an angel. It also sounded like a melodious sound of a musical instrument.

"It's because... she has found him."

Liu Yuchen was stunned for a while. Then, he looked toward the door. His eyes suddenly narrowed, and there was disbelief in his eyes at that moment.

'Nan Xian... The state preceptor? Why is he here?'

He was so handsome that he looked like a god from heaven. There was a tinge of aloofness and arrogance in his presence. It was like he was a forgotten god . <sup>1</sup>

Liu Yuchen was called the most handsome man in Liu Yun Kingdom. But, he was nothing if he was compared to this man in front of him.

No one had recovered their senses, and they soon saw that Feng Ruqing had rushed toward the state preceptor. It was like a hungry wolf rushing toward its food. Feng Ruqing's plump body was being thrown on the handsome man, and he held her in a hug.

Both Liu Yuchen and Tan Shuangshuang were shocked.

The others might not recognize the state preceptor. But, both Liu Yuchen and Tan Shuangshuang knew his identity and status because they had always gone in and out of the palace for business.

‘Even the second princess, Feng Rushuang, was not this close with the state preceptor. Why didn’t the state preceptor throw her out after being treated like this?’

Tan Shuangshuang bit down on her lip hard. She looked at the handsome man in front of her and turned to look at Liu Yuchen, who was cast into the shade. She even felt a tinge of shame.

“State preceptor, you said that you’ll leave for only a month. Why did you leave for so long?”

The young girl’s eyes were crystal clear. They seemed like they were just washed by clear water. Her crystal clear eyes could not take in any more people now. She had eyes only for the state preceptor.

Liu Yuchen looked at Feng Ruqing in shock.

Liu Yuchen had never seen Feng Ruqing with those eyes before even when she came after him that time.

They were clear and innocent.

It seemed like her eyes were only meant for that person.

“I was held back for a few days by some business.” Nan Xian lowered his eyes. He used his long fingers to stroke the princess’s hair. His voice was gentle and loving. “So, I’ve come back later than I’m supposed to. Qing’er, do you blame me?”

Feng Ruqing blinked. Why did she feel that the state preceptor was so gentle and loving today?

The state preceptor held out his hands and hugged Feng Ruqing again when Feng Ruqing was in doubt. His lip was near Feng Ruqing’s ear now. He used a soft voice which could only be heard by the two of them.

“I’ll help you to get rid of him for good. It’ll be a reward for you because you made a breakthrough to Earth Warrior tier .<sup>1</sup>”

The distance between the two people was short. It was like his lip was on her cheek from the back. There was an indescribable atmosphere between the two of them.

Liu Yuchen’s heart felt like it was being squeezed right now. He hated Feng Ruqing so much. But, now that he saw her being this intimate with another man, he could not help but feel like his heart was being punched in. It was an oppressive feeling.

“Alright.”

Feng Ruqing was not bothered by the others’ reactions. She smiled slightly. “How are you going to help me get rid of them?”

There was a coldness in Nan Xian’s eyes. He immediately held the princess up by the waist.

Feng Ruqing was shocked as she held onto Nan Xian’s collar. “State preceptor, quickly put me down. I’m very heavy. You’ll be crushed under my weight.”

#### **Chapter 153: The State Preceptor’s Vicious Tongue IV**

"Only those who are weak will criticize you about your weight. For me, your weight... is just fine."

Feng Ruqing's lips trembled at this.

Why did it feel like... what the state preceptor said just now was meant for Liu Yuchen?

"State preceptor, put me down." Feng Ruqing was afraid that the state preceptor would be crushed under her weight. She could not help but want to struggle out of the state preceptor's embrace.

"There there. Don't move." The voice of the man was sweet and gentle. "We're only apart for a month. You're lighter now. Is there anyone bothering you and making you unable to have your meals properly?"

"Why can't I have my meal properly if someone is bothering me?"

"Don't I know about you? If someone you hate is bothering you that day, you would be so disgusted with that person that you can't have your meal. If you meet those people again, you can just ask Qing Zhu to go and deal with them. Just don't forget to have your meal."

"..."

'State preceptor, does Qing Zhu know about your vicious tongue?'

Liu Yuchen's face hardened further. He took a deep breath and walked toward Nan Xian slowly.

"State preceptor, I see that you have a good relationship with the princess. I thought that the princess hated you because she used to always mention your wickedness."

Nan Xian looked at Liu Yuchen calmly. "There people who are always threatening her. That's why she was afraid of me. Now, Qing'er has learned about my good personality so she won't be afraid of me anymore."

"State Preceptor Nan Xian, you're so talented and powerful. Why have you fallen for the princess?"

The underlying meaning was how the outstanding state preceptor had fallen for the princess who was a useless villain.

Nan Xian lowered his eyes and looked at the girl in his embrace. There was a soft smile on his face. "It's because I can recognize the excellent qualities overlooked by the others."

Feng Ruqing blushed. If she did not know the state preceptor was just helping her get rid of those people, she would have taken his words for real.

"State preceptor." Liu Yuchen clenched his fists tightly. "Then, do you know that the princess has found herself a gigolo when you're not around?"

Feng Ruqing was furious.

This Liu Yuchen was so rotten that he was so bold to condemn her before the state preceptor.

"State preceptor, Qin Chen is my younger brother. Don't listen to Liu Yuchen's nonsense. You're the only one in my heart and on my mind. I only want to sleep with you."

Nan Xian raised his head and looked at Liu Yuchen. He smiled lightly. "I believe in Qing'er. I'll believe everything she says."

Liu Yuchen was stunned.

The state preceptor should be angry after hearing that. Why was he so calm?

Did he really believe Feng Ruqing?

What made Liu Yuchen even more confused was that Feng Ruqing and the state preceptor were two totally different people. They belonged to two different worlds. Why had they come together now?

Liu Yuchen felt helpless and was reluctant to accept the truth.

Feng Ruqing voiced out again when Liu Yuchen was just about to say something.

"Liu Yuchen is guilty of slandering me. Give him a hundred whippings later. I am not Feng Ruqing if I do not punish him until he cannot live with himself," Feng Ruqing ordered angrily.

She would not have bothered if Liu Yuchen slandered her any other day but it was the state preceptor this time!

Liu Yuchen's handsome face turned pale. He raised his head to look at Feng Ruqing. His eyes were in a daze.

"Princess!"

Tan Shuangshuang was nervous and anxious. She rushed forward and knelt down in front of Feng Ruqing. She cried hysterically. "The public has seen you knocking down the youth and bringing him home. They are the ones who had spread the rumor. It's not Yuchen's fault. Please forgive him this time. If you're still angry, I'll endure the punishment for him."

Feng Ruqing could not help it, her eyes widened in disbelief.

She had seen how disappointed and angry Tan Shuangshuang was after realizing how Liu Yuchen had treated her. But, how could she behave like a hypocrite now?

#### **Chapter 154: The Infuriated Princess I**

"Qing'er, you're the one who is wrong now."

Nan Xian lowered his eyes and looked at Tan Shuangshuang, who was kneeling in front of him and Feng Ruqing. His eyes were calm.

Tan Shuangshuang cried even harder now. Her face was wet with tears.

Tan Shuangshuang seemed so pitiful and miserable. All the others sympathized with her. "State preceptor, we cannot blame the princess for this. After all..."

"This is indeed Qing'er's fault." There was a faintly discerned smile on Nan Xian's face. "Tan Shuangshuang wishes for this. Why don't you grant her wish? Just let her endure the two hundred whippings for Liu Yuchen. Qing'er is always so kind. You wouldn't refuse this kind of wish."

His words sounded so calm and gentle. But, Feng Rushuang was stunned.

Tan Shuangshuang's heart trembled vigorously. There was fear in her eyes.

'Three hundred whippings! That'll definitely kill me! If I'm not dead by then, I will not be able to get down from the bed for the rest of my life.'

"Princess." Liu Yuchen looked at Tan Shuangshuang's pale face. He gritted his teeth and said, "I don't need Tan Shuangshuang to endure it for me. Please let her go."

Feng Ruqing squinted. She smiled softly. "Since Tan Shuangshuang loves you deeply, I'll not disregard her wish given that I like to grant people's wishes. But, Tan Shuangshuang will not live after three hundred whippings. How about this? Give her a hundred and fifty whippings first. Then, we'll give her the remaining a hundred and fifty whippings after she recovers after a few days."

Tan Shuangshuang's face paled like a sheet of white paper. Her lip trembled, and there was deep fear in her eyes.

'A hundred and fifty whippings will put me in bed for a few months. But, she just allows me to rest for a few days before giving me another a hundred and fifty whippings.'

'Even if I survived this, I'll not be able to endure great pain.'

'But, it's I who have said those words. I need to endure the consequences.'

"Why are you standing there doing nothing? Go quickly!" Feng Ruqing glanced at the shopkeeper of the spirit herbs shop.

The shopkeeper quickly recovered his composure and coughed a few times. "Princess, please wait for a while. I'll take Tan Shuangshuang to torture room for the punishment. Princess, you will be satisfied with this result."

After that, the shopkeeper signaled to the person next to him. That person quickly recovered and moved forward to grab Tan Shuangshuang.

Tan Shuangshuang was indeed anxious.

She quickly held out her hand. She wanted to hold onto Liu Yuchen's hand. Her face was pale. She even babbled hysterically. "Yuchen, save me! Yuchen, come and save me!"

"Shuang'er." Liu Yuchen's eyes were swollen and red. He was about to hold Tan Shuangshuang's hand. Suddenly, Qin Chen stood in front of him and stopped him.

"No! You can't treat her like this. She's innocent. I'm the one who has made all the mistakes. Princess, please let her go. I beg you. Please let her go."

Liu Yuchen turned and knelted down in front of Feng Ruqing. His voice was trembling. There were both anger and pain in his eyes.

The feeling of watching the woman he loved being dragged away for punishment made Liu Yuchen feel utterly helpless.

Feng Ruqing lowered her eyes and scanned Liu Yuchen. "Of course, you can protect Tan Shuangshuang. Then, we'll return a hundred whippings to Lady Liu. How about that?"

"Yuchen!" Lady Liu's expression changed drastically. She held onto Liu Yuchen's sleeve nervously. There was great pain in her eyes. "Do you want me to be whipped?"

Liu Yuchen's body froze at this. He closed his eyes slowly.

## **Chapter 155: The Infuriated Princess II**

Loyalty and filial piety could never be catered to at the same time. It was the same with one's mother and lover.

So, Liu Yuchen decided to... give Tan Shuangshuang up in the end.

The man released his tightly clenched hands and sat down on the floor weakly. He just sat with his back to Tan Shuangshuang. He never even looked at her once up until now.

In the end, he had still let her down.

'I'm sorry.'

Tan Shuangshuang looked at Liu Yuchen blankly. Liu Yuchen did not make any response. She was not crying anymore now. She just let other people drag her down.

There was helplessness and despair in her heart now.

The look she gave Liu Yuchen was of grief and despair.

"Feng Ruqing, are you satisfied now?"

After a while, Liu Yuchen sneered and stood up. His face was pale, and there was a scornful sneer on his face. "Now, Shuang'er has a deep misunderstanding toward me just like you hope for. I have even thought that you've changed."

He even thought that he could marry the princess and bring her home if she was not that wicked and evil provided that she did not make any more trouble.

But...

The princess now was no longer the woman that he knew before.

"Chen'er, throw him out! I don't want him standing there. It's disgusting."

Liu Yuchen smiled coldly. "You don't have to throw me out. I'll leave myself. I'll give you one advice. Even if you're the princess of Liu Yun Kingdom, all the ministers of Liu Yun Kingdom have long been dissatisfied with you for a long time. Now, you are treating Shuangshuang like this. Have you ever considered the consequences to His Majesty?"

"I, Feng Ruqing, can endure any consequences!"

It was impossible to wrong Feng Ruqing.

She was willing to let the others think badly of her rather than being treated unfairly.

Nan Xian smiled faintly.

His smile was so soft that it was almost indiscernible.

"Qing'er, you can just go ahead with what you want to do. Nobody can stop you in this world. You don't have to be scared."

The voice of the man was loud and clear. It was stamped hard on Feng Ruqing's heart.

There was a flutter in Feng Ruqing's heart.

She knew that all the words said by the state preceptor were meant for Liu Yuchen. But, his voice was so melodious and gentle that she could not help but feel touched by it.

Liu Yuchen glanced at Feng Ruqing and Nan Xian coldly. He clenched his fists tightly. Finally, he left without looking back.

He did not realize that Nan Xian had turned and looked at him as he was leaving the scene.

Nan Xian's calm eyes were filled with a mix of light irony and coldness.

At that moment, the shopkeeper of the spirit herbs shop went and called for Elder Ling.

Elder Ling looked at the token first then he turned his respectful eyes upon Feng Ruqing. "Princess, you are here at Paramount today. Do you need anything?"

"I want you to look for a few spirit herbs for me."

Feng Ruqing held out her hand and handed a prescription of spirit herbs to Elder Ling.

"Elder Ling, please collect these spirit herbs for me."

Elder Ling was shocked. He took the prescription, and was silent for a while. "These spirit herbs are Grade-3 spirit herbs. Paramount does have those. But, this wisteria vine... It's a little difficult."

Feng Ruqing could clearly feel Fu Chen's excitement, who was in the medium, after hearing about the Grade-3 spirit herbs. It seemed that Fu Chen had almost lost control.

### **Chapter 156: The Infuriated Princess III**

Feng Ruqing ignored him and asked, "How long will it take for you to get the wisteria vine?"

"Wisteria vine grows in harsh conditions, and it takes at least two to three months to get them. But don't worry princess, you have our Paramount Token, I'll find it for you no matter what."

"Okay," Feng Ruqing muttered before saying, "Bring me the other spirit herbs first."



"Please wait for a moment, Princess. I'll go get it right now."

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Feng Ruqing had beaten Tan Shuangshuang up in the spirit herbs shop. It took only a while before the news spread like wildfire.

At the same time, the imperial court was in total chaos.

Feng Tianyu looked down at the mad Tan Lin while rubbing the temples of his aching head. "Grand Tutor Tan, I believe there's a reason why Qing'er beat Tan Shuangshuang in public."

Grand Tutor Tan turned livid with rage. "Your Majesty, what the princess has done throughout all these years is well known, is there anything that she can't do? That day, she had already whipped Shuang'er until she was black and blue, and now she has ordered someone to give her three hundred strokes!"

"It's three hundred strokes, not thirty strokes! My daughter's weak, how can she bear with this kind of torture?" Tan Lin wept bitterly. He couldn't help feeling sorry for his daughter.

He hated Feng Ruqing's cruelty and also Liu Yuchen for not being able to protect his daughter, allowing his daughter to suffer such agony!

Feng Tianyu frowned and scolded, "Grand Tutor Tan, why then did I hear that it was Tan Shuangshuang who provoked Qing'er first?"

"This is sheer nonsense!" Tan Lin was enraged and retorted, "How can I not know my daughter Shuang'er? She's gentle, kind, and has never started a quarrel. It's always Princess who would not let go of her! The princess has even chased her into Paramount spirit herbs shop to beat her up. Your Majesty, if you still refuse to punish the princess, it will certainly disappoint us, the people and the world!"

Feng Tianyu sunk into deep thought. All of a sudden, he thumped the table angrily with his palm and scolded, "How dare you, Tan Lin, criticize Qing'er! No matter what Qing'er has done, it's none of anyone's business!"

Although Feng Tianyu was already in a great rage, Tan Lin seemed to have consumed leopard bile to be so emboldened or perhaps he was really frustrated as he simply stood his ground and said coldly, "Your Majesty is once again pampering her even though she's bullying my daughter, or is Your Majesty really hoping for everyone to feel disappointed?"

As Tan Lin stood up, another civilian court officer came forth from among the public, pumped his fist and said, "Your Majesty, the princess has already gone too far. I beg Your Majesty to punish the princess severely as a warning to others."

"When the prince violates the law, the crime he commits is the same as that of the common people, so does a princess. The princess's deeds have been overwhelming. If Your Majesty does not want to punish the princess, we will resign and return to our homeland, as our children and we could refrain ourselves from worrying about being beaten to death by the princess."

"I second that."

"I second that as well."

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Looking at those officers coming forth one by one, Tan Lin's lip seemed to lift into a vague smirk.

As an emperor, Feng Ruqing should be considerate of his people. If he were to lose that many officers, Liu Yun Kingdom... would be an empty shell eventually.

Since he could not pressure the emperor alone, pressuring him with these people would surely work better; it didn't matter if he was the emperor.

Unless he was willing to give up the whole world for the princess.

"Grand Tutor Tan." Censor Lin frowned, stood up and said, "I believe that the princess is not the old princess anymore, there's a reason why she's doing this now. We should look deeper into this before jumping to any conclusions."

### **Chapter 157: The Infuriated Princess IV**

Tan Lin's face turned stiff as he stared at Censor Lin angrily.

Censor Lin's daughter, Lin Yueying, was a victim of Feng Ruqing's bullying as well. Had the sun risen in the west now as Censor Lin had stood up to defend her?

"I agree with Censor Lin," said Inspector General Mu, coldly, as he too stepped out of his line and glanced at Tan Lin.

Qing'er had told him before that it was the princess who had provided the scar-fading herbal cuisine.

If the princess possessed such ability and had changed, they might as well put the past behind them so that Liu Yun Kingdom would not lose a genius.

"Your Majesty..." as Nalan Zhangqian was trying to remember all the people who had agreed with Tan Lin, he stepped out of his line and sneered, "These are all useless civil servants. If they wish to leave, let them pack their blankets and scram. Our Liu Yun Kingdom does not need such incompetent people!"

"General Nalan!" Tan Lin's face turned blue as he said, "Liu Yun Kingdom has no empress right now, and the Nalan family has lost Nalan Yan, how does Your Majesty still manage to hold up the whole Liu Yun Kingdom? Do you think Your Majesty can deal with your enemy without our advice when they come and Your Majesty is not strong enough?"

This world worshiped the military. Also, the person who contributed the ideas played a vital role.

Liu Yun Kingdom had Empress Nalan in the past where the kingdom feared no other powerful country.

Now that Nalan Yan had passed away, and the old general was not in good condition, leaving only Nalan Zhangqian, what could he do?

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The palace.

Outside the Southern Bamboo Grove.

Nan Xian stopped and turned around. Just like the gentleness of moonlight, his eyes calmly fell upon the girl in front.

“Princess, would you come with me and take a seat inside?”

Feng Ruqing really wanted to be with Nan Xian, but she rarely had a chance to visit the palace. So it was obvious that she wanted to visit her father.

Therefore, she shook her head and said, “State preceptor, I can only send you this far. I’ll come back to you soon.”

“...”

It was apparent that this girl had insisted to follow him back to the Southern Bamboo Grove, now... it had appeared that Feng Ruqing was only sending him back to the Southern Bamboo Grove?

However, Nan Xian did not intend to blow her cover. He raised his hands and caressed Feng Ruqing’s head. “Just now at Paramount, what I had said to Liu Yuchen was not deliberate, it was all true.”

“...”

What?

Feng Ruqing blinked, dumbfounded, as she did not get what Nan Xian was trying to say.

It was not until when Nan Xian turned himself around that she suddenly realized that the crescent-colored robe had vanished from her view.

He said there was nothing in this world that could ever stop her. He would let her do as she wished.

Such a sentence was not only intended to provoke Liu Yuchen, but he also... meant it?

Feng Ruqing felt warm inside, and it felt good to be protected by someone...

“Princess!!!”

As Feng Ruqing turned around, a figure staggered forward and nearly fell in front of Feng Ruqing.

Feng Ruqing took a few steps back in surprise. She could now clearly see the eunuch who had rushed forward.

“Eunuch Liu, why are you so flustered?”

Eunuch Liu seemed anxious. “Princess, something terrible’s happening, everyone knows that you have beaten Tan Shuangshuang up, and Tan Lin is putting His Majesty in a conflict with a lot of officers, forcing His Majesty to punish you.”

Feng Ruqing’s face was immediately filled with blazing fury. “Eunuch Liu, I need to ask you for a favor!”

“Ah? What about you, Princess?”

"I will first go to Tang Zi! Go to the princess's manor and let the snow wolf bring all the spirit beasts to me! I'll make him regret not bringing his medicine along when he humiliates my father!"

## **Chapter 158: Astounding the Imperial Court I**

In the inner courtyard of the imperial palace.

In a remote and secluded courtyard, Tang Zi was holding a red-tasseled spear. She threw a cold and fierce look down at the girl in front of her who was dressed in a cyan military robe.

"Your progress has slowed down recently. Although we don't have the Empress to lead us to fight on the battlefield anymore, the princess's return does not allow you guys to stay relaxed anymore. If I ever catch someone loafing and not practicing next time, you shall be handled according to the military regulations."

The women in groups lowered their heads and remained silent.

Ling Yun did not dare to make a sound but only looked at the women helplessly.

After all, it was true that these people were wrong in the first place. They had slacked when Tang Zi was not around in the courtyard and she had happened to find out that they were slacking. There was nothing she could do.

Suddenly, Ling Yun's eyes lit up as she saw Feng Ruqing stepping inside from the courtyard. She hurriedly tugged at Tang Zi's sleeves and said, "Commander Tang Zi, Master has arrived."

Master?

Tang Zi was stunned for a moment. As she turned, she saw an angry Feng Ruqing making her way in from the courtyard. Her eyes were slightly dazed, she asked, "Master, what happened?"

"Tang Zi, how large is the residual force in the Iron-Blooded army right now?" Feng Ruqing's eyes looked slightly sunken as she asked coldly.

Tang Zi replied truthfully, "To prevent the army from slacking too much, I often send people out to finish some tasks. We have around forty people present inside the palace now.

"What do you think of their strength?" Feng Ruqing continued.

Upon hearing this, the corners Tang Zi's lips raised proudly as she replied, "The people in the Iron-Blooded army have reached True Warrior tier while Ling Yun and I have reached advanced True Warrior tier.

In Liu Yun Kingdom, only two people were Spirit Warriors. One was the emperor of Liu Yun Kingdom—Feng Tianyu, and the other was the old general—Master Nalan, who had just advanced to Spirit Warrior tier.

However, the news of Master Nalan reaching a higher tier had not been spread yet, only Feng Tianyu and those three aristocratic families knew. Therefore, as an Advanced True Warrior, Tang Zi did have something to be proud of.

Furthermore, anyone in the Iron-Blooded army had reached True Warrior tier. As for the neighboring countries, such an army implied a mighty force, a great power that would make them afraid.

Even if Empress Nalan had passed away for years, Liu Yun Kingdom had received no threat of invasion.

“Fabulous!” Feng Ruqing smiled slightly and said, “Tang Zi, all of you take up your arms and follow me to the imperial court!”

“...”

Tang Zi was shocked. Bringing weapons to the imperial court? What had jarred the princess?

“Princess, did something happen at the palace?”

Feng Ruqing smirked and said, “It’s nothing actually, but a group of old fools is looking for trouble with my father. Today, I’ll show them who’s the real emperor of Liu Yun Kingdom!”

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In the imperial court.

Feng Tianyu sat high in the dragon throne. He stared at the two quarreling parties coldly as his eyebrows were starting to reveal his impatience.

“Nalan Zhangqian, how dare you speak to me like that; your father won’t do that to me!” Tan Lin’s face was blue as he screamed angrily, “Ask Master Nalan to come and speak with me if you can, you are still not qualified to talk to me.”

Nalan Zhangqian smiled mockingly and said, “If my dad were here, he wouldn’t be speaking to you but he would immediately throw you out of the court.”

## **Chapter 159: Astounding the Imperial Court II**

“Nalan Zhangqian, shut up!” Tan Lin roared, “The princess must give me an explanation today or else we will resign and return to our home village, and let’s see who’s gonna manage the state affairs!”

Feng Tianyu stared at Tan Lin and the other officers coldly. He balled his fists tightly, blue veins appeared on his temples as he was breathing heavily.

His throat started to feel a little weird as a bloody breath was pumped out of his throat, urging him to spit it out to feel better.

But he held it back.

This is the imperial court, and he must not let anyone find out he was not in good condition. Ever!

” Enou— <sup>1</sup> ” Feng Tianyu was enraged as he could not stand it anymore.

At that moment, a familiar and crisp voice echoed into the court. Suddenly, peace was restored to the imperial court.

“Who was the one who insisted for an explanation from me just now?”

...

In the quiet imperial court, all the officers turned around and looked toward the court's door, their eyes searched for something—a girl standing in the morning light.

The girl seemed to be sneering as millions of women dressed in cyan robes stood behind her. The officers were surrounded by the women in the blink of an eye. They stood next to the officers as if they were the mountain gods.

"Is this... the Iron-Blooded army?"

The servants trembled.

Wasn't the princess already on bad terms with the Iron-Blooded army? How could... she still command the people of the Iron-Blooded army?

Tan Lin's mood got worse as he glanced at Tang Zi and the others. His eyes were full of disdain.

Look at all this nonsense. The Iron-Blooded army was still helping Feng Ruqing regardless of how she had treated them in the past. If Tan Lin were them, he would definitely coerce Feng Tianyu to punish Feng Ruqing with Tan Lin himself. It was a hundred times better to uphold Feng Rushuang than to support this crap.

But this was not the end yet...

As the Iron-Blooded army entered the imperial court. A wolf's howl shook the world and started to scare everyone inside.

How could there be a wolf... inside the palace?

"People... people look! Not only is there a wolf, but also an earth bear! That's a Tier-3 spirit beast!"

A gentle courtier went weak at his knees as he saw the spirit beasts rushing forward. He trembled and quickly said, "General Nalan, you're the military general. Why are you still not stopping them?"

Nalan Zhangqian coldly replied, "I thought you guys were mocking us that we could only solve the problem by force? Why don't you guys wave the white flag to the beasts by relying on your wisdom?"

The officials turned pale.

Those were spirit beasts! They were inhuman beasts! Any tricks played on them were just like a playhouse, how could it be useful?

Unfortunately, at this time, Nalan Zhangqian did not look at them, nor did he stop the troop of spirit beasts, letting those spirit beasts break through the threshold and rush in...

But soon... Everyone noticed that the spirit beasts were followed by a... eunuch?

"Eunuch Lin?" Tan Lin was stunned. "Why are you holding a candle to the devil? Are you demanding for an abdication?"

Eunuch Liu's face turned blue immediately.

He was frightened enough after he had gone to the princess's manor. How dare Tan Lin framed him now in such a manner.

"Grand Tutor Tan, what do you mean? As a eunuch, I have no posterity and why should I stage a coup? I brought these spirit beasts along because the princess asked me to do so. As for what purpose, you better ask the princess."

### **Chapter 160: Astounding the Imperial Court III**

God knows why he prepared the carriage to pick up these spirit beasts. He thought that the princess would raise the spirit beasts in the cage. How could anyone have known that... these spirit beasts were roaming around freely.

He was surrounded by the beasts as soon as he entered the princess's manor. If it were not for Liu Li, that servant, the spirit beasts would have scared his pants off even though he would not be eaten.

On top of that, he saw... the purple sable was using its tail to clean the courtyard?

Oh, and that four-armed ape was using a spatula to call on the other spirit beasts to get their meal...

Has anyone ever seen a spirit beast cleaning the courtyard?

Has anyone ever seen a spirit beast that... was capable of cooking?

But he saw everything that day! He still could not recover himself from shock even until now...

"Your Highness, what do you mean?" Tan Lin had finally recovered from the astonishment as he turned to Feng Ruqing and asked angrily.

He had long since heard that Feng Ruqing had brought along a horde of spirit beasts when she had returned. But words are wind because seeing is believing. He finally believed in those rumors as now he got to see with his own eyes.

Feng Ruqing winked at the snow wolf.

The snow wolf understood what Feng Ruqing's wink meant and asked the four-armed ape to bring along the chair that it had prepared earlier. The four-armed ape put the chair behind Feng Ruqing.

Feng Ruqing caressed her long sleeves and gently got into the seat. She leaned her body on the back of the chair while a grin played at the corners of her lips.

"I thought you were looking for me? I'm here now. Say it out loud if you have anything to say, but you do not have to take advantage of my father."

Her hands were on her cheeks. She was not as angry as she was at the beginning, but she glared at Tan Lin arrogantly and coldly.

Tan Lin was pale. He was sure that Feng Ruqing did not dare to lay a finger on him and so he asked with a sneer, "Your Highness, what has Shuang'er done to make you punish her in such way?"

“Of course she did something wrong. I was going to shop at the spirit herbs shop on my own, but she framed me saying that I was giving her trouble. Father, don’t you think that she should be punished for framing me?”

Feng Tianyu glanced at Tan Lin and said, “Qing’er is the kingdom’s princess. If someone had framed her, it is no difference disrespecting the hierarchy and law. It’s right to punish someone like that! Qing’er has done nothing wrong.”

Tan Lin held his breath for a moment, clenched his jaw and said, “Her Highness’s words don’t carry conviction. How does Your Majesty know that it’s not Her Highness who first stirred up trouble?”

Feng Ruqing suddenly laughed.

“You may visit Paramount and ask if it was her or I who first caused the trouble. Besides, the state preceptor was present as well. Ask him if you are skeptical about it.”

Tan Lin was terribly shocked.

The state preceptor was at the spirit herbs shop as well? Why had no one mentioned this to him in the first place?

“Even so, you should not give her three hundred strokes!” Tan Lin clenched his teeth and continued.

Feng Ruqing burst out laughing.

“First of all, she has framed me. It means that the reputation of Liu Yun Kingdom has been affected and I think three hundred strokes is reasonable. Secondly, I’m innately kind, and I couldn’t bear to leave her with three hundred strokes. However, it is sad to tell you that Lady Liu and Liu Yuchen were present as well, but how could they be rude to me? So, each of them got a hundred strokes. Tan Shuangshuang loves Liu Yuchen too much as she insisted on receiving the punishment for them, what could I do? ”

Tan Lin was shocked again.

He subconsciously turned to look at where Chancellor Liu was standing.

It was not a big deal for Chancellor Liu to stay quiet when the people were coercing the emperor just now. However, he could have never imagined, how Shuang’er had received those three hundred strokes...