

Young Lady 141

Chapter 141 – Great Undertakings, And A Strange Game Of Go

“Fourth Elder Sister, you’re joking. I don’t understand what you’re saying. I’m injured myself, so I could only stay in the hall for a while. How can I compare to Fourth Elder Sister in terms of filial piety towards my mother?” Wei Yuewu only smiled, as if she didn’t understand what Wei Qiufu meant.

Wei Qiufu’s eyes burned with rage. She now thought that seeing Jin Ling meant that Wei Yuewu was also in the main hall. After that, she was knocked unconscious for no reason. However, the vague conversation between Wei Yan and her made it impossible for her to judge whether what she had seen before was real or an illusion.

However, this did not prevent her from suspecting Wei Yuewu.

“Good for you, Sixth Younger Sister. I hope you can also laugh so happily next time.” Wei Qiufu said coldly.

“Fourth Elder Sister is joking. Since you are unwilling to be on friendly terms with me, then return my qin. After having a walk around today, I feel that I have recovered some strength. I might need to use it myself. I heard that the two princesses like listening to the qin. Maybe I can win favour of the two princesses.”

Wei Yuewu narrowed her eyes and asked for the qin she had lent out.

“Playing the qin requires quite a bit of arm strength. Sixth Younger Sister, your wound will be stretched if you move your arm. So, take good care of yourself and there’s no need to think too much about other matters.” How would Wei Qiufu allow Wei Yuewu to get back the qin? She coldly replied and walked past Wei Yuewu, intending to return to her courtyard to rest.

“Fourth Elder Sister, will the Crown Prince choose a wife at this banquet?” Wei Yuewu whispered, but Wei Qiufu was so scared that she staggered and almost fell down.

She suppressed her desire to turn around and see Wei Yuewu. She snorted coldly and quickly left.

Only a few people knew about the Crown Prince's plan to choose a wife. She was secretly told by the Third Princess, but this only represented the Crown Prince's personal preferences and might not be the final result.

After all, there were a lot of other factors to be considered, such as family background. The young lady that the Crown Prince liked might not necessarily be suitable to be the Crown Princess, who would become the future empress.

However, there was one thing that was certain. This time, the Crown Prince would pick out a few women that he liked, so that the empress could find the most suitable person.

If she couldn't even pass this trial, she wouldn't be able to become a candidate for the Crown Princess at all.

Wei Qiufu even knew that this secret selection process was not limited to this banquet. Next, more young ladies of aristocratic families would be invited to banquets in various names. Of course, the purpose wasn't just to choose a Crown Princess...

In the past, she had the help of the Third Princess. Even if the Fourth Princess did not say anything in favor of her, the two of them were considered to be familiar. So basically, the Fourth Princess would also stand on her side. Therefore, it was not a big problem for her to obtain the Crown Prince's appreciation. However, the situation was different now, and she could only rely on herself.

She made up her mind that she must give an outstanding performance and use the qin score at the banquet! Then, she left Wei Yuewu in a hurry.

Wei Yuewu did not expect that at this time, she would see Yan Huaijing. What was even more surprising was that this heir-apparent, who had always been as noble and pure as a white cloud in the eyes of the others, was actually wearing a black brocade robe. In such a night, he wore this dark brocade robe embroidered with dark patterns, causing people to immediately feel that he had transformed from an exiled immortal from the sky into an enchanting Asura.

The room was very dark. Luckily, the moonlight tonight was pretty bright, faintly penetrating through the half-open window.

What surprised Wei Yuewu even more was that this enchanting heir-apparent was currently rotating a palace flower in his hand. This was the palace flower Wei Qiufu had sent over.

Yan Huaijing sat on the edge of the bed with his back to her. As if he knew that she had woken up, he turned his head to look at her, his handsome face revealing an enchanting look that he had never shown before, "Do you like this flower?"

"I don't like it!" Wei Yuewu shook her head decisively.

"So you are not going to wear it?" Yan Huaijing seemed to have thought of something interesting. He leaned against the edge of the bed behind him and looked at Wei Yuewu with his pair of eyes that looked strangely beautiful tonight.

"I am going to wear a palace flower, but not this one." Wei Yuewu answered honestly.

"Huh?" Yan Huaijing raised his eyebrows and a gentle smile appeared on the corner of his lips. He casually asked, "Tell me the reason."

Wei Yuewu looked left and right. This was her bedroom, and it was such a dark night. As a young master of an aristocratic family who had always appeared to be gentle and elegant in front of others, it was impossible for him to do such an indiscreet thing. However, not only did he do it, he also did it so comfortably that he did not see himself as an unsuitable intruder at all.

"This is intended for concubine candidates at the banquet. I'm not going to be a concubine!" Wei Yuewu raised her eyes and said as she stared at the glittering and handsome pair of eyes.

Yan Feng had verified that the two princesses had distributed some palace flowers to the young ladies of the aristocratic families attending the banquet. However, different young ladies had different palace flowers.

Palace flowers come in two colors, bright red and rosy red.

The colors had two meanings.

The statuses of the young ladies of the aristocratic families who were given bright red palace flowers were relatively higher. Basically, they were all candidates out of whom the Crown Prince would choose the future Crown Princess. As for the other women who had obtained the rosy red palace flowers, it was obvious that they were candidates for concubines. Wei Yuewu had found out that the princesses' study companions were all given rosy red palace flowers.

Yan Huaijing suddenly felt very satisfied. With a flick of his slender fingers, he was about to crush the palace flower in his hand. After all, this was a little fox raised by him. How could she be fooled by others so easily?

"Your Heir-apparent, wait!" Seeing his movements, Wei Yuewu hurriedly propped herself up and said.

"You want to keep it?" Yan Huaijing lazily raised his eyebrows, glanced sideways at her and asked.
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"Yes, I want to keep it!" Wei Yuewu answered honestly. "Third Princess and Fourth Princess has given us a fixed number of palace flowers. People with different identities were given palace flowers of different colors."

"Considering Marquis Hua Yang's position and power, you should be given a bright red palace flower, right?" Yan Huaijing asked calmly. He lowered his head slightly and had a smile on his face. However, Wei Yuewu's heart skipped a beat for some reason, and she felt a sense of danger.

"It was supposed to be like this." Wei Yuewu took courage and answered bravely.

"Actually, it can be changed. As long as I make a request, I believe Marquis Hua Yang won't be reluctant to part with an abandoned daughter." Yan Huaijing's words became gentler and gentler, and his handsome eyebrows lifted with an obvious threatening intention.

"Yes!" Wei Yuewu felt annoyed in her heart, but she didn't dare to reveal it at all. This graceful, ruthless and extremely powerful heir-apparent was not easy to deal with.

“What do you think if I asked His Majesty to confer you to me?” Yan Huaijing seemed to be unsatisfied with Wei Yuewu’s answer and he asked softly.

“You Heir-apparent, don’t you think it would be better if there is someone secretly helping you?” Wei Yuewu lowered her eyes and smiled.

“That’s true, but that depends on whether this hidden agent of mine is as effective as I expect.” Yan Huaijing said lazily, his tone carrying a faint smile. Seeing that he was in a good mood, Wei Yuewu stealthily heaved a sigh of relief.

“Don’t worry, Your Heir-apparent. I will investigate the matter concerning Mo Huating and my second uncle immediately after going down the mountain.” Wei Yuewu said sincerely.

Because of Wen Tianyao’s order, the Madam Dowager was busy investigating this matter with great care. It was easy for her to discover something. This was not because the Madam Dowager attached importance to Wei Yuewu. Most importantly, it was because of the Crown Prince Wen Tianyao. Wen Tianyao’s current unshakable status was an indicator that he was bound to become the next emperor.

The Madam Dowager did not dare to ignore his orders no matter what.

Yan Huaijing stopped asking further questions. He suddenly stretched out his hand, grabbed her slender hand and said gently, “Come, let’s go out for a walk.”

“Where... where are we going now?” Wei Yuewu was pulled up in a daze and stared blankly at him as he took the mink cloak from the screen and put it on her.

The black mink cloak looked exactly the same as Yan Huaijing’s.

“To admire plum blossoms in the darkness is not very charming. But when faint fragrance fluctuates in the air, it is extremely pleasant.” Yan Huaijing gently helped her put on the cloak, and before Wei Yuewu realized it, he leapt out with Wei Yuewu in his arms.

The cold wind immediately poured in. Although Wei Yuewu was wrapped tightly in the cloak, she was still shivering due to the cold. She subconsciously hugged Yan Huaijing's sturdy waist and tightly shrunk her head into the mink cloak.

Seeing her fear of the cold, Yan Huaijing stopped and smiled. He tucked the mink cloak in for her before raising his foot again. Behind him, several black shadows followed closely.

They quickly passed by several Buddha halls. In the end, Yan Huaijing landed in front of a vihara. Wei Yuewu also landed on the ground with her feet. Before she could stand firmly, she heard Yan Huaijing whispering softly in her ear, "Don't speak, and don't move!"

Wei Yuewu didn't know what he was going to do, but she still pulled his clothes tightly to stabilize herself.

Yan Huaijing suddenly chuckled and stretched out his hand to hug her thin body. He whispered in her ear, "This place is interesting. I'll show you around."

Before Wei Yuewu could figure out what Yan Huaijing meant, she heard an old man's voice. "Which distinguished guest has come to pay a visit to me, an old monk?"

Old monk? Wei Yuewu was slightly shocked. She didn't dare to move casually, but her mind worked rapidly. Wasn't this Plum Blossom Nunnery resided all by nuns? When had a monk appeared here?

"Master Fenghe, sorry to bother you!" Yan Huaijing held Wei Yuewu who was tightly wrapped in her cloak and slowly walked in.

The large black mink cloak wrapped Wei Yuewu tightly, revealing only the top of head with long and dark hair. Anyone could see that wrapped inside the cloak was a woman.

"Heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan?" Master Fenghe stood at the door of his meditation room and looked at the peerlessly beautiful young master slowly approaching. His dim yellow eyes twitched as he asked.

“Master, have you seen me before?” Yan Huaijing raised his eyebrows.

“Everyone in the world knows that the Heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan is an exiled immortal from the sky. Anyone who sees him will admit that he is unique.” At this time, Master Fenghe had regained his calm. He extended his hand and made a gesture to invite them in. Then, he raised his foot and walked towards the depth of the room. Yan Huaijing entered the room holding Wei Yuewu in his arm.

“Master, you’re too polite. I heard that Master is temporarily living in Plum Blossom Nunnery, so I came to visit you. Master, please be kind to give me some advice.” Yan Huaijing walked into the meditation room and saw a huge Go board placed in the middle of the room. He smiled elegantly and leisurely.

“Your Heir-apparent is known all over the country. I might not win if I play Go with you.” Master Fenghe said humbly.

“Master, you’re too polite. Everyone knows that you are a real master Go player. I am really fortunate to meet you here today.” Yan Huaijing said politely, but he already sat down at the guest seat opposite Master Fenghe, holding Wei Yuewu in his arm.

Wei Yuewu was now sitting on her knees beside Yan Huaijing. But she was still tightly hugged by him.

At this moment, she couldn’t see anything. All of her senses were gathered on her ears. She was shocked that the person in front of her was Master Fenghe.

It was said that Master Fenghe was once a member of the royal family. He was the son of a prefecture prince. However, he was interested in Buddhism since he was a child, and in the end he became a monk against his parents’ will. Not only was he proficient in Buddhism, he was also skilled in Go. So far, he had not been defeated in a single set of game.

Thus, all the Go players in the world wanted to face this Master Fenghe and were proud of being able to play a set of Go with him.

However, Master Fenghe never lived in a fixed place. He kept traveling all the time, and people would not think that the common monk before them was Master Fenghe even if they had the luck to meet him.

What was unexpected was that he was actually temporarily staying in Plum Blossom Nunnery at this time. No wonder Yan Huaijing rushed over to pay him a visit after receiving the news.

However, Wei Yuewu vaguely felt that something was wrong, so she concentrated her mind and paid attention to the conversation between them.

At this time, Master Fenghe was already sitting on his knees on the mat. He pointed at the Go pieces on the Go board and asked with a smile, "Who will move first?"

Chapter 142 – The Lost Palace Flower And Plum Blossom Banquet

"Master is an elder. Please move first." Yan Huaijing said gracefully.

Master Fenghe glanced at Yan Huaijing and reached out to place a piece on the board, "Nice demeanor, Your Heir-apparent!"

"Nothing about demeanor. Master, I am just a junior in front of you, so it is natural for you to move first." Yan Huaijing said meaningfully as he placed a Go piece on the board. For a while, Wei Yuewu wrapped in the cloak couldn't understand what he meant.

"Everything in this world is alternating between unity and division, like this Go game." Master Fenghe placed another piece on the board.

"Unity is followed by division, and division is followed by unity. What Master said is indeed correct." Yan Huaijing also landed a piece on the board, the corner of his lips curled into a smile. "However, after unity, the game situation may not look the same as before!"

Master Fenghe's hand froze at Yan Huaijing's words, but then a smile appeared on his face and he said mercifully, "But however the game situation changes, the Go pieces remain the same. So what is the point of changing back and forth?"

As he said, he landed another piece on the board.

Yan Huaijing immediately placed a piece on the board without thinking. "If the Go pieces are not good, you can change them. This is the way things work under the sun. If the old things are not gone, the new things won't come!"

"But right now, these Go pieces are still good! They are complete!" Master Fenghe placed the Go piece in the hand on the board and looked up at Yan Huaijing. Then, he shifted his gaze to Wei Yuewu beside Yan Huaijing, who was wrapped in such a way that her face couldn't be seen clearly. "This is..."

"This is my new concubine. When she heard that I was coming to play Go with Master, she insisted to come. However, how could a woman in the backyard meet people casually? I am afraid this made Master laugh."

Yan Huaijing said those words with a carefree manner, and he even gently touched Wei Yuewu's hair. Anyone could see the intense affection in his eyes.

Wei Yuewu was so angry that she wanted to curse him. She reached out and pinched him in the waist fiercely and rolled her eyes in the cloak.

If it weren't for the inconvenience of being seen by others in her current state, she would have already lifted her cloak and run away.

"Be good, don't make trouble!" Yan Huaijing reached out and patted her in the head as a signal for her to let go. Such an intimate tone made people more and more curious and wonder how beautiful this woman in the cloak was that she actually was doted so much by the famous Heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan!

Fortunately, Master Fenghe was a monk, so he wasn't that curious about women. He just glanced at Wei Yuewu and didn't ask any further questions.

The two of them played the set of Go game for more than an hour. At first, Wei Yuewu could hear it clearly, but later, she became tired and fell asleep half leaning on Yan Huaijing's body.

In a daze, she seemed to hear Yan Huaijing laughing loudly. Then, the old monk spoke with a somewhat gloomy voice. The two of them said something to each other. Wei Yuewu even felt that her hand was pulled out by Yan Huaijing. The sudden chill in her hand made her wake up instantly.

"It's okay, let's go!" Yan Huaijing stood up with Wei Yuewu in his arm. Wei Yuewu shook her hand that was still wrapped in the cloak. She felt a little cold, but she still followed Yan Huaijing out.

Although she wasn't awake yet, she was still concerned about the result of the game. When she walked outside of the room and was picked up by Yan Huaijing, she asked in a low voice. "Who won?"

"A draw!" Yan Huaijing said calmly, picking up Wei Yuewu and disappearing.

"A draw?" Wei Yuewu was surprised. Would Yan Huaijing also come to a draw with others?

What's more, today's game of chess was so strange, and what was going on when her hand was pulled out just now...

"Useless idiots, how could you not find it? What's the use of raising a bunch of good-for-nothing idiots like you?" Zhao Ru'e was furious in her own courtyard. She swept a cup of tea off the table, and the maids were trembling out of fear and they did not dare to speak.

Fourth Miss Zhao was the fourth daughter of Marquis Huaiqin. This time, she became the study companion of the Third Princess. She felt that she had a chance to climb up the royal branch, but she lost the most important thing. How could she not be anxious?

"Mi... Miss, I will look for it again." A maid said.

"Then... hurry up and go! If there's still no clue, I'll skin all of you!" Zhao Ru'e stomped her feet forcefully and said angrily.

Tomorrow was the day of the banquet hosted by the two princesses. If she could not find it and was noticed by the Third Princess, that might be the end of her path to climb high up. Thinking of this, she became anxious.

The maids who served her were all driven out and scattered around the courtyard. Almost every inch of the courtyard was carefully inspected, and it seemed they had the intention of turning this place upside down.

However, no matter how they looked for it, they ended up in no avail. As a result, they were all dumb as a wooden chicken. No one dared to go back and be beaten and scolded at this time.

The leading maid was the top maid serving Zhao Ruo'e. She thought for a while and then walked to the path leading to the Third Princess' courtyard.

Since they couldn't find it in this courtyard, it might have fallen to the ground halfway.

They were actually not far away from the Third Princess' courtyard. After a few steps, she arrived at the Third Princess' courtyard. However, she didn't dare to enter. She walked around the gate, wondering whether she should ask the door-keeping nurse for help. Then, she saw two maids coming head on towards her.

She subconsciously hid behind a tree.

"Did you really see that palace flower?" The words of the maid in green made her even choke on her breath. Palace flower? Could it be the one her own Miss had lost?

"Yes, I did. Fourth Young Lady said it was from the Third Princess, but she didn't know why it was rosy red. Could it be that Fourth Young Lady wanted to be the wife herself, but she wanted our Miss to be a concubine?" Another maid dressed in red had an unhappy expression on her face.

The maid behind the tree suddenly remembered that one of the maids was serving Sixth Miss Wei who had been struck by a sword. Her heart skipped a beat. Was the Fourth Young Lady they were talking about Fourth Miss Wei? Immediately, she listened intently and didn't dare to make any noise.

"Who knows! Fourth Young Lady has dreamed of becoming the Crown Princess for many days. Everyone in the mansion knows about it. But how could she do this to our Miss? No matter how, our Miss is still

the first daughter of Marquis Hua Yang. She has a much higher status than Fourth Young Lady. Where did Fourth Young Lady find this palace flower? Why would she dare to give it to our Miss?"

Jin Ling's face was filled with anger. She walked to the tree and seemed to hesitate for a moment before stopping.

"Sister Jin Ling, let's go back. It's no big deal. It is up to our Miss whether to wear it or not tomorrow!" Shufei looked at the gate of the Third Princess' courtyard and pulled Jin Ling aside, advising her in a low voice.

"No, I think we had better report it to the Third Princess. Someone conspired with the Fourth Young Lady to actually give that palace flower to our Miss. As long as the Third Princess investigates it, she will know who were given this kind of palace flower." Jin Ling said in a voice with unrelenting hatred, her little face turning pale with anger.

The maid behind the tree had wanted to stand out to say that her Miss had lost the palace flower. At this time, she did not dare to move at all and she held the tree trunk motionless.

"The person who conspired with Fourth Young Lady is really annoying. Could it be another Eldest Lady Yang? She was made use of by someone, and in the end, she even annoyed the Crown Prince and ended up being driven down the mountain. In the future, which rich and influential family would accept someone like her? She simply destroyed her own future."

Shufei said ironically to echo Jin Ling's words. Then, she changed her tone, "Alright, don't be angry anymore. Let's go back first. You have to obtain the consent of Miss even if you want to get justice for her. Miss is still resting now. Let's wait for Miss to wake up before making a decision. If you act rashly, Miss will be angry when she wakes up."

As she said those words, Shufei pulled on Jin Ling's sleeve.

"But I still feel aggrieved for Miss..." Jin Ling was pulled to move a few steps, but she still didn't want to leave.

“Don’t worry, Miss is not the kind of person who would suffer losses. Let’s go, let’s go. This matter is up to Miss. When our Miss managed to get the Fourth Young Lady and the people who had conspired with her on the hook, these people would be in a terrible situation. Didn’t you see what happened to Eldest Lady Yang?” Shufei pulled her another few steps forward.

Perhaps Jin Ling felt that Shufei’s words made sense. Therefore, she did not continue to be stubborn this time. She followed Shufei back and muttered, “Fourth Young Lady actually conspired with an outsider to frame our Miss. It’s really way too much. After returning to the mansion, I must report it to the Madam Dowager and seek justice.”

“Let’s go, let’s talk about it when we get back...” Shufei comforted her.

The two of them talked quietly and walked past the tree. When they were far away, the maid walked out from behind the tree with a pale face. She looked at the Third Princess’ courtyard, exerted her strength and hurriedly ran back. She must tell her Miss that the palace flower was secretly taken away by Fourth Miss Wei.

And according to the two maids’ discussion, she actually wanted to drag her Miss into the water.

From whichever perspective, it was no wonder that Eldest Lady Yang had been framed on that day.

When she had walked far away, Jin Ling and Shufei appeared at the corner. Seeing the maid who was running and gradually disappearing in the front, they couldn’t help but look at each other and smile. They patted on their own head, turned around and went back to the courtyard together.

Yan Feng had long since found out that Fourth Miss Zhao lost her palace flower, and that it was also a rosy red palace flower. He had also found out that Fourth Miss Zhao had been so anxious these past few days that she was like an ant on a hot pot.

At this time, Yan Feng received Wei Yuewu’s orders and was hurriedly going down the mountain...

The day of the banquet arrived. The banquet was held in a plum forest in the back mountain. Wei Yuewu did not arrive early. After entering the plum forest, she discovered that everything here had been arranged with ingenuity.

This was an open space in a plum forest. Plum branches were lying on the side, with plum blossoms blooming one after another. The branches looked vigorous and formed an outstanding scene with gorgeous plum blossoms.

The ground was covered with a bright red carpet, and the table was not in the form of a huge round table shared by many, but in the form of separate pattern for individuals, accompanied by carved mahogany chairs.

There was a spacious nanmu chair in the middle. Needless to say, this must be the seat of the Crown Prince Wen Tianyao.

Centering on his position, both sides fanned out, sending rows of tables and mahogany chairs.

Wei Yuewu saw the Third Princess and the Fourth Princess sitting one seat away from the middle seat. The ladies were each led by someone, and according to the rank and position of each mansion, they were led by someone to sit on both sides.

Wei Yuewu's gaze fell on the first seat on the right.

Yan Huaijing sat there lazily. He was dressed in a snow-white long robe with dark patterns. His handsome look was as eye-catching as jade and his thin lips curled up slightly. With a gentle smile on his face, his sparkling eyes silently slid across the young ladies' faces. After receiving shy gazes one after another, he withdrew his sight in boredom.

He happened to meet Wei Yuewu's eyes.

Wei Yuewu immediately lowered her head. She didn't dare to have any involvement with this Heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan on such an occasion. Fortunately, that pair of burning and handsome eyes just swept across her without any pause. It was rare for this heir-apparent to be so cooperative. Wei Yuewu naturally wouldn't want to be close to him. She wanted to find a seat far from him.

A palace maid appeared in front of her to guide the way. "Sixth Miss Wei, please come with me."

Chapter 143 – They Were Wearing Different Palace Flowers

Wei Yuewu had no choice but to follow her.

Her seat was right next to Wei Qiufu. Seeing Wei Yuewu coming over, Wei Qiufu's face was already full of smiles. Nobody would believe that the two of them were actually not on friendly terms at all.

"Sixth Younger Sister, come and sit here." She stretched out her hand to greet Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu turned her eyes and smiled. She sat down beside her gently. She then turned her watery eyes and met the person opposite her. Her eyes narrowed slightly and a trace of coldness flashed in them. It was actually Mo Huating.

"Sixth Younger Sister, what are you looking at?" Wei Qiufu covered her mouth with a handkerchief and her eyes also fell on Mo Huating opposite Wei Yuewu.

Her voice wasn't loud, but it was enough for the few ladies beside her to hear clearly. Thinking of the fact that this Marquis Jing Yuan was once the fiance of this Sixth Miss Wei, everyone looked at them curiously for a moment.

Wei Yuewu couldn't help but retract her gaze and glance at the other side of Wei Qiufu.

Coincidentally, Fourth Miss Zhao was glaring at Wei Qiufu with a gloomy expression. Wei Yuewu immediately had an idea in her heart. She smiled slightly and said generously, "Seeing Marquis Jing Yuan suddenly made me remember Second Elder Sister. Fourth Elder Sister, I heard that Second Elder Sister and you used to be very close. After going back to our mansion, how about we two seeing Second Elder Sister together?"

Wei Yan's reputation was now completely ruined. It could be said that no matter who made friends with her, it was not a matter to be proud of.

No one was willing to mention her. However, both Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiufu were linked to Wei Yan by means of kinship, a fact they couldn't deny at all. Even if they wanted to avoid Wei Yan, they couldn't.

Wei Qiufu was most concerned about her own reputation. Wei Yuewu's words placed her in an awkward situation whether she responded to her proposal or not. She secretly twisted her handkerchief and her gaze fell on Wei Yuewu's head. From her point of view, she saw a slightly trembling hairpin with a faint rose red flower on her head. A trace of malice flashed in her eyes.

Wei Yuewu naturally saw her gaze and sneered in her heart. Wei Qiufu was truly unrepentant. She wouldn't let go of any chance to frame her. For the sake of her own ascension to a higher place, she not only stepped on other people, but also viciously put them in deathtraps. Wei Yan and Wei Qiufu were really birds of the same feather.

As expected, all the young ladies present were wearing palace flowers, which were either bright red or rose red. The few young ladies beside the Third Princess and Fourth Princess were all wearing rose red palace flowers. Wei Yuewu had already inquired about the meaning behind this.

It was said that the Crown Prince was coming of age and the Internal Affairs Department had begun the official procedure to choose a Crown Princess and concubines for him. This time, one Crown Princess, two senior concubines, and two junior concubines would be chosen out of the young ladies attending the banquet for the Crown Prince. The Palace had already registered all eligible aristocratic young ladies as the candidates.

The empress conferred various palace flowers to the candidates, who would be invited to banquets, at which the Crown Prince made his choice.

The ones who wore bright red palace flowers were candidates for the Crown Princess.

Those who wore rose red palace flowers were candidates for the senior and junior concubines.

After the Crown Prince made his choice, the empress would finally decide on the most suitable candidate. This was the information Yan Feng had obtained at Wei Yuewu's instruction.

This was also known by most of the young aristocratic ladies attending the banquet. However, there was another message hidden behind it...

Why did the heirs-apparent of the four major dukedoms appear here?

Regarding the selection of Crown Princess and concubines for the Crown Prince, how could the two princesses make the decision for the Crown Prince? At the very least, this matter should be presided over by an imperial concubine serving His Majesty rather than by two princesses...

Of course, the meaning behind this was more than choosing a Crown Princess, which was the message on the surface known by everyone.

And there was another thing: Wei Yuewu clearly knew that it was impossible for her to have a palace flower!

From the very beginning, Wei Yuewu was able to attend this banquet because Wei Qiufu obtained an additional invitation for her from the Third Princess. However, the number of palace flowers had long been determined, especially those bright red ones, and candidates from the same mansion could not be conferred two bright red palace flowers. Since a bright red palace flower had been conferred to Wei Qiufu who represented the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, it was impossible for Wei Yuewu to be conferred another bright red palace flower.

Her status was actually higher than Wei Qiufu's, so it was impossible to confer a rose red palace flower to her.

Wei Yuewu suddenly had an idea. Since Wei Qiufu was so obsessed with giving others rose red palace flowers, what kind of scene would it be when she found out that she herself was wearing a rose red palace flower? It was truly worth expecting. Visit [vlssitn0\(v\)el/b\(i\)\(n\).com](http://www.vlssitn0(v)el/b(i)(n).com) for the best novel reading experience

"What Sixth Younger Sister said sounds reasonable." Wei Qiufu responded evasively to Wei Yuewu's words and turned to Zhao Ruo'e, who was on the other side. She covered the corner of her lips with a handkerchief and asked curiously, "Fourth Miss Zhao, I heard that you've been a study companion for the Third Princess these days. May I know how the experience of studying in the Palace differs from that of studying in the boudoir?"

“There is no doubt that studying in the Palace is different from studying elsewhere. The two princesses are both knowledgeable, so we, as their study companions, have learned a lot from them.” Zhao Ruo’e raised her eyelids and made a lukewarm response.

Because of the Third Princess, she was usually on good terms with Wei Qiufu, and Wei Qiufu had never been treated by her so indifferently.

However, when she thought of the fact that this Fourth Miss Zhao had found her palace flower missing and that she must be so anxious that she was like an ant on a hot pot, she understood that it was normal for Fourth Miss Zhao to ignore her. She couldn’t help but smile in her heart. It was her desire to see Fourth Miss Zhao being anxious; the more anxious the better!

“I didn’t expect that you could learn so much from the two princesses. Fourth Miss Zhao is indeed the favorite person of the Third Princess.” Wei Qiufu leaned over as she spoke, as if she had something to say to Zhao Ruo’e.

As she leaned over, her head shook a bit too much, and the bright red palace flower stuck to the side of her head suddenly shook twice before falling on the table in front of Zhao Ruo’e.

Wei Yuewu’s lips curled into a mocking smile. On such an occasion, every young lady was wearing the palace flower on their head tightly in case the palace flower might fall off.

“Fourth Miss Wei, your palace flower has fallen off!” On the other side of Zhao Ruo’e was another study companion of the Third Princess. She was attracted by their conversation and reminded Wei Qiufu.

“Ouch, I’m really sorry!” Wei Qiufu’s face turned slightly red as she picked up the palace flower. She looked around and said embarrassedly.

The young lady said enthusiastically, “Never mind. Fourth Miss Wei, is it alright if I help you wear the palace flower?” She pushed her chair away and stood up. Then, she bypassed Zhao Ruo’e and walked to Wei Qiufu.

Wei Qiufu handed the palace flower in her hand to Miss Qin and said, "Thank you, Miss Qin, for taking the trouble!"

Miss Qin took the palace flower and carefully pinned it on Wei Qiufu's head. She said with envy and courtesy, "It is my pleasure to help. Fourth Miss Wei's palace flower is really beautiful!"

Wei Qiufu was a favorite with the Third Princess, whereas the several of them were merely study companions. Of course, they had to curry favor with her. Moreover, Wei Qiufu was wearing a bright red palace flower while they were all wearing rose red ones. The meaning behind this was enough to make this Miss Qin with an insignificant family background eager to please Wei Qiufu.

"Your palace flowers are also very beautiful!" As Wei Qiufu said this, she looked at Zhao Ruo'e shyly.

By now, Miss Qin had helped Wei Qiufu put on the palace flower. She turned her head and immediately cried out in surprise, "Miss Zhao, where is your palace flower?"

Apparently, Zhao Ruo'e wasn't wear a palace flower on her head.

The several of them had each received a palace flower together in front of the Third Princess. Zhao Ruo'e should also have a rose red palace flower, but she wasn't wear it on her head now.

Wei Yuewu had been watching Wei Qiufu's performance from the side. Looking at Wei Qiufu's constantly flickering eyes, she knew that Wei Qiufu was quietly directing everyone's gaze towards the palace flower. There was a slight chill in Wei Yuewu's eyes, and she simply used her hand to support her head and turned to look at Wei Qiufu's performance with interest.

She would like to see if Wei Qiufu could withstand it a while later!

"Miss Zhao, where is your palace flower?" Wei Qiufu also had a surprised expression as she covered the corners of her lips with her handkerchief and asked in an affected manner.

The two of them asked the same question one after another, immediately alarming the surrounding young ladies, who turned their gazes to Zhao Ruo'e's beautiful hair.

“No palace flower?”

“How did she dare not to wear it?”

“Why isn’t she wearing her palace flower? Trying to disobey the empress?”...

The low murmur made Zhao Ruo’e so ashamed that her face twitched. She barely suppressed the desire to jump up and slap Wei Qiufu in the face. However, she knew that neither her status or background was enough to challenge Wei Qiufu when she had no any evidence against Wei Qiufu. She could only clench her teeth secretly.

“I... I lost my palace flower and couldn’t find it.” After her face twitched slightly, Zhao Ruo’e calmed down. Her gaze swept towards Wei Yuewu, who was watching a good show with her sleeves retracted and her cheeks resting on her chin. She was secretly vigilant in her heart.

Everything that happened that day and the subsequent events showed this Sixth Miss Wei was obviously not easy to deal with. The eldest young lady of the Yang Family had set a good example for her.

“Lost? What... what are you planning to do?” Wei Qiufu lowered her voice and said worriedly for her.

Although she had deliberately lowered her voice, the several ladies beside her were all keeping an eye on the two of them, so how could they not hear Wei Qiufu’s words?

“I have no idea either.” Zhao Ruo’e shook her head in frustration, her eyes immediately filled with tears, as if she was wronged.

Wei Yuewu nodded her head repeatedly. As expected, this Fourth Miss Zhao was not simple. Although she looked impetuous and had once shown such deep hostility towards Wei Yuewu, now she looked exactly like a weak and pitiful lady. Apparently, she was also a master of playacting comparable to Wei Qiufu.

Of course, the better Zhao Ruo’e was at acting, the better the result would be for Wei Yuewu...

“Could it be stolen?” Seeing that Zhao Ruo’e’s eyes were immediately red, others couldn’t help but feel pity for her, and even Chu Fangnan and Qi Yunhao were looking at her.

The two heirs-apparent were seated far away and the sound of speaking here was low. But when they saw Miss Zhao’s wronged expression with tears in her eyes, they immediately felt pity for her.

As a result, they focused their attention on this group of ladies.

After a quick glance, they immediately turned their attention to Wei Yuewu. Today, Wei Yuewu was wearing a light white coat and a water-blue dress. On the either corners of the dress were embroidered a few slender lotus flowers and lotus leaves, making her look quite elegant and calm.

Although she didn’t use any face powder and looked a bit too pale and the color of her lips was too faint, she still looked stunning. When her long eyelids flapped, people’s attention was immediately attracted by her beauty.

This was not the first time Chu Fangnan and Qi Yunhao had seen Wei Yuewu, but they had never watched her so closely before. When they calmed down, they were shocked to find that she was actually such a stunning beauty and their gaze immediately fell on Wei Yuewu’s face.

Wei Yuewu’s attention was now completely focused on Wei Qiufu, and she didn’t notice the reaction from the other side.

Yan Huaijing calmly glanced at Wei Yuewu, who was seated opposite him. He lazily picked up the wine cup beside his hand and raised it to Chu Fangnan and Qi Yunhao.

The two of them weren’t paying attention to Yan Huaijing at the moment. After they were gently pulled by their own people, they turned around, only to find Yan Huaijing had drunk all the wine in his cup and placed the cup heavily on the table. His expression was gloomy.

Without saying anything, Qi Yunhao and Chu Fangnan already knew what to do. They raised the wine cup in their hands towards Yan Huaijing and drank up in one gulp. Then, they picked up another cup, drank up in one gulp, and then raised another cup...

They drank three cups in a row as an apology for their disrespect a moment ago.

Seeing the two of them drink three cups of wine each, Yan Huaijing's expression turned slightly normal and he revealed a smile like that of an exiled immortal. He opened his thin lips and asked gently, "So what do you think of it?"

Chapter 144 – Farce, Who Stole Whose Palace Flower?

He was asking the other three heirs-apparent, including Lu Yeli. Although his handsome eyes did not look at anyone, the other three heirs-apparent readily took Yan Huaijing's hint. Their expressions became solemn as they looked at the Third Princess and the Fourth Princess who were sitting beside the Crown Prince. Their brows wrinkled slightly as they each made their own calculation.

"I saw Heir-apparent of Yan and the Third Princess accompanying the Crown Prince on that day." Lu Yeli raised his eyebrows and said, apparently referring to something.

"Isn't Heir-apparent of Lu also acquainted with the Fourth Princess? Besides, Heir-apparent of Chu was also there. I was just keeping the Crown Prince company. Heir-apparent of Qi was the one who kept the Third Princess company and they happened to meet us." Yan Huaijing stretched out his slender fingers and flicked the corner of his clothes smilingly.

Everyone turned their gaze towards Qi Yunhao. Seeing that the other three heirs-apparent were all looking at him, Qi Yunhao's heart panicked. He hurriedly explained with a smile, "Actually, there was nothing. It was just a coincidence, just a coincidence!"

Of course, he couldn't say that he had specifically been there to meet the Third Princess by chance, so he naturally changed the topic and said to Lu Yeli, "Heir-apparent of Lu, next time you take the Fourth Princess out on a walk, don't go to places where there are few people. We've only just arrived in the capital, who knows when another assassin will jump out? Although we don't have to worry about assassinations, it would be bad if noble ladies are scared, such as the Fourth Princess!"

A trace of malice flashed through Lu Yeli's eyes when he heard Qi Yunhao mentioning assassination, but his face did not reveal anything. He chuckled and said, "I will take care. Thank you for your concern, Heir-apparent of Qi. But I wonder if I have the chance to meet the Third Princess by chance."

The three of them were busy with verbal attack and defense, completely forgetting about Yan Huaijing, the initiator of the trouble. Yan Huaijing leisurely picked up a cup of tea and took a sip. With a faint smile, he calmly listened to the other three engaging each other verbally while still having time to look at Wei Yuewu.

At this moment, the situation over there had changed. It was no longer the gentle and polite scene in the beginning.

Wei Yuewu was surrounded by a crowd. Her small face showed both anger and grievance. Her small jade-like face was slightly red with anger. People could tell at a glance that she had been wronged. His long and narrow phoenix eyes narrowed slightly and a faint smile appeared at the bottom of his eyes. His slender fingers lightly tapped on the table and he leaned lazily against the chair!

Sure enough, when his little fox reached out its sharp claws to grab someone, it was the time that pleased him the most...

"Stolen? How could that happen? The young ladies attending the banquet here were all listed by the two princesses. Everyone should be wearing their own palace flower now. It's impossible for them to steal others' palace flowers. Besides, a stolen palace flower is of no use." Wei Qiufu shook her head and dismissed Miss Qin's words, but her gaze fell on the beautiful hair of each of the young ladies.

The other young ladies who heard this also subconsciously looked at others.

Each of them had a palace flower on their head, either bright red or rose red.

Indeed, stealing such a palace flower was actually of no use. Although palace flowers would also be conferred at the next banquet, the style of the palace flowers would definitely be somewhat different. For example, this banquet was named after the plum blossom, and therefore, the palace flower was in the shape of plum blossom. If the next banquet was named after another flower, the palace flower would definitely be different.

Ming Yan seemed to have thought of something. She pulled Wei Qiufu's sleeve and said in a low voice, "Miss, Sixth Young Lady..."

Wei Qiufu's attention was not on this side, so she made no response when her sleeve was pulled. Instead, she continued to look at the other young ladies.

"Miss, Sixth Young Lady's palace flower..." Ming Yan pulled her again, her voice slightly louder.

Such a loud voice was enough to be heard clearly by Miss Qin and the few other young ladies who had gathered to watch the fun.

All of a sudden, everyone turned to look at Wei Yuewu's hair.

A rose red plum blossom could be vaguely seen in her dense black hair, which made her hair even brighter and darker. But other than that, there was nothing unusual.

The young ladies looked at each other puzzledly, not understanding what Wei Qiufu's maid meant.

Ming Yan's pulling was finally noticed by Wei Qiufu, who looked at Ming Yan in displeasure and asked, "What's the matter?"

Ming Yan pinched the corner of her clothes and lowered her head uneasily. "Sixth... Sixth Young Lady's invitation was obtained only after you went to beg the Third Princess. It was a hasty invitation."

Sixth Miss Wei's invitation was obtained at the request of Fourth Miss Wei? The young ladies heard every word, but they still didn't understand the meaning behind it. After glancing at each other, one of the ladies' eyes suddenly lit up. She pointed at Wei Yuewu in shock and said, "Since Sixth Miss Wei wasn't on the Third Princess' original list, then this palace flower..."

Wei Yuewu watched Wei Qiufu setting fire on her, but she smiled coldly without saying anything. She knew that Wei Qiufu would definitely say something else to show her sisterhood.

Since Wei Qiufu was willing to act, she would let her enjoy her performance. She only hoped that Wei Qiufu's crying face wasn't too unsightly in a while!

She wanted to stage a play of sisterhood? The better she performed now, the more embarrassed she would be...

Last time, Wei Qiufu's design was very good. Everyone only focused their attention on Yang Yuyan. Even if they felt that Wei Qiufu should not misunderstand Wei Yuewu, it was nevertheless only a misunderstanding. Although there were a series of other things that made them suspicious, they were unable to come to a clear understanding without face-to-face confrontation of the involved parties.

"What nonsense are you talking about? Sixth Younger Sister was invited by the Third Princess. Of course she has a palace flower." Wei Qiufu seemed to have sensed that something was wrong as well, so she lowered her voice and scolded Ming Yan.

After hearing her reprimand, Ming Yan was tearful and she took out a handkerchief to wipe her tears, causing the other young ladies who hadn't noticed what was going on here to look at her.

The Third Princess and the Fourth Princess also stopped talking and looked over.

Seeing that Wei Qiufu was here, the Fourth Princess snorted coldly and a trace of coldness flashed in her eyes. Your favorite novels at [n/vel/bin\(.\)com](http://novelbin.com)

The Third Princess's expression was as gentle as ever. However, when she looked at Wei Yuewu, there was a bit of deep meaning in her eyes. Then, she quietly looked at Yan Huaijing, who was seated opposite her.

"Sixth Miss Wei, where did you get your palace flower?" One of the young ladies launched an attack. She walked over and pointed at the palace flower on Wei Yuewu's head, speaking in an overbearing manner.

"My palace flower?" Wei Yuewu stood up and asked in puzzlement. Then, she looked at Wei Qiufu and said, "Fourth Elder Sister... is there something wrong with my palace flower?"

"Miss Yu, my Sixth Younger Sister is wearing her own palace flower, of course. It's impossible for her to take someone else's. Don't talk nonsense." Wei Qiufu naturally stood up and stood in front of Wei

Yuewu. However, no matter how people interpreted her words, they couldn't be easily convinced. What was more, her slightly embarrassed expression further caused people to believe that there was something wrong with the palace flower on Wei Yuewu's head.

"Fourth Elder Sister" Wei Yuewu was confused, but before she could finish her sentence, Wei Qiufu interrupted, "Sixth Younger Sister, it's fine. Fourth Elder Sister will explain it to them for you."

"I..."

"Sixth Younger Sister, your matter is also my concern. You've just returned to the capital, and Eldest Uncle is not in the capital now. I will definitely help you no matter what happens." Wei Qiufu sounded more sincerely.

Sure enough, she was seizing the chance to remind everyone of the fact that Wei Yuewu had grown up in the countryside and wasn't well-bred.

Wei Yuewu sneered in her heart. Not only did Wei Qiufu deny her the chance to speak, she even tried to make others believe that she was an uneducated wild girl from the countryside.

Actually, as long as the Third Princess said one sentence, there would be no more doubt concerning whether she had a palace flower or not. Otherwise, even if Wei Qiufu talked her head off, no one would believe that she was innocent. And this should be the result Wei Qiufu wanted!

On the other hand, this Third Princess who had always been gentle in front of others actually turned around to talk to the Fourth Princess, pretending that she did not notice what was happening here. This was truly surprising and interesting...

"This palace flower is mine!" Wei Yuewu said grievously.

"You were not invited to the banquet in the first place. It was impossible for the Third Princess to prepare a palace flower for you. Furthermore, Fourth Young Lady already had a bright red palace flower on her head. How could there be a rose red flower on Sixth Miss Wei's head?" Another young lady realized something was wrong and could not help but ask.

It was not allowed for one mansion to have a candidate for the senior concubine if it already had a candidate for the Crown Princess!

This was something that all the aristocratic young ladies knew.

Therefore, each of the aristocratic young ladies represented one mansion. In other words, one mansion could have only one candidate. The case with Yang Yuyan and Yang Yurou was a different story. At first, Yang Yuyan gave up the chance, so the candidate from her family was Yang Yurou. But then she asked her father to ask for a special favor, and she got the chance to attend the banquet.

But even though that was the case, the two princesses had to think carefully before deciding which of the two young ladies from the Yang Mansion would get the palace flower.

However, considering the Yang Mansion's family background, it wasn't a big issue if they were given two rose red palace flowers.

The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, however, was a different case. As the undisputed legitimate first daughter of Marquis Hua Yang, Wei Yuewu's status was higher than the other first daughters of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

"Fourth Elder Sister, didn't you give me this palace flower?" Wei Yuewu's face was filled with grievance and anger. At this moment, she turned to Wei Qiufu, her small face flushing red with anger.

"I..." Wei Qiufu didn't say anything, but she looked dumbfounded, indicating that she actually didn't know anything.

"Sixth Young Lady, how can you question our Miss like that? It's really a pity that our Miss tried so hard to protect you. She even had the intention of taking the responsibility by herself. But you...how can you really pass the buck to our Miss?" Ming Yan stood up and said angrily with a face full of grievance for Wei Qiufu.

Wei Yuewu didn't want to degrade herself by talking back to a maid. She tilted her eyes to the side. Jin Ling immediately understood her meaning. She took a step forward and stood in front of Ming Yan.

She pointed at Ming Yan and bluntly responded, “You said your Miss wanted to protect our Miss? Coincidentally, wasn’t that palace flower sent by your Miss under the pretext of protecting our Miss?”

“How could our Miss get Miss Zhao’s palace flower?” Looking at the finger that was pointing at her face, Ming Yan couldn’t help but take a step back, and she immediately became less aggressive like a deflated balloon.

“If your Miss couldn’t get it, how could our Miss get it when she was still injured and lying on the bed?” Jin Ling retorted bluntly. After the two maids turned the play of sisterhood into a quarrel, the onlookers became more and more numerous.

However, the two princesses still didn’t seem to have heard anything. They chatted and laughed as if there was no one else present. They didn’t even shift their attention to what was going on in this direction.

“Is this... this...palace flower really the one lost by our Miss?” Zhao Ruo’e’s maid also squeezed over and asked.

“Sixth Miss Wei, why don’t you take down the palace flower on your head and let Miss Zhao have a look?” A young lady suggested.

“Sixth Miss Wei, if you didn’t steal it, then take it down and let us see. As for whether it was given to you by Fourth Miss Wei, I believe any young lady who has grown up in the capital knows that there are some things that cannot be stolen.” Another young lady said mockingly.

“Take it and have a look!” Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Qiufu who had an innocent expression and said coldly. She reached out and took down the palace flower, not even bothering to give another look at Wei Qiufu.

The maid of Fourth Miss Zhao came over and picked up the palace flower. Upon seeing it, she immediately became excited. “This... this is really our Miss’ palace flower. Look, there’s also our Miss’ mark. She dripped some wax oil on the palace flower for fear of losing it.”

Wei Qiufu looked as if she had suffered a blow and could hardly stand. If she weren't supported by Ming Yan, she would almost fall to the ground.

All of a sudden, various expressions appeared on the onlookers' faces.

A palace maid walked over and said, "The two princesses said that they did not confer a palace flower to Sixth Miss Wei."

After saying that, she simply stayed to watch the fun...

Chapter 145 – Humiliation, Removed The Palace Flower In Public

"Fourth Elder Sister, does this really have nothing to do with you?" At this time, Wei Yuewu had calmed down and she smiled softly. She then looked at Wei Qiufu and said, "I remember that I was still lying in bed. How could I get in touch with Miss Zhao?"

"Miss Zhao... did you really lose your palace flower?" Wei Qiufu was at a loss.

Her implication was clear: if Zhao Ruo'e lost her palace flower and Wei Yuewu picked it up, it wouldn't matter whether Wei Yuewu had any contact with Zhao Ruo'e or not. However, for Wei Yuewu, a young lady of an aristocratic family, doing such a thing was enough to make everyone despise her.

Moreover, the palace flowers were conferred by the Palace, so how could they be worn like a common headwear?

"I left it there and it just disappeared!" Zhao Ruo'e replied. She lowered her head slightly, and no one noticed the expression on her face.

"Sixth Younger Sister, did you... pick it up somewhere? Did you keep it because you didn't have time to return it to Miss Zhao, or because you couldn't find the owner?" Wei Qiufu sounded like she wanted to provide an explanation for Wei Yuewu. However, this explanation was so implausible to the ears of the other young ladies that their gaze towards Wei Yuewu also became more and more contemptuous.

They would like to see how this noble first daughter of Marquis Hua Yang justify herself!

Fourth Miss Wei defended her like this, yet she was still framing Fourth Miss Wei. She really had a low moral standing and was truly disgusting...

Wei Yuewu looked around Wei Qiufu's face and smiled. "Fourth Elder Sister, didn't you give me this palace flower? Did you forget it?"

"Sixth Younger Sister, you... why did you say those words?" Any person would become angry on such an occasion no matter how good-tempered they were. Wei Qiufu's face was filled with anger.

"If I didn't say those words, then what words could I say? Since the words of Fourth Elder Sister's maid and my maid don't count, let's ask Miss Zhao's maid, shall we?" Wei Yuewu pointed at the maid who had come to identify the palace flower, and the corners of her lips curled into a sneer.

In Zhao Ru'e's eyes, such a smile was a sign of confidence.

"Sixth Younger Sister, I originally wanted to save you some face, but since that's the case, alright... let us ask Miss Zhao!" Wei Qiufu looked as if she was dispirited by Wei Yuewu's ingratitude.

"Fourth Miss Zhao, what do you say? When and where did you lose your palace flower? Tell us and then I'll tell you what I and my maids were doing when you lost it. I was injured in the past several days, and my maids each had their own things to do. In fact, it's very easy to explain their whereabouts. They definitely wouldn't wander around in places where they were not supposed to be."

Wei Yuewu's eyes were clear and cold.

Wei Qiufu was stunned and she suddenly had a bad feeling in her heart.

Zhao Ru'e did not expect Wei Yuewu to ask such detailed questions. Her eyes sank deeper for a moment. If she made a slight mistake in her answer, she wouldn't be able to convince others.

“Miss Zhao, tell us, where did you lose your palace flower? Sixth Miss Wei is really strange. Fourth Miss Wei is so protective towards her, yet she still wants to blame Fourth Miss Wei for it.” That Miss Qin suddenly spoke from the side and she defended Wei Qiufu indignantly.

Wei Yuewu, on the other hand, was not in a hurry. Her gaze landed on Zhao Ruo’e who was still hesitant. “Miss Zhao, don’t waste the time. Tell us where you lost it and see if our words match up.”

“Miss Zhao...” Wei Qiufu turned to Zhao Ruo’e. Her mouth moved as if she had something to say.

Wei Yuewu interrupted her this time. “Miss Zhao, just say it. There are so many noble people here. If I really took your palace flower, they would definitely claim justice for you, but if...”

Wei Yuewu didn’t finish her sentence. However, how could Zhao Ruo’e fail to understand the meaning behind her words? Although Zhao Ruo’e’s father was also a marquis, he couldn’t compare with Marquis Hua Yang at all. Judging from the name Marquis Huai Qin, it was evident he had inherited the title as a reward from the court, making him totally different from Marquis Hua Yang, who had made great military exploits and was in charge of the army.

Therefore, although Zhao Ruo’e was also the first daughter of a marquis, she could only get a rose red palace flower.

She had looked down upon Wei Yuewu from the beginning. She heard that the daughter of Marquis Hua Yang had neither talent nor good look. But even if she was talented and good-looking, what difference did that make? She had been raised in her maternal grandparents’ house for so many years, and people knew she was a timid person at a glance. In big aristocratic families, it was absolutely impossible for timid persons to make their mark.

But now, this Sixth Miss Wei was clearly not the type of person she had imagined, so how would she dare to speak without careful thinking?

Under the pressure of Wei Yuewu’s words, she turned around and looked at Wei Qiufu, who was now having a panicked expression on her face. She secretly gritted her teeth and abruptly raised her head. “Sixth Miss Wei, this palace flower was not lost, it was taken away by someone.”

Her words instantly triggered a huge disturbance...

“Miss Zhao, could it be that Sixth Miss Wei’s people took it away?” Miss Qin was stunned and she continued to speak, looking at Wei Yuewu with contempt.

Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Qiufu whose expression had changed. She sneered in her heart. Wei Qiufu knew that Zhao Ruo’e would stand by her side and echo her words. She knew that Zhao Ruo’e did not like Wei Yuewu. It seemed that there was really nothing this Fourth Miss Wei couldn’t do. She even knew that Wei Yuewu and Zhao Ruo’e took the same carriage to attend the banquet in the Palace and had a conflict.

“It wasn’t taken away by Sixth Miss Wei.” Zhao Ruo’e shook her head decisively.

“Who else could it be except Sixth Miss Wei?” Another young lady asked.

Zhao Ruo’e said, “I don’t know either. The day I received the palace flower from the Third Princess, I met Fourth Miss Wei on my way back, and we talked to each other for some time.”

“We... we just talked to each other!” Wei Qiufu’s expression had already turned very unsightly.

“I know. We just had a talk. But in the evening, my maid discovered that my palace flower had disappeared with the box. But I didn’t meet anyone except you. I didn’t go out and stayed in the house after that.” Zhao Ruo’e thought of how terrified she had been these past few days and she was even afraid of seeing the Third Princess. She was so angry that her eyes turned red.

“But... that doesn’t mean I took your palace flower.” Wei Qiufu said anxiously.

“Surely not. But didn’t Sixth Miss Wei say you gave the palace flower to her? If you didn’t take my palace flower, how could you give it to Sixth Miss Wei?” Zhao Ruo’e glanced at Wei Qiufu and sneered. She was now ready to risk anything. It was Wei Qiufu who had forcefully dragged her into today’s matter.

The reason why she was in such a dilemma was clear: Wei Qiufu had taken her palace flower and given it to Wei Yuewu. She could only choose to confront one of them. After careful consideration, she chose to confront Wei Qiufu.

“Miss Zhao, why did you say that to Fourth Miss Wei? Don’t you know what kind of person she is? How could she do such a thing?” Miss Qin couldn’t help but jump out and accuse Zhao Ruo’e.

“Miss Qin, you said that my Fourth Elder Sister isn’t that kind of person. Did you mean that I, the daughter of Marquis Hua Yang, is that kind of person?” Wei Yuewu glanced at Miss Qin indifferently. Then she continued coldly, “Well, that means my father really failed to educate his own daughter properly!”

This sentence left Miss Qin and the other ladies who wanted to speak for Wei Qiufu speechless for a moment.

It was fine if they criticized Wei Yuewu, but powerful officials like Marquis Hua Yang were absolutely not someone that young unmarried women could despise. All the young ladies at the banquet were from aristocratic families. Of course, they knew how to discipline their mouth. For a moment, the scene became strangely quiet.

The Fourth Princess and the Third Princess had stopped talking at some unknown time.

Hearing Wei Yuewu’s words, the Fourth Princess snorted coldly. She wanted to stand up and speak, but the Third Princess pulled her sleeve and cast a meaningful look at her. The Fourth Princess had no choice but to sit down reluctantly.

The Fourth Princess wanted to give Wei Qiufu a further blow. She had long since found Wei Qiufu displeasing to her eyes.

“Fourth Miss Wei, Sixth Miss Wei, and Fourth Miss Zhao, come here.” The Third Princess frowned and looked at the heirs-apparent opposite her, who were also attracted by the escalating situation.

This matter happened at a banquet held by her and the Fourth Princess, and it would make people think that the two of them were incompetent!

What was more, it was such a critical moment!

Wei Qiufu, Wei Yuewu, and Fourth Miss Zhao walked over and bowed respectfully to the two princesses.

The Third Princess smiled and said, “Miss Zhao, actually your palace flower is still in my place. When you left that day, you didn’t take it with you. I had thought that some of you would come to me after failing to find their palace flower, but I didn’t expect that no one came to me after so many days.”

“As for the one in Sixth Miss Wei’s hand, it was conferred by me. I asked Fourth Miss Wei to take it away. However, I had wanted to give the bright red one to Sixth Miss Wei and the rose red one to Fourth Miss Wei. I didn’t know that Fourth Miss Wei misunderstood me and gave the rose red one to Sixth Miss Wei.”

The Fourth Princess interrupted from the side coldly.

Everyone’s face immediately had a strange expression when they heard this!

No matter how sophisticated Wei Qiufu was, her face was still alternating between green and red. She was extremely ashamed. She had just denied that she gave any palace flower to Wei Yuewu. But now, according to the Fourth Princess, she was instructed to take away two palace flowers, one bright red, the other rose red. However, she acted against the will of the Fourth Princess and gave Wei Yuewu the rose red one while keeping the bright red one for herself.

The meaning behind this was not only that she had lied, but also that she was now kicked out of the candidates for the Crown Princess. She immediately felt chillness in both her hands and feet.

“Fourth Miss Wei, I know what you’re thinking. However, your status isn’t comparable to that of Sixth Miss Wei. This has been the decision of Her Majesty.” The Third Princess comforted Wei Qiufu with a gentle smile.

“Your Highness, I...” Wei Qiufu’s hands and feet went cold. Her face was full of tears as she looked at Third Princess pleadingly. If this was truly the final decision, there wouldn’t be the slightest bit of hope for her to become the Crown Princess.

At this moment, Wei Yuewu’s face revealed a hint of mockery.

“Fourth Miss Wei, even if you were reluctant, you should not change the palace flower on your own. These palace flowers were conferred by Her Majesty when the Third Princess and I left the Palace. Therefore, each of the young ladies attending this banquet had a palace flower. Although Sixth Miss Wei wasn’t on the original list, Her Majesty also conferred a palace flower to her.”

The Fourth Princess said coldly. Then she urged, “Fourth Miss Wei, remove the palace flower from your head and return it to Sixth Miss Wei!”

“Your Highness, I...” Wei Qiufu looked both shameful and anxious. However, she had no choice but to stretch out her trembling hand to take the palace flower off her head. Her face was as red as blood. Removing the palace flower from her head in such a scene was truly an extremely humiliating thing to her.

Chapter 146 – Wow, She Played The Confession Of Love

This was simply a great humiliation to her, but she could do nothing but remove it. Her hand touched the palace flower on her head, and her eyes were gloomy. She slowly took it down, walked to Wei Yuewu, and slowly knelt down to apologize to her.

Although she still had a smile on her face, her smile was stiff and lifeless, completely lacking her usual brilliance. “Sixth Younger Sister, I... I took your palace flower by mistake!”

Wei Yuewu saw that Wei Qiufu had no choice but to make an apology to her. She tilted her body slightly to the side as a sign of modesty. She said indifferently, “Fourth Elder Sister, if you were wrong, just admit it. Why did you say that the palace flower was not given to me by you? That simply made me a suspect in the eyes of others!”

"You are right. I was wrong. Please forgive me, Sixth Younger Sister. After returning home, I will ask grandmother to punish me." Wei Qiufu almost couldn't hide the hatred in her eyes and she lowered her head even more.

"Fourth Elder Sister, please stand up. Don't worry, I don't really blame you!" Wei Yuewu said coldly.

Sure enough, she didn't blame her. How would she blame her! To the vicious Wei Qiufu, this was by no means the result.

That was good. She would like to see how Wei Qiufu, who had been removed from the list of candidates for the Crown Princess, would be able to attract the attention and favor of the Crown Prince Wen Tianyao. Her eyes swept across the qin that Ming Yan had placed on the side.

It seemed that this qin was really going to play a role very soon!

"The Crown Prince, the Third Prince, and the Fourth Prince have arrived!" The voice of a eunuch was heard from afar. All the onlookers immediately returned to their seats, lowered their heads and stood still.

Upon hearing the sound of footsteps, everyone knelt in unison. "Greetings, Your Highnesses!"

"As you were!" Wen Tianyao slowly walked over. The Fourth Prince born by Zhaoyi Tu followed respectfully one step behind him. On the other side of the Crown Prince, there was another young man walking elegantly.

Wei Yuewu stood up with the crowd and subconsciously raised her head. She was met by a pair of excited eyes of that young man whom she didn't know. However, seeing that he was standing behind the Crown Prince and was even closer to the Crown Prince than the Fourth Prince, she already had an answer. This should be the mysterious Third Prince!

However, she didn't understand why he was so excited at the sight of her.

Her long eyelids flickered and she slowly lowered her head.

Because of the sudden appearance of the Third Prince, another chair was placed beside the Crown Prince. After greeting to each other, everyone sat down again.

“Your Highness, shall we begin now?” The Third Princess covered her nose with her handkerchief and asked Wen Tianyao with a delicate smile.

“Take your seats, and let’s begin!” Wen Tianyao smiled and nodded.

The Third Princess had already ordered palace maids to draw the sequence codes.

Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiufu also sat down again. However, in front of Wei Yuewu was a bright red palace flower, and in front of Wei Qiufu was that rose red palace flower. Neither of the two palace flowers was worn, indicating that Wei Qiufu had lost in the previous incident.

Wei Qiufu’s hands had kept trembling. At this moment, her face was pale as she reached out to draw a lot. Her cold gaze fell on Wei Yuewu’s face, and then she slowly retracted it.

She had planned for many years just for the position of the Crown Princess. She never thought that she would lose to Wei Yuewu. She hated Wei Yuewu so much that she even felt like taking revenge on her right now. However, when she withdrew her gaze and met another cold gaze, she regained her senses.

She clenched her fists tightly. It wasn’t a hopeless situation yet. She still had a chance!

When she became the Crown Princess, she would definitely step Wei Yuewu into the mud and make her roll and cry in hell forever...

Wei Yuewu didn’t seem to see Wei Qiufu’s cold gaze. She casually drew a lot and handed it to Jin Ling beside her without looking at the lot.

“Miss, it’s number ten, a perfect sequence!” Jin Ling whispered to Wei Yuewu with a smile. She also told the number to the palace maid who was responsible for registration. After the palace maid recorded the number, she walked towards the next young lady.

"What does the sequence matter?" Wei Yuewu smiled.

"Miss, you are wearing a bright red palace flower now. Your sequence has a lot to do with it!" Jin Ling whispered. Her voice was very low, but it was loud enough for Wei Qiufu who was sitting beside them to hear. The calmness which she had managed to put on her face almost disappeared when she heard Jin Ling's words. Her hands tightly twisted the corners of her skirt, and she almost wanted to stretch out to disfigure Wei Yuewu by scratching her beautiful smile.

The previous humiliation seemed to have appeared again.

The contemptuous and mocking gazes of the young ladies, as well as their alienation from her showed how much they despised her now. She could even sense that she could no longer be respected by the young ladies of the aristocratic families from now on. All she would receive was disdain and humiliation.

Grandmother might even lock her up.

No, she couldn't...

She must enter the Crown Prince's Mansion, and she had to let the Crown Prince choose her. Otherwise, after returning, she would definitely suffer. Grandmother would definitely not spare her.

Moreover, there was also another reason that she must enter the Crown Prince's Mansion...

Although Wei Yuewu chatted with Jin Ling, she had been paying attention to Wei Qiufu's movements. She saw Wei Qiufu slowly calmed down from her embarrassment, showed a bit of determination and looked at the ancient qin. She knew that Wei Qiufu had made her decision. A faint cold smile appeared on her lips silently.

Since Wei Qiufu wanted the Crown Prince's favor, then she would send her to the Crown Prince's Mansion, but not as the Crown Princess. Then what about as a senior or junior concubine? Well, she probably didn't deserve such an identity!

Wei Yuewu was sure that if Wei Qiufu became a senior or junior concubine of the Crown Prince, the first person Wei Qiufu dealt with would be her. Considering the status of Crown Prince Wen Tianyao, even his concubine could cause insurmountable trouble for her.

Therefore, Wei Qiufu's status could actually be lower...

She was determined to provoke her into playing the Confession of Love! With Yan Huaijing's scheming and cunning character, how could his aim be as simple as merely having Wei Qiufu play the Confession of Love?

After the palace maids registered the sequences of every young ladies, they returned and stood beside the Third Princess. The Third Princess smiled and waved at them as a signal for them to show the result to the Fourth Princess.

The Fourth Princess only took a glance and said impatiently, "Since the royal brothers are all here, let's begin!"

Crown Prince Wen Tianyao turned to Yan Huaijing and the other heirs-apparent and smiled politely, "Shall we begin now?"

"It's all up to Your Highness!" Yan Huaijing smiled warmly. The other heirs-apparent behind him made the same response, so the banquet officially began.

Two rows of palace maids dressed in colorful clothes entered in an orderly manner. Each of them carried plates containing melon and fruit in their hands. As they placed plates on the tables one by one, the first young lady over there had already gone up to perform.

This was a young lady wearing in a light green dress. She had a bright red palace flower on her head, indicating her dignified identity as a candidate for the Crown Princess.

She performed a lotus dance, which was quite popular in the capital recently and was loved by young ladies of aristocratic families.

The difficult part of the dance was that she had to spin several circles in a row. As she was spinning, her dress looked like lotus leaves, unfolding layer upon layer. It was extremely beautiful.

The young lady danced well, her dress fluttered beautifully like layers of lotus leaves dancing in the breeze. What was more, her pretty face added extra luster to her performance. At the end of the dance, she bowed towards Wen Tianyao from afar, and Wei Yuewu noticed with her sharp eyes a red lot landing on the tray carried by a eunuch beside Wen Tianyao.

The two eunuchs each held a tray in their hands. On the bright red tray, there was a lot. On the rose red tray, there was nothing.

Wei Yuewu's eyes darkened. After thinking for a while, she understood that this should be used by Wen Tianyao to make his choice. Judging by the way he slightly nodded, the lot in the tray should represent the candidate he had chosen on the spot.

"Miss!" Jin Ling suddenly became nervous. She pulled Wei Yuewu's sleeve and leaned her head over. Her voice was so low that it could be heard by only the two of them.

"Miss, the Crown Prince is really choosing brides!"

Her words were not only telling the truth, but also reminding Wei Yuewu of something. Wei Yuewu understood in her heart and nodded slightly. A hint of deep thought flashed in the corner of her eyes as she replied in a low voice, "I'm injured! Besides, she is also among the candidates."

She glanced sideways at Wei Qiufu with a smile on her lips.

She had never wanted to enter the Crown Prince's Mansion, but since Wei Qiufu was in front, it was impossible for her to be chosen. She had seen Wei Qiufu's sequence, which was number seven. She was scheduled to perform before her, and that was enough!

Moreover, the rose red palace flower actually had another meaning. But regardless of what this meaning was, at least on the surface, it designated a candidate senior or junior concubine for Wen Tianyao.

Wei Yuewu's words reminded Jin Ling, who breathed a sigh of relief. She retreated behind Wei Yuewu and stood still again.

Their brief interaction did not affect Wei Qiufu. At this time, her attention was completely attracted to the young lady performing on the stage, so she completely ignored Wei Yuewu.

Several young ladies had finished performing. Some had their lots cast away, some retained. However, only a few were retained. When it was Wei Qiufu's turn, there were two bright red ones on the tray, but none of the rose red ones was retained.

The young lady who had just finished performing wore a bright red palace flower, and her performance was clearly more outstanding than the first candidate. However, she was not selected. Even Wei Qiufu started to panic at this moment.

Could it be that the Crown Prince did not plan to choose any rose red palace flower today?

After the young lady before Wei Qiufu finished her performance, a palace maid came to invite Wei Qiufu over. Wei Qiufu looked at Wei Yuewu who had a leisurely expression on her face. Gritting her teeth, she picked up the qin and walked towards the center of the hall. No matter what, she must make an outstanding performance to impress the Crown Prince. Although the previous scheme was unsuccessful, it at least made the Crown Prince remember her.

She believed that with her talent, she would definitely amaze the Crown Prince.

As soon as the sound of qin was heard, everyone nodded their head. This Fourth Young Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang indeed had a well-deserved reputation. Without years of practice and talent, it would be impossible to play the qin so beautifully.

But then, someone started to notice something unusual and they whispered. At first, it was nothing, but gradually, more and more people realized it.

"Confession of Love, she's actually playing Confession of Love?"

“Crazy. Fourth Miss Wei has really gone mad. She actually played Confession of Love in front of the Crown Prince. Who does she think she is?”

“She really has no sense of shame. Is this the behavior of a young lady from a noble family? Which family’s daughter would do such an indecent thing?”

“This is really Confession of Love, and it’s the long-lost edition of Confession of Love. What does she want?” ...

This was simply something that had never been done by any normal young aristocratic lady before. Although everyone knew that the Crown Prince was choosing brides at the banquet, on the surface, at least the young ladies pretended that they were performing for the Crown Prince.

How could she lift this veil in order to excel? This was too embarrassing for all the young ladies of the aristocratic families present.

The Third Princess’s expression also became gloomy.

“Eldest Brother, such a woman is really against the moral principles required for unmarried ladies!” The Fourth Princess sneered impatiently and suggested to Wen Tianyao, who was seated high up, “Just cast away the lot!”

Wen Tianyao raised his eyes but did not say anything. He then closed his eyes slightly and listened to the music carefully. He actually ignored the Fourth Princess’s suggestion.

He had never listened to such a qin tune before, but right now he was unsure about one thing. Was she the person he had been looking for?

The Third Princess thought about Wen Tianyao’s intention carefully. Then, she smiled calmly and suggested, “Eldest Brother, what do you think of Fourth Miss Wei? She was originally a candidate for the Crown Princess, but because of an incident involving Sixth Miss Wei, she is now a candidate for the senior or junior concubine. If Eldest Brother doesn’t like her, she can actually be sent out.”

“Just retain her lot!” Wen Tianyao opened his eyes and looked at Wei Qiufu expressionlessly who was performing. He took the lot on which Wei Qiufu’s name was written and threw it onto the rose red plate.

The first rose red lot fell under everyone’s gaze...

Chapter 147 – Justice That Was Claimed For Wei Qiufu

At the same time, Wei Qiufu also felt relieved. Her fingers were moving like drifting clouds and flowing water. The corners of her eyes were slightly tilted at Wei Yuewu with some hatred and provocation. So what if she was the first daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang? Wei Yuewu had no option except to make way for her. With her strength, she would easily secure the position as a senior or junior concubine of the Crown Prince.

When her position was finalized, she would step on Wei Yuewu fiercely, sending her to the most despicable place!

Because of what happened today, she hated Wei Yuewu to the extreme.

Wei Yuewu saw everything, and she revealed a faint smile. This smile happened to be seen by Mo Huating, whose eyes immediately darkened as he pressed his hands on the table and almost wanted to stand up.

Wei Yuewu stood up while Wei Qiufu stared at her in a panic. She bowed to Wen Tianyao who was seated high up and said with a tender voice, “Your Highness, I have something to say!”

“What is it?” Wen Tianyao landed his gaze on Wei Yuewu as he asked gently.

“Your Highness, I heard that since ancient times, none of the women who played Confession of Love wanted to be a concubine!” Wei Yuewu put on an appropriate smile and said aloud.

Upon hearing her words, Wei Qiufu’s hands trembled and made an incorrect movement on the strings of the qin, which immediately produced an unpleasant sound.

Everyone was shocked. They all looked at Wei Yuewu in astonishment, unable to utter a single word because of her boldness.

“Sixth Miss Wei, what did you say?” The Fourth Princess was the first to react, and then she exploded with anger. Wei Yuewu actually dared to ask for the position of Crown Princess for Wei Qiufu, so how could she not be shocked?

“Fourth Princess, this Confession of Love played by my Fourth Elder Sister was the earliest edition. She spent a lot of effort to find the only copy in the world. Besides, the qin used by her was the one that was used to perform Confession of Love in ancient times. With such a precious qin and such a unique edition, is my Fourth Elder Sister only seeking the position of a concubine?”

Wei Yuewu said calmly.

“How dare you...” The Fourth Princess slapped her hand heavily on the table and stood up.

“Fourth Younger Sister, sit down first!” Wen Tianyao calmed down and looked at Wei Yuewu meaningfully.

The Third Princess stretched out her hand and pulled the Fourth Princess, who sat down reluctantly and glared at Wei Qiufu who was still performing. In her opinion, Wei Yuewu had dared to jump out and speak like this because of Wei Qiufu’s instruction.

This Sixth Miss Wei was really a fool. Wei Qiufu had hurt her like this, yet she actually spoke up for Wei Qiufu. Nowhere in the world could a stupider person be found.

“Sixth Young Lady, do you think that I should grant Fourth Young Lady the position of Crown Princess just because she played Confession of Love for me?” Wen Tianyao asked expressionlessly, but the sharpness in his eyes made people feel that he was not happy at all.

“Your Highness, the Confession of Love performed by my Fourth Elder Sister is the real edition, which has long since been lost. Fourth Elder Sister must have spent a lot of effort to practice it. If she could win

Your Highness' favor, then her effort wouldn't be in vain." Wei Yuewu lowered her head and replied respectfully.

"The ancient piece Confession of Love used to fascinate the world. Today, it was performed by such a beautiful lady. Your Highness, perhaps you should really consider giving Fourth Miss Wei a chance."

A gentle and elegant voice came from the side. Everyone looked sideways and saw that heir-apparent who looked like an exiled immortal. His handsome face carried a smile as he interrupted. Seeing his burning handsome eyes sweeping over, a few young ladies immediately blushed and lowered their heads in embarrassment while grabbing handkerchiefs tightly in their hands.

"So Heir-apparent of Yan also thinks it's feasible?" Wen Tianyao turned to Yan Huaijing.

Yan Huaijing seemed to feel a little embarrassed and wiped his nose, "Actually, that's not necessarily the case!"

"May I know the meaning of Heir-apparent of Yan?" Wen Tianyao became more and more modest, as if he was really asking Yan Huaijing for advice.

"Your Highness can count this Fourth Miss Wei as a bright red candidate for the time being. After all, Confession of Love is a nice story, and Her Majesty should be able to appreciate her effort. Moreover, with Fourth Miss Wei's talent and appearance, she deserves such an honor." Yan Huaijing smiled, as if he was just speaking casually.

But how could the Crown Prince believe that Yan Huaijing was really just speaking "casually"?

"Your Highness, this Fourth Miss Wei is not bad." Qi Yunhao couldn't help but interrupt.

"Indeed. She has both courage and resolution. She actually dared to play the real Confession of Love that has long been lost for the Crown Prince in front of so many people. It can really be considered a nice story." Chu Fangnan also offered his opinion.

However, although the two of them sounded quite warm-hearted, anyone could tell that they simply wanted to watch the fun. They seemed anxious to see the situation escalating and waved the fans in their hands vigorously, even though it was still winter.

Nobody would expect that there were actually so many people standing up to speak up for her. Wei Qiufu, who was playing the qin on the stage, suddenly felt confidence surging in her heart, and she looked at Wen Tianyao more expectantly.

“Your Heirs-apparent, if you meet such a woman in your own fief, what would you do?” Wen Tianyao asked nonchalantly.

“Well...” Qi Yunhao found it hard to keep fanning.

Wei Qiufu’s heart skipped a beat as she exerted some strength on her hand that was playing the qin. Blood immediately spilled out of her fingers, but she didn’t notice it at all. She looked at Wen Tianyao in panic. She realized that she was out of luck and the secret joy in her heart a moment ago had completely disappeared.

Not to mention the dignified Crown Prince, even the heir-apparent of a vassal dukedom would not marry such a woman when encountering such a thing. To any man, to be forced into marriage by a woman, especially by a woman who was inferior to him, this was a great humiliation no matter what. How could it be a nice story?

The dignity of the royal family could never be threatened!

Besides, there were also several heirs-apparent who were waiting to watch the fun. Therefore, even though Wen Tianyao still had a lot of questions to ask Wei Qiufu, he would definitely not let her easily get away with it in this situation.

Otherwise, what a joke it would be if other ladies played Confession of Love for the Crown Prince and then begged to be the Crown Princess!

“Someone, put Fourth Miss Wei’s lot away!” Wen Tianyao’s expression turned cold as he instructed.

“Yes!” The eunuch who was holding the rose red tray reached out to pick up the rose red lot that had just been dropped into the tray and threw it directly into his sleeve.

Wen Tianyao stood up with a sway of his sleeve and glared at Wei Yuewu. “Sixth Miss Wei, you are seriously injured and you are just an ignorant unmarried lady, but you don’t have to stay here till the end of the banquet.”

At this moment, Wei Yuewu had already knelt down, as if she knew that she had realized her slip of the tongue.

“Fourth Miss Wei, you are really ambitious!” Wen Tianyao turned to Wei Qiufu who was standing there with a pale face and said coldly. A furious expression appeared on his face.

“Your Highness, I wasn’t!” How could Wei Qiufu sit still after being scolded by Wen Tianyao! Without caring about her bleeding fingers, she suddenly knelt down and said in a somewhat sorrowful voice.

“I heard that you secretly changed your Six Younger Sister’s palace flower, and now you wanted to seek popularity with a shocking performance. Fourth Young Lady, your thoughts are not hard to guess.” Wen Tianyao said coldly, and a trace of disgust appeared in his eyes. There were quite a few such women in the Palace who were bent on climbing up the ladder and would do anything to achieve their goals.

Thinking back to the incident in which Wei Yuewu was stabbed, he was now quite sure it was the work of this Fourth Miss Wei. Such a person really made him unhappy. If it wasn’t for that doubt in his mind, he would have already had Wei Qiufu driven down the mountain in the same way Yang Yuyan was dealt with that day.

“Someone, send Fourth Miss Wei back to her courtyard!” The Crown Prince said sternly.

“Your Highness, my Fourth Elder Sister is not feeling well, I am willing to leave now and keep her company!” Wei Yuewu hurriedly said, but her words were extremely appropriate, which made people kind of believe Wei Qiufu lost her composure because she wasn’t feeling well. Such an excuse saved the face of everyone.

The Crown Prince looked at Wei Yuewu meaningfully and slowly nodded!

As a result, Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiufu left the banquet together. However, Wei Yuewu was calm and composed, whereas Wei Qiufu's footsteps were extremely weak and she was almost unable to stand. Ming Yan who was supporting her was no better. She staggered a few times and almost caused Wei Qiufu to fall.

"Sixth Younger Sister, why?" After walking out of the banquet hall, Wei Qiufu's dazed expression suddenly disappeared and her face lit up again. She stopped under a plum tree and called out to Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu stood still and turned to look at Wei Qiufu. She realized that except for the pale expression, Wei Qiufu had calmed down. A faint light flashed in her eyes. As expected, Wei Qiufu was not easy to deal with and she must take care. She smiled at her and said, "What why? I don't understand!"

"Sixth Younger Sister, since you didn't intend to become the Crown Princess, why bother competing with me?" Wei Qiufu's gaze landed on Wei Yuewu's face, not letting go of any of the changes in her expression.

Wei Yuewu tilted her head and smiled, but she did not say anything. Her footsteps moved slightly. Wei Qiufu thought for a moment and quickly followed.

The two maids followed them two steps away. They looked at each other vigilantly but did not say anything.

In the eyes of outsiders, the two of them were like a pair of ordinary good sisters, who were having a walk in the plum forest. Of course, this was because they didn't hear their conversation that was filled with the smoke of gunpowder.

After walking for a while, Wei Yuewu stood still and reached out to grab a branch blocking her path. Immediately, the plum blossom that stretched out on the branch was broken off by her.

"So what do you have to say?" Holding the broken plum blossom, Wei Yuewu glanced sideways at Wei Qiufu, a cold smile flashing through her eyes.

“You have no intention of becoming the Crown Princess. Otherwise, you wouldn’t be out with me at this time. Could it be that you want to follow the princess and be married to a dukedom? However, you had better understand that there are a thousand ways for both the Third Princess and the Fourth Princess to reject your company!”

Wei Qiufu sized Wei Yuewu up and down and suddenly said with extreme confidence, “I heard that you have a close relationship with the Heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan. Indeed, any young lady would desire to marry a man like him, even if they can only be a part of the dowry as a concubine. However, do you believe that if I want to stop you, you will never be able to marry to the State of Yan along with the princess?”

When Wei Qiufu said this, her face was filled with pride. She held her head high, and her face was filled with contempt.

Wei Yuewu chuckled with contempt. At this point, Wei Qiufu still wanted to use this to threaten her. However, she was only bluffing, and looked outwardly strong but inwardly weak.

“Since that is the case, then you just try being the plum branch that blocked my way!” Wei Yuewu shook the plum branch in her hand that had just been broken by her. After uttering those words lazily, she turned around and continued walking forward without any further comment.

However, she was secretly shocked by Wei Qiufu’s words. Indeed, the Imperial Court was determined to choose two heirs-apparent for the two princesses.

When a dukedom was too powerful for the central court, alliance through marriage was the best method. What shocked her was that daughters from the aristocratic families would be selected to accompany the princesses as a part of their dowries. Those rose red palace flowers represented not only the Crown Prince’s options, but also those of other heirs-apparent.

That was why Wen Tianyao hadn’t chosen Wei Qiufu until now! She couldn’t help but frown slightly!

Wei Qiufu didn’t expect that Wei Yuewu didn’t buy her words at all. What was more, she even compared her to the plum branch and broke it to show her contempt. She felt a panic, took a few steps forward and grabbed Wei Yuewu’s sleeve, saying, “Wei Yuewu, what exactly do you want?”

If she had known that Wei Yuewu was so difficult to deal with, she should have added more wood to the fire at that time. Anywhere, she should have asked for more assassins to take Wei Yuewu's life!

Wei Yuewu turned around and saw the hidden hatred in Wei Qiufu's eyes. Her watery eyes were slightly contracted, but there was actually a trace of a smile on her face. Nevertheless, there was not a trace of warmth in her smile at all.

"Fourth Elder Sister, I don't care whatever you want. You have kept plotting against me again and again. What did you mean by having Xie Qingzhao live in our mansion? Could it be that Fourth Elder Sister didn't like this poor guy and left him to me? I'm at least the first daughter of Marquis Hua Yang. How can a poor Imperial Academician marry me?"

Wei Qiufu let out a sigh of relief when she heard these words. Fortunately, Wei Yuewu didn't know the other things. The matter concerning Xie Qingzhao was not a big deal. Now that she had made it clear, she might as well say...

Chapter 148 – Proof Of Sincerity, Wei Yuejiao'S Letter

"Sixth Younger Sister, with your talent and character, you would definitely not fall for an Imperial Academician who had only talent. This is Fourth Elder Sister's fault. My apology to you. Sixth Younger Sister, whatever you want, I would help you. As sisters, if we are united in our hearts, we can achieve any goal and have the world in our hand."

Wei Qiufu smiled and looked at Wei Yuewu sincerely as she uttered those words. She even directly mentioned what happened that day concerning Xie Qingzhao.

Wei Yuewu stopped and turned her head to glance at her. Suddenly, she smiled and said, "Fourth Elder Sister, you are really tolerant!"

All of a sudden, she swung the plum branch in her hand towards Wei Qiufu's face.

Wei Qiufu did not expect Wei Yuewu to strike directly. She was so frightened that she retreated quickly, bumping her head heavily onto a tree fork behind her. She hugged her head in pain and squatted down with a scream.

As a result, her dark hair was hooked by the branch. Because she squatted too quickly, a strand of her hair was immediately torn off.

Ming Yan hurriedly rushed up from behind. She helped Wei Qiufu stand firm and tried to untie her hair that was hooked by the branch. "Miss, how are you?"

Fortunately, except for the strand of hair that was torn off, the other strands were untied by Ming Yan without much effort.

Wei Yuewu put the plum branch under her nose and sniffed. She slightly rolled her watery eyes and quietly looked at Wei Qiufu, who was both angry and hurt with a green face. After a while, she said leisurely, "The plum blossoms here are extremely beautiful. If you like them, you can pick one by yourself. Why do you have to grab this branch from my hand? Fourth Elder Sister, if you really like plum blossoms, after you enter the Crown Prince's Mansion, you can order people to plant a large area of plum trees. By then, don't forget to invite me to admire the plum blossoms!"

Upon hearing Wei Yuewu's words, Wei Qiufu, who had both anger and hatred in her heart, froze on the spot. She bit her lips fiercely and then raised her head. She smiled sweetly and said, "Sixth Younger Sister is right. The plum blossoms here are excellent. I really like them!"

After saying those words, she simply ignored her messy hair. She turned her head and reached out her hand to break a branch of plum blossoms.

Ming Yan looked at Wei Qiufu in astonishment, as if she had seen a ghost. The Fourth Young Lady used to put on a dignified and elegant look in front of others. But now, she paid no attention to her own image at all. She was truly crazy!

Wei Qiufu hatefully snapped the plum blossoms off the branch. Because a strand of hair was torn off her head, she trembled with pain. However, she had no choice but to echo Wei Yuewu's words instead of talking back.

Wei Yuewu's intention was very obvious. She had clearly asked to vent her anger before agreeing to help Wei Qiufu enter the Crown Prince's Mansion, or in other words, not to make it difficult for her to enter the Crown Prince's Mansion.

Under Ming Yan's stunned gaze, Wei Qiufu was extremely embarrassed and indignant, feeling extremely humiliated. A trace of hatred flashed through her eyes!

Jin Ling, however, laughed out loud. She looked at Wei Qiufu who was in a sorry state and had disheveled hair, saying mockingly, "You really deserved it!"

"It seems that Fourth Elder Sister is willing to cooperate. That's good. However, this doesn't seem to be enough. I heard that Fourth Elder Sister has a close relationship with Third Elder Sister. If there is news about Third Elder Sister, I hope Fourth Elder Sister will spare no effort to keep me informed!"

After Wei Yuewu finished speaking, she smiled faintly. Then, without even watching Wei Qiufu's expression, she left with Jing Ling.

Wei Qiufu looked at Wei Yuewu's back with a cold gaze. She grabbed the plum branch in her hand and snapped it in half. The rough end of the branch stabbed into her injured fingers, but she did not feel it at all, and her entire face was twisted.

"Miss..." Ming Yan called her timidly.

"Didn't you see my hand hurt? Why don't you bandage it for me? Don't tell me you want to have a good laugh at me!" Wei Qiufu turned her head and fiercely glared at Ming Yan.

In the past, she would only behave like this when she lost control of herself due to anger. But now, she really couldn't control herself.

"Yes... I will immediately..." Seeing Wei Qiufu's livid and twisted face, Ming Yan was so scared that she hurriedly lowered her head and took out her handkerchief to wrap up the wound in Wei Qiufu's hand.

However, before she could finish her sentence, she was slapped fiercely twice in the face.

Wei Qiufu felt relieved when she saw Ming Yan's face swollen with two palm prints. She looked at the lights not far away before she came to her senses and said hatefully, "Let's go!"

This place was not far from the banquet hall. If anyone saw her and gossiped, it would be bad for her reputation. She must enter the Crown Prince's Mansion!

Looking at the blood-stained strand of hair that was pulled off her head, Wei Qiufu gritted her teeth and cursed Wei Yuewu a hundred times in her heart. However, she knew that it was not appropriate for her to confront Wei Yuewu now. The selection of Crown Princess and concubines for the Crown Prince was under way. If she caused any trouble at this critical moment, she would probably never be able to become the Crown Princess in her lifetime.

Wei Yuewu wanted information about Wei Yuejiao? Well, this matter suddenly reminded Wei Qiufu. Once Wei Yuejiao was back, Wei Yuewu's good time would come to an end in a few days. If she remembered correctly, this Third Miss Wei was raised as a first daughter. Everyone in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang knew the Third Young Lady was the real daughter of Eldest Uncle, and they never cared about whether she was born by a concubine or not...

Didn't Wei Yuewu feel that her sincerity wasn't enough? Alright, she would give her a big gift!

"Is the letter from the Third Young Lady still here?" By now, Wei Qiufu had calmed down. She suddenly stopped and asked Ming Yan. All *latest novels* on [novelbin/\(\).com](http://novelbin/().com)

"Yes, I've kept it in a safe place!" Ming Yan said timidly.

"Send the latest letter from Third Elder Sister to Sixth Young Lady later on!" Wei Qiufu hooked up a strand of her hair that was hanging down and placed it beside her ear as she said coldly.

"Yes, I will send it over in a moment." Ming Yan was just beaten, so she didn't dare to ask any more question. She lowered her head and replied.

After the two of them returned to the courtyard, Jin Ling helped Wei Yuewu go to bed. Her body hadn't fully recovered yet, so it was not appropriate for her to walk and move too much. It was actually the right moment for her to be back.

After tidying up Wei Yuewu's room, Jin Ling went out and vividly told Shufei and Huamo about what had just happened. The three maids all felt relieved that Fourth Young Lady who had always been sinister fell into such a disgrace.

While the three of them were chatting and laughing, a knock suddenly came from outside the courtyard. Shufei walked out, and soon, she came in with a letter in her hand.

"Miss, Fourth Young Lady asked Ming Yan to bring you a letter. She said that it was written to her by the Third Young Lady."

"Bring it here, let me have a look!" Wei Yuewu put down the book she was reading and stretched out her hand. A deep thought flashed through her eyes. Wei Qiufu's reaction was really quick. She had just mentioned Wei Yuejiao a moment ago, and she immediately sent her a letter from Wei Yuejiao. If she hadn't prepared the letter beforehand, it meant that the two of them kept up a frequent correspondence.

Otherwise, Wei Qiufu wouldn't be able to get Wei Yuejiao's letter so quickly.

Wei Yuewu had always been very curious about this concubine-born elder sister. What kind of hint was it that made this Third Miss Wei think she was the most distinguished young lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang and the only daughter of Marquis Hua Yang?

When she was in the mansion, she had heard a lot of servants mentioning how much this Third Miss Wei was respected. She had even learnt that Wei Yuejiao and Wei Yan had several confrontations, and each time Wei Yan had no choice but to give in. Moreover, even the Madam Dowager was on Wei Yuejiao's side.

But no matter what, with Concubine Dong as her biological mother, Wei Yuejiao was able to act recklessly and feared nobody in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. From whichever perspective, she could tell that this Third Young Lady was not easy to deal with.

Besides, regarding the embroidered screen that Mother left behind, was it really just the Madam Dowager's idea?

The letter wasn't thick. Wei Yuejiao used a normal title to address Wei Qiufu. But when she mentioned Wei Yuewu's mother, the late Marquise Hua Yang, she actually used "that woman". This showed how much Wei Yuejiao despised Marquise Hua Yang. In addition, when Wei Yuejiao mentioned Wei Yuewu, she used the phrase "that ugly girl born by that woman!" Wei Yuewu's expression became even colder.

Looked like many people believed she was really bad-looking.

Sure enough, Concubine Dong and Wei Yuejiao weren't easy to deal with!

She pressed the letter heavily on the table, and a cold light flashed through her eyes. She had long guessed that Concubine Dong and Wei Yuejiao had no good intentions towards her and her mother.

It was really a joke to see a concubine-born daughter who not only refused to address the matriarch of the mansion respectfully as "mother", but also used that kind of wording!

"Miss, what's wrong?" Seeing Wei Yuewu's cold expression, the maids immediately stopped chatting and laughing. Shufei looked at the letter in Wei Yuewu's hand and carefully asked, "Did the Third Young Lady say something that made you angry?"

"She didn't make me angry, but I'll definitely make her angry!" Wei Yuewu's faint lips curled into a sneer. Since that was the case, she would deal with Wei Yuejiao by starting with that embroidered screen...

Now, she could ask Wei Qiufu to provide her information about Wei Yuejiao and obtain clues related to Concubine Dong from Madam Li. She did not believe that there was no evidence to prove that they had ganged up to conspire against her mother. Besides, wasn't Doctor Ming also there as a witness?

"Miss, what about Fourth Young Lady?" Seeing Wei Yuewu's expression gradually returning to normal, Huamo reminded her.

"Since Fourth Elder Sister is willing to enter the Crown Prince's Mansion and has shown such sincerity, I surely have to help her!" Wei Yuewu took a deep breath to calm down and said coldly.

“Miss, did you forget what kind of a person Fourth Young Lady is? If she entered the Crown Prince’s Mansion, she would definitely bite you in return for your help!” Huamo said anxiously.

“It’s alright. She will have to become at least a concubine before she is able to deal with me!” Wei Yuewu gently shook her head. Her snow-white fingers slid past her temples as she said indifferently.

Since Wei Qiufu was so obsessed with entering the Crown Prince’s Mansion, and her ambitions were not small, then she would let her in.

She would like to see what Wei Qiufu wanted to do!

Moreover, Wei Qiufu was really not simple. If she really spoiled Wei Qiufu’s effort to enter the Crown Prince’s Mansion and made her desperate, Wei Qiufu might vent all her anger on Wei Yuewu. That was why she didn’t take away all Wei Qiufu’s hopes when talking to her. Besides, Wen Tianyao only expressed his dislike of Wei Qiufu, but he didn’t throw Wei Qiufu’s lot away.

Actually, this represented an opportunity. If she could understand it, Wei Qiufu could understand it as well! Therefore, Wei Qiufu didn’t want to be disturbed by Wei Yuewu. That was why she sent Wei Yuejiao’s letter to Wei Yuewu, hoping to distract her attention.

However, this was just a part of her original plan!

“Miss, what should we do now?” Hearing Wei Yuewu’s words, Jin Ling was stunned and asked.

“There’s no need to do anything. We just wait!” Wei Yuewu’s eyes flashed with a smile. She wouldn’t interfere in Wei Qiufu’s affairs for the time being. She just needed to wait quietly. Moreover, by now, the Yang Mansion must be too anxious to wait any longer!

Suddenly, there was a knock on the door and the sound was especially loud. The maids looked at each other and Jin Ling turned around and left the room. Not long after, she brought in a eunuch. Seeing this eunuch, Wei Yuewu’s eyes flashed with surprise. She looked at the person in front of her in shock.

She was wondering why this person came to see her at this time...

Chapter 149

It was a eunuch who was at least forty or fifty years old. He was a little fat, had a round face and a pleasant smile. His overall appearance was very pleasing!

The reason Wei Yuewu noticed him was because he was standing behind the Third Prince who suddenly appeared at the banquet, occasionally casting gazes at her.

Those gazes were too complicated, indicating that he was pleasantly surprised, sad, and angry...

Wei Yuewu couldn't fail to notice such a person!

"Greetings. I wait on His Highness the Third Prince. I have come here at the order of His Highness to make an appointment with Sixth Miss Wei." At this time, the eunuch behaved properly. After saluting Wei Yuewu respectfully, he stood to the side and announced his errand smilingly. The complex emotions in his eyes had dissipated.

"His Highness wants to see me?" Wei Yuewu asked in surprise.

Actually, this request did not conform to the etiquette. She was an unmarried young lady and had never met with the Third Prince all her life. However, why did the Third Prince send someone to visit her in private?

"Yes, His Highness said that there was something about Marquise Hua Yang that he wanted to tell Sixth Miss Wei!" When the eunuch heard Wei Yuewu's question, he smiled and said calmly.

"My mother died of illnesses many years ago. At that time, His Highness might still be a little boy, right?" Wei Yuewu blinked her eyes and asked gently in a puzzled voice.

"When Marquise Hua Yang was alive, she once came into the Palace and happened to meet His Highness. She was very fond of His Highness. Besides, His Highness also felt that Marquise Hua Yang was

quite like his own mother, so he asked His Majesty's permission to follow her to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang and lived there for a short period of time." The eunuch replied.

A trace of shock flashed in Wei Yuewu's dark jade-like eyes. This meant that her mother raised the Third Prince for a period of time? Why had she never heard of such an important matter before?

She only heard that the Third Prince was like the solitary cloud and a wild crane, and he never got involved in the struggle for imperial power. Normally, he rarely appeared in the capital and was rarely seen by people. Therefore, everyone was surprised at his appearance in the Plum Blossom Nunnery this time. What Wei Yuewu didn't expect was that an even bigger surprise was waiting for her!

"May I know to whom was His Highness born?" Wei Yuewu asked smilingly without revealing her surprise.

"His Highness was born by Shuyuan Lin who passed away when His Highness was still at a young age. That was why His Highness liked Marquise Hua Yang who was similar to Shuyuan Lin." The eunuch was all smiles and replied quite articulately.

Wei Yuewu secretly frowned. The fact that a young prince who had lost his birth mother could grow up smoothly in the Palace represented something extraordinary. She had heard that the Second Prince was chronically sick because his birth mother was poisoned when she was pregnant with him.

The Second Prince's mother was still alive, so his mother's family was definitely much more powerful than this unknown Shuyuan Lin. Besides, his mother's title was Concubine De, which was ranked first among the four imperial concubines. How could an insignificant Shuyuan be compared to her?

Even so, the Second Prince was still too sick to get out of bed. However, the Third Prince, who had lost his birth mother's protection since childhood, had grown up safely. The meaning behind this was enough for Wei Yuewu to keep pondering over it.

"Where was Shuyuan Lin from?" Wei Yuewu had a curious expression on her face, as if she was really interested in this Shuyuan.

“Shuyuan Lin was chosen from among the palace maids. She wasn’t born in a noble family, but she was promoted to Shuyuan because she gave birth to the Third Prince. She should be from Jiangnan, I think.” The eunuch said hesitantly. It seemed that he wasn’t sure about the detail.

No matter how Shuyuan Lin was forgotten, as the personal eunuch of the Third Prince, how could he forget this matter?

“When will His Highness be free?” Wei Yuewu took a deep breath and asked. She had made her decision.

Regardless of the Third Prince’s intentions, she was at least moved by the story about his relationship with her mother. She was just regretting that she couldn’t investigate the matters concerning her mother. Now that the Third Prince said that he had something to tell her about her mother, it was a chance for her. So why not go and see him?

“His Highness will go to the main hall tomorrow morning to offer incense to Marquise Hua Yang. You can come over and have a chat!” The eunuch said, and then he explained, “Because of the previous connection, every time His Highness came to the Plum Blossom Nunnery, he would offer incense to Marquise Hua Yang. Everyone knows about this!”

But she didn’t know, and no one told her about it either!

Although Wei Yuewu’s expression was calm, there were faint ripples in her heart. Was it because the Third Prince had never appeared in public, or was it because someone had deliberately concealed this matter to her?

The matters in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang were becoming more and more puzzling...

“Then make it tomorrow!” Wei Yuewu nodded in agreement.

After receiving an affirmative answer, the eunuch bowed respectfully to Wei Yuewu. Then, he turned around and left. However, he didn’t take a few steps before he suddenly turned around. This time, Wei Yuewu clearly saw the pain in his eyes, but it was immediately covered up by a smile.

Jin Ling saw the eunuch off at the entrance of the courtyard. When she came back, she saw Wei Yuewu was still sitting there with a thoughtful expression. She couldn't help but ask, "Miss, was the Third Prince really familiar with Madam? How old was he at that time? Why would Madam tell a child something that was so important?"

"Perhaps mother felt that she had certain special affinity with him!" Wei Yuewu restrained her thoughts. She smiled faintly and raised her eyebrows.

A madam had special affinity with a child, who was the Third Prince of the Palace. What was even more unbelievable was that the Third Prince was actually able to obtain His Majesty's consent to stay in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang for a period of time on the grounds that Mother was very similar to his mother? All the details that were involved in this matter seemed so mysterious.

From whichever perspective, Shuyuan Lin couldn't possibly have anything to do with mother!

Besides, Jiangnan area was a bit too large to be the exact native place of a person. Perhaps the native place of Shuyuan Lin was far from granny's home, and she had never heard her being mentioned by granny before. Moreover, maternal grandfather was also from a small aristocratic clan. It was possible for a daughter of his family to be recommended as a candidate palace maid, but it was basically impossible to directly send a daughter into the Palace as a palace maid!

Could it be that this was just a coincidence?

Wei Yuewu didn't believe that there would be so many coincidences concerning the matter. It seemed that she really must go and see this Third Prince!

As Wei Yuewu had guessed, since this Eldest Lady Yang was not ignored as much as she appeared to be, that Lord Yang would definitely be more anxious to protect her reputation.

When Wei Yuewu woke up from her nap, she saw Yang Yuyan, who was accompanied by the two eloquent nurses who came here last time. However, although the two nurses were articulate speakers, they did not dare to speak before Yang Yuyan said anything.

This showed that although this Eldest Lady Yang looked pitiful in the eyes of outsiders, but in fact, the inside story was not completely the same.

Yang Yuyan was actually wearing the clothes of an ordinary maid. If she hadn't raised her head and looked at Wei Yuewu pitifully, Wei Yuewu wouldn't be able to recognize her from among the maids.

"Sixth Miss Wei..." Yang Yuyan's face was very pale. It seemed she wasn't feeling well these past few days. Upon seeing Wei Yuewu, she rushed over with tears falling down her cheeks.

Jin Ling hurriedly stood out from the side and stopped her, "Eldest Lady Yang, our Miss is injured and can't stand being hit!"

"I... I was too excited!" Yang Yuyan wiped away her tears. The expression on her face was pitiful. She stood a few steps away from Wei Yuewu and did not charge forward again. She wiped her tears with a handkerchief while crying, "Sixth Miss Wei, someone deliberately set me up that day. Someone told me to do those things. Sixth Miss Wei, I... I was also forced to do it against my own will."

Wei Yuewu smiled faintly and took the tea Shufei had delivered to her. She used the cup lid to stir the tea leaves and leisurely took a sip before raising her head to ask, "Miss Yang, who forced you?"

"I... I..." Yang Yuyan suddenly panicked, and her eyes turned red as she looked at Wei Yuewu.

"So Eldest Lady Yang, you haven't decided whether to tell me or not?" Wei Yuewu raised her eyebrows.

Yang Yuyan knelt down with a plop, saying "Sixth Miss Wei, you... you had better not ask me anymore. Knowing too much is not good for you. It's better for you to pretend that you don't know anything. I... Anyway, I let you down and I have come to apologize to you!"

Seeing Yang Yuyan on her knees, the two nurses were shocked. They wanted to say something, but after glancing at each other, they remained silent and also knelt down.

Wei Yuewu tilted her body slightly. She winked at Jin Ling and said with a fierce expression, "Eldest Lady Yang, you had better get up. I am not eligible to accept your kneeling!"

She and Yang Yuyan were both young ladies of aristocratic families. Even though her father's position was higher than that of Assistant Minister Yang, this had nothing to do with her and Yang Yuyan. Therefore, she could not accept Yang Yuyan's kneeling, nor did she want to accept it.

Jin Ling went over and gestured to help Yang Yuyan up, but Yang Yuyan suddenly cried out while sitting on her heels. "Sixth Miss Wei, please spare me! I really didn't do it on purpose. I haven't seen you before. What reason did I have to harm you? It must be my illusion! Sixth Miss Wei, please spare me!"

Yang Yuyan suddenly cried out so loudly that Jin Ling was shocked. After all, Yang Yuyan was a young lady of an aristocratic family. Jin Ling did not dare to take any action for a moment, so she turned to look at Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu was also stunned for a moment. She didn't expect Yang Yuyan, who had humbly pleaded for mercy just now, to burst into tears. Moreover, the meaning behind her words had changed a little too quickly. Her eyebrows furrowed slightly, and a trace of sharpness flashed in her eyes as she reached out to stop Jin Ling's movement.

Jin Ling retreated to the side obediently.

"Sixth Miss Wei, I really misunderstood the situation when it happened. I didn't mean to harm you. From my angle, I clearly saw you pushing Fourth Miss Wei slightly, and then Fourth Miss Wei pulled your sleeve and fell out." Yang Yuyan continued to cry as she used the handkerchief in her hand to rub her eyes that had become red.

She looked as if she wanted to reproduce the scene when the incident occurred that day.

Wei Yuewu sneered when she saw her eyes that didn't shed any tear despite being red due to her rubbing them with a handkerchief. It turned out that someone had deliberately messed up the situation. Since that was the case, there was no need for her to show mercy!

Her eyes turned cold as she pressed her hand on the table and stood up. She looked down at Yang Yuyan with a condescending gaze and scolded coldly, "Eldest Lady Yang, you said what you saw at that time was like what you have described to me. Do you dare to confront me in front of the Crown Prince again? Say what you want to say to me in front of all the people who were present that day. Let's see if

all the other young ladies think the same as your younger sister, who said that it was because of a small dispute between the two of you that she testified against you without thinking about it properly! ”

Needless to say, Yang Yurou had retracted her testimony under the pressure from that assistant minister, but this reason was fine only when spoken privately. If it was spoken on an official occasion, Yang Yurou would be ruined. Wei Yuewu wanted to see if this cunning Assistant Minister Yang would bear to sacrifice his elder daughter or his younger daughter!

Yang Yuyan tried her best to argue, “Sixth Miss Wei, what I saw at that time...”

However, Wei Yuewu bluntly interrupted with a sneer, “Eldest Lady Yang, are you trying to say that the real situation you witnessed is like that? You still think you’re right, don’t you? Alright... Come on, Eldest Lady Yang, I’ll go with you to see the Crown Prince!”

Her watery eyes glanced out of the window and she sneered silently. Since someone was watching, the play had to continue!

Chapter 150 – Terrified Yang Yuyan

“I...” Yang Yuyan did not expect Wei Yuewu to be so difficult to deal with. She simply refused to yield to either the carrot or the stick. For a while, she rubbed her handkerchief and even forgot to cry.

“Eldest Lady Yang, let’s go and invite the Crown Prince and the two princesses over.” Wei Yuewu stood up and walked towards the door.

“Sixth Miss Wei, don’t leave!” Yang Yuyan was so anxious that she reached out to grab Wei Yuewu’s skirt. However, Jin Ling had already blocked her hand.

Seeing this scene, Wei Yuewu stopped and turned around to ask, “Eldest Lady Yang, don’t you believe that the Crown Prince will do you justice?”

“I...” How would Yang Yuyan dare to speak ill of Wen Tianyao?

Jin Ling stretched out her hand and tugged at Wei Yuewu's clothes. She glanced sideways as a reminder. Wei Yuewu sneered in her heart. After Yang Yuyan changed her wording drastically, she had suspected that someone was hiding somewhere and eavesdropping on them!

Wei Yuewu fixed her gaze at Yang Yuyan and went on to induce her, "Eldest Lady Yang, don't say that you don't know anything about this. I know that you were indeed forced by someone, but if you don't tell the truth now, I'm afraid you won't have a chance in the future!"

She had keenly sensed Yang Yuyan's abnormality just now. At this moment, after receiving the signal from Jin Ling, she naturally understood that someone had already entered her courtyard. Her face did not reveal the slightest bit when she saw Yang Yuyan losing her composure and pulling at the corner of her skirt as she walked towards the door.

Hence, she knew that Yang Yuyan was also aware that there was someone else in her courtyard.

It seemed that Assistant Minister Yang was not the only one who set her up this time!

Apart from those guards who were experts of martial arts, who else could sneak into her courtyard at this time of day without making any noise or being noticed?

Moreover, this guard was not an ordinary guard. He must be a confidant of the Crown Prince. Otherwise, Yang Yuyan's performance today would be of no use or significance at all!

Apart from the Third Princess, there was no one else in the Plum Blossom Nunnery who could get the Crown Prince to send out his trusted guards on such a mission!

This meant that the Third Princess, who had always looked gentle and aloof, could not endure any longer and was going to make a move!

Since that was the case, she would naturally continue acting in the play with her...

"I..." Yang Yuyan was also dumbfounded at this time. The situation in front of her was completely different from what her father had told her. She became indecisive for a moment.

Wei Yuewu raised her eyebrows and went on to urge her coldly, “Eldest Lady Yang, since you don’t want this opportunity, let’s go and see the Crown Prince. On that day, the Crown Prince ordered someone to throw you down the mountain. Now you came back dressed like this, I wonder if this is an act of flouting the emperor? The crime of flouting the emperor is as serious as the crime of rebellion, and your entire family will be exterminated!”

Yang Yuyan’s expression changed drastically upon hearing those words. Her body trembled and she immediately collapsed to the ground!

The Crown Prince was the emperor-to-be of the country. Therefore, flouting the Crown Prince is equivalent to flouting the emperor. If Wei Yuewu really exposed her act of coming up the mountain in the disguise of a maid today, she would surely commit a crime of flouting the emperor!

“Jin Ling, since Eldest Lady Yang is unwilling to go with me, we can only ask the Crown Prince’s people to come and handle it!” Wei Yuewu stared into Yang Yuyan’s fearful eyes and smiled coldly. Then, she pulled the corner of her skirt, turned around, and walked towards the door.

Her resolute and decisive smile and move made Yang Yuyan’s hair stand on end. Unable to care about anything else, she hurriedly stood up and shouted, “Sixth Young Lady, it was... the Third Princess who sent someone to see me, she asked me to...”

“She asked you to help my Fourth Elder Sister?” Wei Yuewu turned her head and expressionlessly encouraged her to continue.

Of course, Wei Qiufu would faultlessly carry out her plan. When Yang Yuyan looked at the Third Princess that day, Wei Yuewu knew very well that Wei Qiufu had probably made use of Yang Yuyan in the name of the Third Princess. Otherwise, no matter how stupid Yang Yuyan was, she would not plot against her merely for Wei Qiufu’s sake.

Since Wei Qiufu dared to assume the authority of the Third Princess and the Third Princess was also interfering in this matter to plot against her, she would like to see how they bit each other like dogs in a fight.

“Yes... yes, if it weren’t for Third Princess’ instructions, why would I help Fourth Miss Wei testify against you? I’ve never known you before, and it was even more impossible for me to harm you. If... if it were not because of that, how would I... say those words? However, I was forced to do those things against my will!”

Yang Yuyan was just searching for words. While she remained hesitant, Wei Yuewu’s encouragement helped her utter those words naturally.

“Why did the Third Princess order you to help my Fourth Elder Sister?” Wei Yuewu said angrily, as if she was venting her anger on the Third Princess.

Yang Yuyan heaved a sigh of relief and hurriedly shook her head to defend herself, “I don’t know. Actually, I didn’t want to join in the fun that day. I refused the invitation and stayed at home. Suddenly, a palace maid who served the Third Princess came to see me and handed me a letter in private. I read the letter and then begged my father to allow me to go with my younger sister.”

“Where is the letter?” Wei Yuewu asked.

“That letter, I... I didn’t keep it. The palace maid serving the Third Princess said that the Third Princess ordered her to take it back.” Yang Yuyan stuttered when asked by Wei Yuewu, and her face became pale.

Wei Yuewu could see the anxiety and panic in her eyes. She knew that she really didn’t keep that letter. Otherwise, anyone would have told the truth in that kind of scene. Yang Yuyan didn’t tell the truth because she was afraid of the powerful Third Princesses. Besides, there was no evidence to back her. Sure enough, it was impossible for Wei Yuewu to leave behind such obvious evidence.

Therefore, she wouldn’t achieve anything if she continued her enquiry in this direction. She rolled her watery eyes and suddenly asked, “Why did you believe that the person you saw was a maid serving the Third Princess?”

She did not believe that Yang Yuyan would be so naive as to believe the person was the Third Princess’ maid simply based on a letter and her words!

At this time, Yang Yuyan's line of mental defense had already been broken through by Wei Yuewu. She almost answered every question. "I saw that palace maid before. She works in the Third Princess Palace."

"Is she a senior palace maid serving the Third Princess?" Wei Yuewu frowned and asked in greater detail.

Yang Yuyan thought for a moment and shook her head. "No, she is just an ordinary palace maid in the Palace. However, for several times when I entered the Palace, I saw her following behind the Third Princess."

In other words, although she was an ordinary palace maid, she was not a simple ordinary palace maid, because she could at least appear beside the Third Princess. The fact that Wei Qiufu was actually able to bribe such a person proved that her background was extraordinary. Wei Qiufu was indeed not as easy to deal with as she appeared on the surface. Fortunately, thanks to today's incident, something had come between the Third Princess and Wei Qiufu.

Even if Wei Qiufu entered the Crown Prince's Mansion, it was impossible for her to be in a high position!

She might as well send such a venomous beauty to the Crown Prince's Mansion and let her keep on fighting...

After making up her mind, Wei Yuewu turned around and sat down on a chair at the side. Her attitude seemed much calmer. "Eldest Lady Yang, please sit down! What do you want me to do?"

Yang Yuyan was overjoyed and said anxiously, "I... I... can you testify for me? Just to say that I really mistook you for pushing Fourth Miss Wei that day. I really didn't mean to harm you. To say that we two were good sisters in private. I misunderstood you that day and I said those words only out of shock!"

Wei Yuewu leisurely took a sip of the tea Shufei handed to her and asked, "We two were good sisters in private? I remember that I've been living outside the capital. How come we two were good sisters in private?"

"Sixth Young Lady, you just need to say that our two families enjoyed a very good relationship. When we were little girls, we were good friends. Even after you were sent to your maternal grandparent's house, we still kept up our private correspondence. Even though we haven't seen each other for so many years, we are still good sisters. Thus, when we met again, we liked each other!"

Seeing Wei Yuewu becoming less intransigent, Yang Yuyan became more and more articulate. She blurted out the words that were already at the edge of her mouth.

Wei Yuewu tilted her head and after thinking for a while, she asked with a cold look flashing in her eyes, "Is the relationship between our two families very good?" Sure enough, Yang Yuyan had already prepared an excuse, and this excuse must be something that everyone could accept.

She wasn't well-informed about the situation. Otherwise, how could she not know that the relationship between Assistant Minister Yang's mansion and the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang was so particular? However, Wei Yuewu had already come to realize something based on the words of the two nurses of Assistant Minister Yang's mansion. Now she wasn't surprised at all. Only by finding such a person to testify against her on such an occasion could they make people believe her words!

Wei Qiufu was indeed scheming and had a thorough understanding of the affairs of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

"Yes, our two families have a very good relationship. My father used to be a subordinate of Marquis Hua Yang, and he risked his life fighting numerous battles with Marquis Hua Yang. Later on, my father was injured and his health was not very good, so he left the army and returned to the capital to work as an official in the court!" Yang Yuyan hurriedly explained.

Therefore, it was very likely that the children of the two families had known each other since they were kids and had a good relationship with each other!

Wei Yuewu pondered for a moment before she smiled sweetly and said meaningfully, "Eldest Lady, I can say those words for you, but..."

"Sixth Young Lady, please tell me what you want me to do. I will definitely agree to do whatever I can do for you!" Yang Yuyan had been in a lot of trouble these past few days. She knew that with such a tainted reputation, even if the royal family did not pursue the matter, her marriage would be ruined. In the best

case, her father could use his power to force some low-level official to marry her. In the worst case, she could only become a nun or even commit suicide as an apology!

After thinking this through, Yang Yuyan spent the past few days in panic. Every day, she washed her face with tears and waited for her father to come up with a solution. Only then would she go up the mountain without hesitation, hoping that she could save her reputation to some extent and return to the circle of aristocratic ladies in the capital.

Wei Yuewu could clearly see what Yang Yuyan was currently thinking. A cold light flashed through her eyes. Yang Yuyan was extremely selfish and would step on anyone for her own benefits. However, this was just okay for her. Right now, she needed such a person, especially one who had no other choice and was in a desperate situation.

“Eldest Lady Yang, I won’t say that we have a very good personal relationship, but I can say that you misunderstood me at that time.” Wei Yuewu smiled faintly.

“I...” Yang Yuyan was naturally not satisfied with this result, but when she saw Wei Yuewu’s cold gaze, she held back her tongue.

The smile on Wei Yuewu’s face subsided. She ignored Yang Yuyan’s interruption and continued, “But I hope you can testify against the Third Princess in person!”

Those words were too shocking to hear. Yang Yuyan was so frightened that she trembled. She looked at Wei Yuewu in astonishment and her lips trembled twice before she found her voice, “Sixth... Sixth Young Lady, what... are you trying to do?”

The two nurses behind her also became nervous and subconsciously looked up at Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu indifferently extended her hand as a signal for Yang Yuyan to come over. Yang Yuyan hesitantly leaned her head over. After Wei Yuewu whispered a sentence in her ear, she immediately widened her eyes...