

Young Lady 201

Chapter 201 – Buck-Passing, Whose Responsibility Was It

The puppy had been dozing off, and there were many people present. There were even people who were so bored that they secretly compared the four puppies in the hands of the maids. They felt that Sixth Miss Wei's puppy was the most dispirited. However, who would have thought that a puppy that was sound asleep in the previous moment would suddenly spring out and hurt people in the next moment?

Seeing the bloodstains on the ground and recalling the way Wei Fengyao had rolled on the ground while covering her face with her hands, whoever saw it would warn themselves that it would be better to stay away from puppies and kittens in the future.

"Why are all the other puppies normal, but your puppy alone was abnormal?" A cold expression appeared on Princess Nan'an's face.

"Your Highness, I don't know why the puppy suddenly acted like this, but just as that maid kept pushing me, I felt that the puppy moved a few times and was about to wake up. Moreover, that maid even pushed me to the back of our Miss. If I hadn't let go of the puppy quickly just now, the puppy's paws would have landed on our Miss' face."

After uttering those words, Jin Ling pointed at the maid who was now hiding in the crowd.

"She stayed close to me before the accident and left only after the accident took place!"

"You... come out!" Princess Nan'an's eyes flashed with sharpness as she said sternly. Normally, she was extremely strict in managing the mansion. Although Wei Fengyao had the title of heiress-apparent and she had helped Princess Nan'an settle some matters, everyone in Prince Nan'an Mansion knew that this strict Princess Nan'an had always been in charge of the inner courtyard.

Intimidated by her glare, the other maids immediately retreated and that maid could not stand anymore. She knelt down with a plop and said, "Your Highness!"

"You were standing beside her just now?" Princess Nan'an asked sternly.

"I... I didn't notice that!" The maid said timidly. She never imagined that Jin Ling would actually pay attention to her under such a situation.

"Your Highness, how about having someone search her body to see if she had anything unusual?" Wei Yuewu's gaze circled around the maid's face and said with a smile. There must be something wrong with the maid. Otherwise, the drowsy puppy would not have suddenly woken up and gone crazy.

Last night, when she went to see the puppy, she asked Jin Ling to roll its eyelids. Seeing that there was blood in the puppy's eyes, she understood that there was something wrong with it. That was why she let Jin Ling carry the puppy for her today.

Huamo could compare with Jin Ling neither in terms of the speed of reaction nor skills.

Take that moment when the puppy went mad as an example. Jin Lin, who was spiritually connected to Wei Yuewu, did not hold the puppy. Instead, she pushed it forward towards Wei Fengyao. Thus, the claws that were originally targeting Wei Yuewu's face landed on Wei Fengyao's face fiercely.

First, it was the safety talisman, then there was this plan to ruin her appearance. Wei Fengyao was actually so ruthless in her attack.

Wei Yuewu sneered in her heart. If it was her who was in trouble at this moment, even if she really felt that there was something unusual about that writing brush, she would not be able to use it as evidence here. After all, it was a writing brush used by a man, and there might even be an affair behind it.

Wei Fengyao had precisely calculated that even if something happened to her, she could only suffer this loss silently. Moreover, there was the matter of picking the safety talisman of the Fourth Prince. If Wei Fengyao's scheme worked well, Wei Yuewu would become a woman who didn't behave herself, had an affair with a man and was disfigured. Well, such an image was enough to make Wei Yuewu doomed eternally beyond redemption.

However, Wei Fengyao would never have imagined that even if Wei Yuewu didn't take out that writing brush, she was still able to make her the victim of her own scheme...

“Search her!” Princess Nan’an nodded and ordered.

The person who had come to examine the dog was precisely an expert in Prince Nan’an Mansion. At this time, he walked over to search the maid, but for a moment, he did not find anything.

The maid panicked at first, but at this time, she slowly calmed down. She took out all the things on her body in a cooperative manner. She placed them on the table one by one. They were just ordinary things, and there wasn’t anything suspicious.

“Sixth Younger Sister, my maid only passed by your maid once in a while. How can there be anything suspicious on her? Sixth Younger Sister, you hurt me. Do you still want to shirk your responsibility?” A voice filled with hatred came from the side. Everyone turned around and saw Wei Fengyao walking over with her face wrapped in a scarf.

Her wound had been treated, and her tightly wrapped face revealed only a pair of venomous eyes.

How could she not hate Wei Yuewu? Just now, when the doctor was dealing with her wound, even though it was so painful, she suddenly realized that all of this must have something to do with Wei Yuewu.

Her scheme was planned both exquisitely and thoroughly. Even Wei Qiuju who conspired with her didn’t know the entire scheme. However, who would have thought that not only did she discover that Wei Qiuju was having an affair with her husband, but she was actually the one being scratched in the face by the puppy? How could she not hate Wei Yuewu?

Therefore, she tried her best to endure the pain and came to testify against Wei Yuewu.

“Eldest Sister, why did you think this maid would not harm you? Could it be that she was your most trusted servant?” Wei Yuewu smiled and asked calmly.

“She is my maid, and I know very well that it is impossible for her to harm me!” Wei Fengyao sneered.

“But at that time, if I didn’t dodge in time, then the puppy would have scratched me. Eldest Sister, you were not her target. You were just an innocent victim.” Wei Yuewu lifted her clear eyes and said meaningfully.

The Fourth Prince was the one who saw the whole process of the accident. At that time, he was so shocked that he subconsciously wanted to pull Wei Yuewu. However, because the two of them were far away, he failed to reach Wei Yuewu. But even so, he still felt cold sweat on his palms. At that moment, he really thought that this beautiful girl would be disfigured.

“That dog’s target should be Sixth Miss Wei!” Seeing that Wei Fengyao was so aggressive, the Fourth Prince couldn’t help but say coldly.

“Ruoming, is that true?” Hearing the Fourth Prince’s words, Princess Nan’an turned to Wen Ruoming, her son and Heir-apparent of Prince Nan’an.

The heir-apparent looked at Wei Fengyao and then at the Fourth Prince. He didn’t know which side he should take. He and Wei Fengyao had just been married for several months and Wei Fengyao was quite gentle and attentive to him. The two of them were now a sweet couple. However, he couldn’t offend the Fourth Prince either.

In addition, Wei Qiuju was now standing behind him. Wei Qiuju had offended the Fourth Prince before. If he offended the Fourth Prince again, he would be in a difficult situation if the Fourth Prince got angry and refused to help him. Thinking about Wei Qiuju’s delicate and pitiful appearance and Wei Fengyao’s current situation, the heir-apparent felt that it was better for him to tell the truth.

The Heir-apparent of Prince Nan’an made up his mind and said, “Mother, it was indeed the case at that time. Sixth Miss Wei almost got hurt. Somehow, when the dog sprang out, it actually jumped to the front of Fengyao and scratched Fengyao in the face.”

“Your Heir-apparent... you... you actually spoke up for outsiders!” Wei Fengyao pointed at the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan’an in disbelief as if she had received a heavy blow. Her eyes were filled with sorrow and anger.

“Your Heiress-apparent, it was true that something bad almost happened to Sixth Miss Wei at that time. We were speaking in good conscience.” Since the Fourth Prince had told the truth, and even the Heir-

apparent of Prince Nan'an didn't lie for Wei Fengyao, the other young masters present naturally also told the truth, and a few of them even tried to convince Wei Fengyao of what had happened.

"Your Highness, there's nothing abnormal!" The person came to report after searching the maid's body.

Wei Fengyao sneered. She didn't believe that Wei Yuewu could find out anything. Since Wei Yuewu couldn't find out anything, she had something to say. No matter what, it was Wei Yuewu's dog that scratched her.

Wei Yuewu, however, wasn't in a hurry. She pointed at the other three puppies and ordered Jin Ling, "Go, bring the other puppies here."

"Yes!" Jin Ling walked over and carried a puppy over.

The puppy was quiet at first, but the closer Jin Ling came to the maid, the more upset it became. In the end, the docile puppy struggled violently in Jin Ling's hands.

Wei Fengyao's tightly wrapped face involuntarily panicked. The one who panicked most was the maid. At this moment, her entire body involuntarily trembled and everyone knew that something was wrong with her.

"Put it down and bring another one over." Wei Yuewu ordered.

Jin Ling put down the puppy in her hand. After it was put down on the ground, the puppy rushed backwards and fled far away.

The second puppy was also brought over. It also got increasingly nervous and irritated and struggled incessantly. Judging from whichever perspective, people would feel that something was wrong with this maid.

"Someone, bring her down to investigate her thoroughly!" Princess Nan'an's expression darkened as she said sternly. Two old maidservants came over from behind her and reached out their hands to drag the maid away.

"Your Heiress-apparent..." The maid cried out to Wei Fengyao.

Princess Nan'an nodded to a nanny beside her, who then went over and stuffed the handkerchief in her hand into the maid's mouth. After that, the two old maidservants, one on the left and one on the right, pulled the maid away.

The maid struggled desperately as she stared at Wei Fengyao with her eyes wide open, pleading silently. Everyone knew that this maid was doomed.

"If you find out that she has any harmful item on her, just directly cane her to death." Then, Princess Nan'an shifted her gaze to Wei Fengyao, who was sitting helplessly in her chair and said coldly, "Fengyao, don't feel sorry for your maid. You actually treated an evil-spirited maid as your most trusted servant. In the future, you need to investigate the servants beside you properly."

"Yes... Mother!" How could Wei Fengyao dare to mouth back at this time? She could only clench her teeth and take the blame.

She knew that the matter today couldn't be further investigated. Otherwise, she would definitely be exposed. Therefore, that maid must be the scapegoat and held responsible for everything.

However, none of the people present was stupid. It was clear this Heiress-apparent of Prince Nan'an had a vicious mind and wanted to plot against Sixth Miss Wei. However, she did not expect that something unexpected would happen and that she had lifted a rock only to drop it on her own feet.

However, the accident happened in Prince Nan'an Mansion, and Princess Nan'an wasn't wrong even though she forcefully covered up the truth. If Wei Fengyao, the Heiress-apparent of Prince Nan'an was known by outsiders to have done such a vicious thing, the entire Prince Nan'an Mansion would be humiliated.

Moreover, Wei Fengyao had already endured the retribution here. When she covered her face and rolled on the ground some time ago, blood seeped out from between her fingers. People could tell at a sight that she was seriously hurt.

Wei Yuewu took a step forward, and her exquisite little face was quite calm. She looked up at Princess Nan'an and said neither humbly nor arrogantly, "Your Highness, I really didn't plot against Eldest Sister!"

Princess Nan'an had a gloomy face. Her gaze fell sharply on Wei Yuewu's face and a trace of hesitation flashed through the corners of her eyes. She had actually wanted to make Wei Yuewu a scapegoat. Anyway, letting the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang bear such a disgraceful reputation was a better result than letting Prince Nan'an Mansion's reputation be tainted.

However, the Fourth Prince and a few other noble young masters were also present.

Chapter 202 – When Did You Obtain It

The princess' gaze silently slid past the faces of the Fourth Prince and other noble young masters. Finally, her gaze landed on Wei Yuewu's face. It was still a pretty little face, but even after experiencing such a dangerous accident, she was still calm and had the appearance of a gentle young aristocratic lady.

How could Wei Fengyao, who was weak and had a venomous look in her eyes, compare to her!

Although the Fourth Prince's expression was calm seeming indifferent, his gaze would occasionally fall on Wei Yuewu. Considering what he had just said, how could Princess Nan'an not know that he was on Wei Yuewu's side?

"Don't worry, Sixth Miss Wei. It's just an evil maid who tried to hurt her mistress, and you almost got injured. I'll send someone to explain this to the Madam Dowager." Princess Nan'an's face slowly revealed a trace of smile, and she instantly made up her mind.

Since she couldn't pass the buck to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, then she would make this accident sound less serious and have everyone believe that it was done by a maid.

Wei Yuewu had already anticipated Princess Nan'an's reaction. At this time, she was just trying to force Princess Nan'an to make known her position clearly. Of course, she did not really think that Princess Nan'an would uncover Wei Fengyao's scheme and embarrass herself.

But of course, she wouldn't let Wei Fengyao get away with it so easily.

An invisible sneer slid across the corner of Wei Yuewu's lips. She took a step forward and bowed deeply to Princess Nan'an, whose expression immediately darkened. She thought that Wei Yuewu was trying to make further requests. She coldly said, "Sixth Miss Wei, what did you mean?"

If Wei Yuewu really insisted on the so-called fair and just handling of the accident today, she wouldn't mind holding her responsible for everything. If there had to be a scapegoat, she believed that neither the Empress nor the Emperor would like to see any damage to the reputation of the royal family.

As Princess Nan'an made up her mind, her face was filled with anger.

However, Wei Yuewu just pointed at Wei Qiuju who was hiding at the side and said to Princess Nan'an, "Thank you, Your Highness. But my Fifth Elder Sister..."

What happened just now was too unexpected. Seeing that Wei Fengyao's face was covered in blood, Wei Qiuju's face had already turned pale from fear and she was now still in a state of panic. After Princess Nan'an arrived, she was afraid that it would involve her. She was so nervous that she didn't dare to move at all.

When she heard Wei Yuewu mentioning her, she looked at Wei Yuewu in astonishment. However, when she detected the cold gaze from Princess Nan'an, she suddenly came to her senses. Her feet softened and she knelt on the ground with a plop. Then, she covered her face with a handkerchief and began to cry.

"Mother!" Seeing his beloved beauty kneeling on the ground with a face full of fear, the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an couldn't bear it anymore. He wanted to go forward to persuade her, but under Princess Nan'an's fierce stare, he couldn't speak anything. He was so anxious that he rubbed his hands on the side and leaned towards the Fourth Prince and made eye contact with him with the hope that the Fourth Prince could speak in his favor.

However, the Fourth Prince looked away and landed his gaze on Wei Qiuju.

The room quieted down with a weird atmosphere.

Wei Fengyao had been almost paralyzed on the chair. Now she also woke up because of the quietness in the room. At this time, the first person she wanted to deal with was Wei Qiuju. Ignoring the pain in her face, she stood up anxiously and took a few steps forward. She knelt in front of Princess Nan'an and couldn't help but cry, "Mother, Mother... the heir-apparent... he actually treated me like this... I beg you to do justice to me!"

The Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an and his younger sister-in-law had an affair, and he had only been married for a few months. It was indeed a big scandal. To Wei Fengyao, it was also a huge debt on her side. If this were to be spread out, even if the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an succeeded in taking Wei Qiuju as his concubine, he would be criticized in terms of moral standards.

"Fengyao, get up. Don't worry, I will surely do justice to you!" Princess Nan'an personally reached out to help Wei Fengyao up.

For a moment, Wei Fengyao was stunned. Princess Nan'an had always been fierce. Although she looked thin and weak on the surface, she was actually very tough. Wei Fengyao was clear that Princess Nan'an knew what she did today and must hate her very much. Why would she personally help her up? Why did she even have a look of affection on her face?

Seeing this scene in front of her, Wei Yuewu smiled and lowered her head slightly to hide the mockery in her eyes.

Princess Nan'an was well-known as a tough woman. In her current mood, if she showed respect to someone, she definitely had a particular purpose. Therefore, just see how Wei Fengyao swallowed the bitter wine she had personally brewed.

Wei Qiufu watched the development of the entire situation. When she saw this scene in front of her, a trace of fear flashed in her eyes. Her gaze darkened without being noticed by others. This Wei Yuewu was truly difficult to deal with.

Ever since her return to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, almost every plot against her had failed. It seemed that she had to be more careful when dealing with Wei Yuewu in the future...

Wei Yuejiao, however, didn't think too much. She just felt that Wei Yuewu was really lucky. If the puppy had scratched Wei Yuewu's face, that would have saved her and her mother a lot of trouble. If she had thought of such a trick to make her puppy go crazy and attack Wei Yuewu, she wouldn't have to bear that annoying face that kept appearing in front of her.

It was such a pity that the puppy missed its target. She used the handkerchief to cover her face and almost laughed aloud. Fortunately, she knew that this was Prince Nan'an Mansion. In the end, she discovered that Wei Yuewu was still safe and sound. She was so angry that she almost crushed the handkerchief in her hand. She was now in a bad mood and everything she saw was not pleasing to the eye.

She gave Wei Qiuju a sidelong glance and made a gentle bah. She felt that Wei Qiuju was really not something that could be brought to the table. She actually did such a thing that was truly embarrassing for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

Although Wei Fengyao was curious why Princess Nan'an treated her so affectionately, she couldn't care too much at the moment. She pointed at the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an and said angrily, "Mother, the heir-apparent... he actually...had..."

The Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an also felt embarrassed to be pointed at like this by his wife. However, seeing her tightly wrapped face and thinking about what he had done today, he was indeed a little guilty and did not say anything else.

Princess Nan'an stretched out her hand to press down on Wei Fengyao's hand that was pointing at the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an. She patted Wei Fengyao's hand kindly and said smilingly, "I know you are a good wife. After this incident, you should reexamine the servants around you. Remove those who are disloyal to you so that the people who are jealous of you won't have a chance to harm you again!"

Wei Fengyao was stunned by her words, and she didn't know what to say for a moment.

Wei Yuewu smiled and raised her eyelids. She understood what Princess Nan'an meant. A faint ripple appeared in her eyes. Princess Nan'an was really a crafty person, and she actually thought of such a method. Apart from making Wei Fengyao eat humble pies, she also saved face for both the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang and Prince Nan'an Mansion!

At this point, there was already a conclusion to today's accident. Since it was Princess Nan'an who made the decision, Wei Fengyao had no other choice but to swallow the bitter pill in silence.

Her attention was entirely on Princess Nan'an, and when she raised her eyes casually, she was met by a pair of smiling handsome eyes, and she was stunned for a moment.

"Sixth Miss Wei, can I have a word with you?" The Fourth Prince stepped forward with a smile and pointed at the purse she had placed on the table as he asked meaningfully.

Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Fengyao, who began to understand what was going on at this moment. With a slight smile, she nodded and followed the Fourth Prince to the other side of the room.

The Fourth Prince stopped at the window and turned to look at Wei Yuewu. He smiled and said, "Sixth Miss Wei, where did you obtain this safety talisman?"

"Plum Blossom Nunnery!" Wei Yuewu already knew about the fourth prince's suspicions, so she replied calmly and honestly. That Master Fenghe was not someone an ordinary person could see.

"When? Did you get it last time you went to Plum Blossom Nunnery?" The Fourth Prince asked with a certain degree of scrutiny.

"No, just a few days ago." Wei Yuewu replied without hesitation.

This safety talisman was indeed obtained only a few days ago. After seeing the safety talisman that was sent by Wei Qiuju, she asked Jin Ling to go up the mountain to beg a safety talisman for her.

Wei Yuewu knew what the Fourth Prince was suspicious of. When Jin Ling came back from the mountain, she said that there were two kinds of safety talismans on the mountain. One was the style she saw, and the other was not.

Jin Ling secretly asked the nun in the temple and was told that the safety talisman Wei Qiuju sent to Wei Yuewu was of the new style, but the style of the other safety talisman had been used by Plum Blossom

Nunnery for a long time. As for why the nunnery suddenly changed the style, the nun didn't know for sure. She only said that it was ordered by the nun-in-charge.

Now, it seemed that there was some karma in this safety talisman!

"A few days ago?" The Fourth Prince looked like he was going to get to the bottom of everything.

"Yesterday!" Since he had found out that something was unusual, Wei Yuewu naturally wouldn't hide it. Her safety talisman was indeed obtained from Plum Blossom Nunnery, and it indeed took place yesterday. She even asked Jin Ling to donate a lot of Sesame Oil Money. Even if the Fourth Prince decided to investigate the matter, there was evidence.

"Sixth Miss Wei, when you accompanied the Third Princess and Fourth Princess to admire plum blossoms, you were injured in the sword attack. Why didn't you beg a safety talisman at that time? Why did you suddenly beg a safety talisman after being back to the mansion for so long?"

The Fourth Prince looked at the beautiful girl in front of him. Her eyes did not dodge and her response was liberal and dignified. Although he felt that it was impossible for her to lie, he still asked. After all, he could not let anyone know about those things.

"Originally, I didn't intend to beg a safety talisman. However, I suddenly heard that my father was injured yesterday. That's why his return to the capital was delayed. Therefore, I asked the maid to go to Plum Blossom Nunnery to beg a safety talisman. When my father returns to the mansion, I will give it to him. I hope that my father will be safe forever."

A trace of bitterness appeared on Wei Yuewu's lips as she slowly lowered her head.

The Fourth Prince had been staring at Wei Yuewu. He could even see sparkling tears in her eyes, and he inexplicably felt a little more pity for her.

Everyone knew that Sixth Miss Wei was not favored by her father. She was raised in her maternal grandparents' house. For so many years, Marquis Hua Yang had not visited her even once. At this time, she probably wanted to become intimate with her father, but did not know how to achieve her goal. Was this the reason why she thought of begging this safety talisman for her father?

Chapter 203 – Mother, How Can You Do This To Me?

“Sixth Miss Wei, you don’t need to worry about Marquis Hua Yang’s injuries. They are just some old injuries. The last time I saw him, he was still in good health.” The Fourth Prince explained this for Wei Yuewu in his heart. He could not help but console her and said no more about the safety talisman.

Wei Yuewu heaved a sigh of relief in her heart. She knew that the Fourth Prince no longer suspected her. She did not expect that a safety talisman similar to the Fourth Prince’s would attract his suspicions.

Fortunately, she was prepared. Otherwise, the Fourth Prince might have discovered something.

A trace of doubt flashed in her eyes. Why was the Fourth Prince so concerned about this safety talisman? The only difference between his safety talisman and hers was that it had the words “Fenghe” written on it.

Could it be that this Master Fenghe also had some secrets? Suddenly, her heart skipped a beat. That day, Yan Huaijing took her to see this Master Fenghe.

Also in Plum Blossom Nunnery, it was the same Master Fenghe, and her hand seemed to have cooled a little...

“No...mother...you...how could you do this to me!” Wei Fengyao’s sharp voice shocked the two of them. They turned around and looked at Wei Fengyao, who was kneeling on the ground.

Wei Fengyao was so angry that her body trembled. No matter what, she never expected Princess Nan’an to let her accept it. At this time, Wei Fengyao, who clearly understood Princess Nan’an’s intentions, couldn’t help but shout.

She and the heir-apparent had only been married for a few months, so how would she like to see him have a concubine? Moreover, this concubine was Wei Qiuju, her Fifth Younger Sister. How would she face other people in the future?

“Fengyao, I know your love for Ming’er. I know what you’ve done for Prince Nan’an Mansion. Ming’er will respect you more from now on. I’m old now and I have to entrust the matters of the backyard to you.” Princess Nan’an leaned back and said with concern, “Someone, help the heiress-apparent up.”

Two maids hurriedly stretched out their hands, trying to help Wei Fengyao up, but Wei Fengyao frantically pushed them. “Mother, am I guilty of any misconduct after I entered the mansion? Ever since I entered the mansion, have I ever been unfilial to you and father? Why do you treat me like this now?”

As she spoke, tears fell down her cheeks as she tightly grabbed onto her own clothes, feeling extremely distressed.

The two maids didn’t dare to pull her, so they could only retreat to the side.

Princess Nan’an’s expression sank when she saw Wei Fengyao making a fuss. She then noticed the surrounding noble young masters’ gazes and felt a little disgusted. In her opinion, Wei Fengyao was the Heiress-apparent of Prince Nan’an Mansion, so how could she have such disrespectful behavior?

Moreover, what happened today was clear: Wei Fengyao attempted to hurt Wei Yuewu. If her scheme really succeeded, Prince Nan’an Mansion would not be in peace as long as the slightest bit of information was leaked out. Marquis Hua Yang was not someone she could afford to provoke. Back then, he did that crazy thing for Marquise Hua Yang, and now, he might do even a crazier thing for his daughter.

Prince Nan’an Mansion had always been peaceful, and she didn’t want to be dragged into any whirlpool.

“Fengyao, you are the future Princess Nan’an. Your consideration for Prince Nan’an Mansion’s descendants showed your bearing as the heiress-apparent. No one will say anything wrong about it. They will only think that you are sensible and generous. As for the Madam Dowager, I will also send someone to tell her that you have been doing well after marrying into Prince Nan’an Mansion. Otherwise, just by what you did today...”

Princess Nan’an said as she glanced sideways at Wei Yuewu who was standing beside the Fourth Prince and coldly warned Wei Fengyao.

Wei Fengyao's gaze also turned to Wei Yuewu. She immediately remembered her previous plan. A cold trace of hatred flashed through her eyes, but she also understood the current situation. With Wei Yuewu around, she simply couldn't control the situation.

She gritted her teeth and lowered her head in hatred. Her face turned ashen. "Yes, Mother, I will obey your order!"

These were only a few words, but each word was like a knife that pierced into her heart, so fiercely that it made her feel extremely painful and she could hardly breathe.

"Fengyao is really a filial girl. Ming'er, if you fail Fengyao in the future, I will break your legs." Seeing Wei Fengyao let go, Princess Nan'an's expression relaxed and she scolded the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an, who was standing on the side in panic.

The Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an breathed a sigh of relief. He turned around and looked at Wei Qiuju, who was standing behind him and trembling. He immediately felt that his manliness had greatly increased. He patted his chest and assured Wei Fengyao. "Yes, mother, don't worry. Even if Fengyao's face is ruined in the future, I will still treat her as well as always. I will definitely not let her down."

But these words were more like a sharp sword piercing into Wei Fengyao's chest. Wei Fengyao was so angry that her entire body stiffened. Then, she trembled and almost vomited blood.

"Alright, someone, help the heiress-apparent back to rest!" Princess Nan'an was helpless at her son's lousy speaking skills and waved at the two maids.

The two maids went over and helped Wei Fengyao back to her own courtyard.

As soon as Wei Fengyao returned to her room and saw Princess Nan'an's two maids retreated, she couldn't stand any longer and collapsed to the ground, crying loudly.

Outside the door, maids and nurses were all frightened and didn't dare to make a sound, fearing that they would disturb this heiress-apparent.

"Your Heiress-apparent, don't cry. If your tears wet the wound, the wound will be easily inflamed and will leave scars." Her wet nurse, Nurse Jin, had watched her grow up and followed her into the mansion of Prince Nan'an. She felt sorry for Wei Fengyao and came over to comfort her.

"Bitch, bitch, they're all bitches! I won't let them off, I won't let them off." Wei Fengyao gritted her teeth and scolded, but she still received the handkerchief from Nurse Jin's hand and wiped away the tears from the corners of her eyes.

The doctor did tell her so when applying medicine for her. She inexplicably remembered her own mother's face, which was burned by her grandmother and made her suffer a series of accidents after that.

"Bitch!" After wiping away her tears, Wei Fengyao cursed hatefully.

"Your Heiress-apparent, do not worry about anything else. You should have your face treated first. Otherwise, if Fifth Young Lady entered the mansion, the heir-apparent would not even look at you." Nurse Jin looked at Wei Fengyao's tightly wrapped face and advised, "We'll think of a way to deal with Fifth and Sixth Young Ladies in the future."

"No, I can't let those two slut girls have their way!" Wei Fengyao shook her head and stood up with Nurse Jin's help. She sat down on the chair and gritted her teeth.

"You mean..." Nurse Jin asked with confusion.

"Since she dared to ruin my face, I will ruin her face as well. The other one dared to steal my husband, and I will leave her with nothing!" Wei Fengyao's eyes almost dripped with venom.

"Write a letter for me to Concubine Dong. Tell her that I am willing to cooperate with her! Tell her to quickly enter the capital and not waste time on the road! By the way, tell her that Third Younger Sister's reputation is almost ruined. Let her make preparations."

"Yes, I understand!" Nurse Jin nodded her head and asked hesitantly, "Should we notify Second Madam?"

This reminded Wei Fengyao. After thinking for a while, she calmed down. "There's no need to write the letter to Concubine Dong. Tell my mother about the matter and let her contact Concubine Dong."

She knew that there was always a connection between her mother and Concubine Dong. She suddenly remembered that she overheard a conversation between them when she was a child. A trace of coldness flashed in her eyes. Since her mother and Concubine Dong were on the same boat, then with Concubine Dong here, Wei Yuewu would never be able to get away with it...

After something like this happened in the front hall, no one was in the mood to stay any longer. Everyone followed the Fourth Prince to take leave. Wei Yuewu and the others also retreated under the guidance of Princess Nan'an's maid.

However, what she did not expect was that she would actually encounter Yan Huaijing!

Yan Huaijing stood leisurely beside his flamboyant carriage. His handsome face carried a gentle smile as usual. More coincidentally, the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's carriages were all blocked inside. Unless his carriage moved away, their carriages would not be able to get out at all.

Wei Yuejiao looked at Yan Huaijing infatuatedly. She held the handkerchief in her hand and her face flushed. If it wasn't for the maid pulling her, she would have crashed straight into Yan Huaijing.

"Greetings, Your Heir-apparent!" Of course, Wei Yuejiao was speechless now. Wei Qiufu was the oldest of them all, so she had to step forward to deal with him at this time.

"There is no need to stand on ceremony!" Yan Huaijing always behaved like an exiled immortal from the heavens without a trace of worldliness, and there was a mixture of elegance with gentleness in his manners.

However, such a heavenly immortal-like heir-apparent made it even harder for them to speak. Even Wei Qiufu, who had always been gentle and dignified, was stunned for a moment and found it difficult to speak.

Wei Yuewu lowered her head and stood behind Wei Qiufu without saying a word. In any case, she was determined to pretend that she did not exist and decided not to reply.

However, when Yan Huaijing saw her expression, he felt that he couldn't let this little fox slip away from him for nothing.

This time, it was really a coincidence. Prince Nan'an invited him over to discuss something. He didn't expect to see the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's carriages here. After a brief inquiry, he knew that several young ladies from the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang had come to Prince Nan'an Mansion at the heiress-apparent's invitation.

But at the same time, he also knew that something seemed to have happened inside and the heiress-apparent's face was scratched by a dog. He knew that they would come out soon, so he purposely waited here.

"Your Heir-apparent, could you please move aside your carriage?" Wei Qiufu had no choice but to plead. She did not dare to offend this distinguished heir-apparent.

"You ladies are going back home? Are you not going to have lunch here?" Yan Huaijing raised his handsome eyes, glanced sideways at Wei Yuewu, and lazily asked.

As Wei Qiufu spoke, she moved and exposed Wei Yuewu. Wei Yuewu's heart tightened. She subconsciously felt that it was not good and wanted to hide behind Wei Qiufu.

But before she could make a move. Yan Huaijing smiled and said, "Didn't Sixth Miss Wei see me? I remember saving Sixth Miss Wei more than once, right?"

After he said this, Wei Yuewu was secretly annoyed. She had no choice but to walk out from behind Wei Qiufu and gently bow to Yan Huaijing. "Greetings, Your Heir-apparent. I was frightened and didn't restore my senses. That's why I didn't notice you."

Chapter 204 – Disputes In The Carriage

With those words, Wei Yuewu made an excuse for herself.

“What happened?” Yan Huaijing raised his eyebrows, and his long and narrow eyes hooked up into a charming curve.

Wei Yuejiao was even more infatuated. She stared at Yan Huaijing almost in a daze. The maid beside her pulled her several times, but she did not react.

Wei Yuewu smiled brightly, but she pursed her lips in her heart. She did not believe that this powerful heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan State really did not know anything. “Eldest Sister was accidentally harmed by a servant, and her face was hurt!”

“Eldest Sister and Sixth Sister argued. Sixth Sister’s dog hurt Eldest Sister’s face. Eldest Sister is not in good condition!” Wei Yuejiao said at the right time. She couldn’t help but interrupt. What she meant was that Wei Yuewu had hurt Wei Fengyao’s face and Wei Yuewu had malicious intentions.

“The heiress-apparent’s face was hurt?” It was unclear who Yan Huaijing was asking, because there were two young ladies answering him.

Wei Yuewu consciously shut her mouth. She didn’t want to answer if possible. Yan Huaijing had never been easy to deal with.

“Yes, Eldest Sister’s face was badly injured. If not treated carefully, it might be completely ruined. If it wasn’t for Sixth Younger Sister...Eldest Sister wouldn’t actually be like this.” Wei Yuejiao would certainly not miss the opportunity to talk to Yan Huaijing and discredit Wei Yuewu.

“Wasn’t the heiress-apparent’s face harmed by a servant?” Yan Huaijing narrowed his eyes with interest. This was the first time his gaze had landed on Wei Yuejiao.

“No, it’s...” Seeing that Yan Huaijing noticed her, Wei Yuejiao was overjoyed and hurriedly said.

Halfway through her words, she saw a guard walk out from behind Yan Huaijing. The cold sword in his hand pressed against her throat, causing her body to collapse in fear. She fell to the ground with a thud, and her entire body started to tremble.

The sword, however, was like a shadow. It followed down and kept pointing at her throat.

"How dare you offend His Heir-apparent?" The guard shouted.

"I...I didn't!" Wei Yuejiao replied while trembling. She was so frightened that she almost fainted. Although she had grown up at the border and learned some of the boldness of the women there, she was just a young lady in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. She did not even see a sword on normal days, let alone having one against her throat like this.

Wei Yuewu was speechless. She looked at Yan Huaijing, whose expression was still gentle. She told herself in her heart that this was a monster who was good at disguising himself!

"Cut her hair as a punishment!" The clear voice carried a hint of mellowness, but it made Wei Yuejiao feel as if she had fallen into an ice cave.

"Ah!" Wei Yuejiao let out a miserable scream and held her head. A strand of hair was cut off her head, and that part of her hair looked jagged in length.

The guard swiftly retracted his sword and stood behind Yan Huaijing. If Wei Yuejiao wasn't sitting on the ground with her hair disheveled, it would make people think that everything just now was an illusion.

"Is the heiress-apparent alright?" Yan Huaijing asked gracefully. His handsome eyes fell on Wei Yuewu's face. Anyone could tell that he was speaking with Wei Yuewu.

Wei Qiufu secretly sighed and carefully walked away to avoid blocking Wei Yuewu. She could not believe the rumors that the heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan State was as elegant as jade anymore!

"I...Eldest Sister should be fine! Princess Nan'an is still dealing with this matter!" Wei Yuewu had no choice but to reply.

"Sixth Miss Wei, are you alright? I remember saving you several times. Before Marquis Hua Yang comes to thank me, you had better be careful of your own safety." Yan Huaijing paused and said lazily.

"Thank you, Your Heir-apparent!" Wei Yuewu felt aggrieved. Although she secretly rolled her eyes, she had no choice but to thank him again.

It was as if every time she saw him, he would never forget the gratitude she owed him for saving her life. Well, he might as well put a sign on her head to show that she was saved by him.

Wei Yuewu could only express her helplessness towards this monstrous heir's evil taste.

This seemed to make Yan Huaijing satisfied. He said indifferently to Wei Qiufu who was standing aside. "Fourth Miss Wei, is this also a lady from the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang? Go back and tell your Madam Dowager that she really needed to be disciplined!"

After saying that, he led his men inside with Prince Nan'an Mansion's steward.

"Yes...I will convey Your Heir-apparent's words to grandmother!" Wei Qiufu replied respectfully behind him. She looked helplessly at Wei Yuejiao, who was still sitting on the ground with a pale complexion. Her behavior was truly not as dignified as that of a young lady from a noble family.

Sure enough, she was a concubine-born daughter. No matter how capable Concubine Dong was, she couldn't change the fact that she used to be a maid, and the daughter she raised was really a laughing joke.

She asked the maid to help Wei Yuejiao to the side. Yan Huaijing's carriage slowly drove away to make way for their carriages.

"Fifth Younger Sister, how about you and I ride in the same carriage?" Wei Qiufu looked at Wei Qiuju who had been dodging and asked.

Wei Qiuju had been following the crowd all this way, and she was even more afraid of Wei Qiufu. However, she was also afraid of Wei Yuewu now. When the incident happened suddenly, she hurriedly admitted that she had an affair with the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an. As she restored her senses now, she was filled with shame and indignation.

She felt very embarrassed and was also thinking about whom to ride with along the way. It seemed that there was no one else but Wei Yuejiao.

She would inevitably be mocked and ridiculed by Wei Yuejiao, who was arrogant and overbearing. However, Wei Qiuju felt that compared to Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu, Wei Yuejiao was the most suitable one. She was just afraid that Wei Yuejiao would refuse to take the same carriage with her.

Seeing that Wei Qiufu was inviting her, she didn't dare to refuse. She agreed and followed Wei Qiufu into the carriage in the front in grievance.

Wei Yuewu smilingly watched the two of them get into the carriage before turning around and getting into the carriage behind.

In the carriage, Wei Yuejiao was already sitting there. Although she looked coldly at Wei Yuewu, she did not make any trouble.

Compared to Wei Yuejiao, Wei Yan's temperament was indeed much weaker. No wonder when Wei Yuejiao and Wei Yan confronted each other back then, Wei Yan, as the first daughter, was repeatedly defeated.

Of course, Marquis Hua Yang was one of the reasons, but Wei Yuejiao herself was also an element.

The carriage set off and slowly moved forward. The carriage became strangely quiet. The puppies had already been placed in Prince Nan'an Mansion. They would be sent back after they were re-examined.

The maids sat beside their respective young ladies with clear boundaries. After glancing at each other, they all lowered their heads.

"Sixth Younger Sister, father is going back to the capital!" Wei Yuejiao suddenly broke the strange silence in the carriage and her gaze fell on Wei Yuewu. She did not believe that the news would not stir up the slightest ripple.

“Grandmother has mentioned it before!” Wei Yuewu glanced at Wei Yuejiao and smiled. She said calmly, but her heart was cold. She really did not have any feelings for this father. Only others constantly reminded her that she was Marquis Hua Yang’s daughter.

“When father comes back, I will ask him to thank the Heir-apparent of Yan for you. I hope that you will stay away from him in the future.” Wei Yuejiao snorted coldly, as if Wei Luowen would do whatever she said.

“Is His Heir-apparent related to you?” Wei Yuewu raised her eyebrows and leaned back. Her gaze fell on Wei Yuejiao’s hair that had been tidied but still looked messy and she smiled slightly.

Such a smile and gaze seemed like a provocation to Wei Yuejiao. Thinking that she had actually made a fool of herself in front of Wei Yuewu, the suppressed fire in her heart burned fiercely. She almost couldn’t help but want to slap Wei Yuewu and knock off the hateful smile on her face.

“Don’t daydream about him. With me here, father won’t allow you to get involved with the heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan State!” Wei Yuejiao said hatefully, but she didn’t dare to make a move. Her mother had just sent a letter that repeatedly told her to get along well with Wei Yuewu. She had to make people think that she and Wei Yuewu were close sisters.

“Did Third Elder Sister say the opposite?” Wei Yuewu didn’t buy her words. She actually raised her eyes to squint at her and replied disdainfully.

Wei Yuejiao didn’t expect that Wei Yuewu would not only refuse to compromise, but also dare to mouth back. She was so furious that she couldn’t suppress her anger any longer and was about to stand up...

“Miss!” Seeing that Wei Yuejiao was about to get up and lose her temper, Jinzhu hurriedly grabbed her hand and said anxiously.

Wei Yuejiao gritted her teeth and glared at Wei Yuewu hatefully. However, she did not stand up in anger. She only said coldly, “Wei Yuewu, do you think father will care about you?”

"I don't know if father cares about me, but I know that father definitely doesn't care about you!" Wei Yuewu smiled and took a handkerchief from Jin Ling. She slowly wiped her hands and her beautiful eyes shone. Not only was she unhurt by Wei Yuejiao, she also behaved in a leisurely manner.

"Father has been pampering me for so many years, different from you, who were thrown into some unknown corner to die on your own." Wei Yuejiao said proudly.

"So what? At least my identity is a legitimate daughter. You're just a concubine-born daughter." Wei Yuewu smiled and said softly, provoking her quietly.

"Wei Yuewu, you just wait. I'm going to become a legitimate daughter soon." Wei Yuejiao was really mad. There wasn't any outsider at this moment, so she couldn't help but shout angrily.

"Is that so? But why did I hear that father and grandmother are already looking for a husband for you? I heard that it's a good match. That man is handsome, and he is also talented. He was number three in the imperial examination last year and is very handsome. However, he is only a scholar from a poor family. If you marry him, I'm afraid you will have to live a hard life for some time. However, this does match your status."

Wei Yuewu said leisurely, as if she was watching a joke.

"Nonsense!" Wei Yuejiao trembled with anger. So, what if he was number three in the imperial examination? He was just a poor scholar. If she really became Marquis Hua Yang's legitimate daughter, she could even marry a prince. How could she be willing to marry a poor scholar?

"You can ask around and then you will know if I'm talking nonsense. I heard that this man is very romantic. He and Second Elder Sister also had a story. But Second Elder Sister is Second Uncle's legitimate daughter, so it's impossible for her to marry him." Wei Yuewu shook her head and sighed.

Chapter 205 – Prince Nan'An Mansion And The Agreement

Wei Yuejiao had thought that Wei Yuewu was talking nonsense, but now she suddenly remembered that after she came back, she found out that Wei Yan's death indeed had something to do with an Imperial Academician named Xie Qingzhao.

"Xie Qingzhao?" She subconsciously blurted.

"If you don't believe me, you can go back and ask around. This Lord Xie is specially prepared for you." Wei Yuewu's sarcastic gaze silently enraged Wei Yuejiao. She did not believe that Wei Yuejiao could endure it.

The fact was that Xie Qingzhao had indeed proposed to Wei Yuejiao, and he had communicated it to Madam Dowager through Third Madam Zhang. It was probably because he felt that he could not afford a marriage with a legitimate daughter of the mansion, and that of the two concubine-born daughters, Wei Yuejiao was more favored.

"Or, you can ask Fourth Elder Sister. I heard from Fourth Elder Sister that she has a good relationship with Imperial Academician Xie. Perhaps she is more familiar with him than we are."

Wei Yuewu continued to enrage Wei Yuejiao and quietly disclosed Wei Qiufu's previous connection with Xie Qingzhao to her.

"Nonsense, you...you..." Wei Yuejiao couldn't help but scream. She had said that she was going to become a legitimate daughter soon, but now she was told that the person the Madam Dowager intended to betroth her was completely incompatible with her future identity as a legitimate daughter. In other words, she would remain a concubine-born daughter.

This was heart-breaking news to Wei Yuejiao, and she gritted her teeth with hatred.

"Miss, Miss, have you forgotten what Madam said when you came back?" Jinzhu hurriedly pulled on Wei Yuejiao's sleeve and whispered to warn Wei Yuejiao.

Upon hearing about Concubine Dong, Wei Yuejiao was stunned for a moment, and then the anger on her face slowly receded. Finally, her expression calmed down. Although there was anger in her eyes, at least she did not lose her mind.

Wei Yuwu had been watching Wei Yuejiao's reaction all the time. She was surprised that Wei Yuejiao actually listened to the maid! She couldn't help but glance at the maid named Jinzhu. She didn't expect this maid to be so smart.

However, there were enough events today. Now it was not the best time to enrage Wei Yuejiao. After thinking for a while, she closed her eyes slightly and ignored Wei Yuejiao.

Wei Yuejiao gradually calmed down. Looking at Wei Yuwu whose eyes were slightly closed, her eyes were filled with jealousy. Her mother was about to enter the capital soon, so she had to bear with her for a little longer.

The carriage moved forward slowly and it was now completely quiet inside. The two young ladies were leaning on each side, closing their eyes to rest. Of course, the maids did not talk.

The carriages were finally back to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. The four of them got off the carriages and headed towards the Madam Dowager's Tranquility Courtyard with solemn expressions. They were accompanied by a nurse-in-charge of Princess Nan'an.

"What happened?" The Madam Dowager asked with a fierce expression when she saw that her four granddaughters had actually returned early.

"Madam Dowager, our princess sends me here to thank you and to deliver some gifts. Please don't decline." Princess Nan'an's nurse-in-charge smiled and said. She waved her hand and four maids walked forward, each holding a gift in their hands.

"It's so polite of her." The Madam Dowager's expression became even more solemn. No matter what, it was impossible for Prince Nan'an Mansion to deliver gifts under such circumstances. She looked at her four granddaughters who were lowering their heads. She knew that the situation was not good.

"Our princess said that Madam Dowager is really good at nurturing the young ladies. You raised our heiress-apparent so well. Our princess should have already entered the Palace by now. She can't let Fifth Young Lady suffer any grievances." The nurse said smilingly.

“Why is it related to our Fifth Young Lady?” Seeing the Madam Dowager’s increasingly cold face, Nanny Hong stood up and asked.

“Of course she is related. The heiress-apparent feels that her health is not good and wants to let Fifth Young Lady be our heir-apparent’s concubine. So she specially invited Fifth Young Lady over to let our princess and heir-apparent have a look.” Prince Nan’an Mansion’s nurse said politely.

However, the contents of these words made Madam Dowager even angrier. She almost fainted. She pressed down on the corner of the table with trembling hands. Her face went pale with anger.

What did she mean by letting Wei Qiuju be a concubine? Furthermore, she was afraid that others might not like Wei Qiuju, so she specially called her over to let them have a look. What did she think the young lady in the mansion was!

Moreover, even though the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan’an’s status was noble, he was a rogue young master without any talent. If it wasn’t for the fact that Prince Nan’an was the emperor’s biological brother, it would have been impossible for her to marry Wei Fengyao to that useless heir-apparent!

“Where’s your heiress-apparent?” The Madam Dowager forcefully suppressed the anger in her heart and asked in a deep voice.

“One of the maids of our heiress-apparent wanted to harm her and she had a slight wound on her face. It’s inconvenient for her to come back now. When she recovers, she will definitely come back to see you without delay.”

Prince Nan’an Mansion’s nurse replied swiftly. Her answer was perfect and made people believe Prince Nan’an Mansion had no responsibility at all. If there was one, it was merely because Wei Fengyao did not manage the backyard properly and let her maid have other thoughts.

Wei Yuewu secretly sighed. No wonder Princess Nan’an sent her over. Obviously, Princess Nan’an trusted this nurse.

“Please tell Princess Nan’an. Qiuju’s matter cannot be handled in haste.” The Madam Dowager snorted coldly.

“Madam Dowager, this can’t be delayed. Previously, when they were in the mansion, the heir-apparent and Fifth Young Lady also expressed their love for each other and begged our princess and heiress-apparent to help them.” As she said this, the nurse glanced sideways at Wei Qiuju, who was standing aside. A trace of disdain flashed in her eyes. Even as a servant, she knew that this Fifth Young Lady had an affair with the heir-apparent, which was why the matter escalated like this.

Princess Nan’an kept it a secret because she needed to protect her son’s reputation. A young lady actually had an affair with her elder sister’s husband. This was such a disdainful scandal.

“Qiuju, what’s going on?” The Madam Dowager understood what she meant by now, and she glared at Wei Qiuju and shouted sternly.

How could Wei Qiuju still stand at this time? She knelt down with a plop and said, “Grandmother...I...”

Nanny Hong reached out and tugged at the corner of the Madam Dowager’s clothes, reminding her that Prince Nan’an Mansion’s nurse was still there.

“You go back first. We can’t accept these gifts for the time being. Once we figure out what happened, I will definitely visit Princess Nan’an.” The Madam Dowager took a deep breath and said. This meant that she would go to see Prince Nan’an Mansion and talk with her after the matter was clear.

“This...”

“Nanny Hong, send the guests off!” The Madam Dowager became impatient.

Nanny Hong took a step forward and smiled as she made a “please” gesture. The nurse-in-charge knew that the Madam Dowager was in a rage now and that she couldn’t force her too much. So she respectfully bowed to the Madam Dowager and retreated with Nanny Hong.

The Madam Dowager pounded heavily on the table and angrily said to Wei Qiuju, “Tell me, what’s going on?”

Wei Qiuju recounted what had happened in Prince Nan'an Mansion. She did not conceal anything. She admitted that she mistook the safety talisman in Wei Yuewu's purse for the Fourth Prince's and offended the Fourth Prince. In the end, she was forced to say that she had an affair with the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an because she had angered the Fourth Prince. She was afraid that the Fourth Prince would really pursue the matter and that she couldn't bear the responsibility.

Her words were extremely well organized. Although she cried as she spoke, she did not shirk her responsibility in the major issues. It seemed that a misunderstanding caused such a result.

Wei Yuewu smiled coldly and swept her gaze over Wei Qiufu who was looking at Wei Qiuju with a worried expression. Such words were not something Wei Qiuju could come up with. Even if Wei Qiuju mentioned her and the Fourth Prince, she would not dare to admit her mistake. But now, she not only admitted it, but she also said that she had misunderstood and explained the matter to the Madam Dowager so clearly.

However, these words directed the topic to her...

"Grandmother, the incident happened suddenly. My sisters and I were unable to react for a while. After that, Sixth Younger Sister's dog suddenly went crazy and started to attack people. Originally, it almost injured Sixth Younger Sister. Later, for some reason, it rushed towards Eldest Sister across from Sixth Younger Sister. Eldest Sister's face was scratched." Wei Qiufu explained for Wei Qiuju.

On the surface, these words sounded unbiased and extremely fair, and they even vaguely meant to help Wei Yuewu. It seemed she was trying to explain for Wei Yuewu, and she was very protective of her sister.

But in fact, she meant that Wei Yuewu was the culprit.

The Madam Dowager looked at Wei Qiufu with a gentler expression, but when she turned to Wei Yuewu, her expression turned sharp and she said angrily, "Yuewu, tell me, what happened to your dog?"

As Wei Yuewu heard Wei Qiufu's words, she knew she was framing her and she answered calmly, "Grandmother, that dog was sent by Eldest Sister. I kept it here for the night last night, but it was in low spirits. Today, when I left, it still had its eyes closed. When I got to Prince Nan'an Mansion, the maid

beside Eldest Sister had something on her body that irritated the puppy. After I dodged, it pounced on Eldest Sister.”

The words were well-organized and informative.

How would a maid be capable of doing such a thing?

The dog was sent over by Wei Fengyao. The maid had a drug on her body that could drive the puppy crazy. The target was obviously Wei Yuewu. It was just a coincidence that Wei Yuewu avoided it, and Wei Fengyao, who was standing opposite Wei Yuewu, was injured.

The Madam Dowager understood the meaning behind it and her expression relaxed a little.

“Grandmother, Princess Nan’an said that she would definitely punish that maid and help Eldest Sister discipline the servants. This will never happen again!”

Wei Yuewu added.

“Princess Nan’an didn’t say anything else?” When the Madam Dowager heard that Princess Nan’an did not pursue the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang’s responsibility, she couldn’t help but ask and frown more tightly.

“The princess was very reasonable. She did not blame me. She also said that she wanted to form a relation by marriage with the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Coincidentally, the Fourth Prince was also there. He also said that he would return to the Palace to explain the matter between Fifth Elder Sister and the heir-apparent.” Wei Yuewu explained tactfully.

But she secretly revealed some information...

Chapter 206 – The Most Ambitious Woman

The Madam Dowager was quite sophisticated and had certainly realized some implied meaning in Wei Yewu's words. She frowned tightly and looked at Wei Yewu thoughtfully.

Princess Nan'an was a formidable person. If this incident really had nothing to do with Wei Fengyao, she would certainly ask the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang to apologize. But now, Princess Nan'an didn't make a fuss, and she even acknowledged the relationship between Wei Qiuju and the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an, and she intentionally showed her favor for Wei Qiuju. In consideration of these, the Madam Dowager believed that Wei Qiuju must enjoy a high status even if she was merely a concubine in Prince Nan'an Mansion.

That meant Wei Qiuju would become a properly-recognized concubine of the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an.

On the surface, it seemed that Prince Nan'an Mansion had suffered a loss. But why did Princess Nan'an accept it all?

Finding Wei Yewu had successfully handled the risk, Wei Qiufu said with a smile, "Grandmother, could it be that the Sixth Younger Sister didn't know how to raise dogs and therefore fed the dog something unusual so that the dog ended up with such mad behaviors? Third Elder Sister, what do you think?"

Obviously, she was trying to blame Wei Yewu for making the dog go mad. Moreover, she was asking Wei Yuejiao, and everyone could see the discord between Wei Yuejiao and Wei Yewu.

Wei Qiufu really wouldn't let go of any chance to cause trouble. She was more like a venomous snake always seeking an opportunity to attack...

Wei Yuejiao had been trying to cause some trouble for Wei Yewu. She was quick to seize the chance and with a sneer, she said, "Sixth Younger Sister, we each have a dog. But why did your dog suddenly become mad when our dogs were fine?"

Wei Yewu smiled and looked deeply at Wei Qiufu. The corners of her mouth curled into a smile, "Are both of you claiming that our mansion of Marquis Hua Yang should be held accountable? Are you blaming the people of our mansion for not knowing how to raise dogs?"

Hearing these words, the look in the Madam Dowager's eyes turned sinister. She swept her gaze over Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuejiao. She snorted coldly and directly stopped the topic by saying, "There's no need to mention this matter anymore. Prince Nan'an Mansion should be held responsible since the dog was given by Prince Nan'an Mansion and the maid who caused this trouble also belonged to Prince Nan'an Mansion. Now, let's talk about Qiuju!"

She shifted the topic to Wei Qiuju.

"Qiuju, is there really nothing special between you and the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an?"

"Grandmother... that's really a temporary measure I came up with in an emergent situation. I never thought that things would turn out like this. I beg you to forgive me, grandmother!" When Wei Qiuju found that the topic had been switched back to her again, she covered her face with a handkerchief and cried.

"Grandmother, Princess Nan'an has already said that she would give Fifth Elder Sister a fair and justified result. She also said that she would go into the Palace to explain this matter personally. Moreover, the Eldest Sister also admitted her guilt over this matter." Wei Yuewu said softly.

Only with Princess Nan'an's intervention did Wei Fengyao take the blame for the incident. Considering the inexplicable disaster Wei Fengyao experienced and Princess Nan'an's attitude, the Madam Dowager was now certain that Wei Fengyao must be the key to explaining why the puppy delivered to Wei Yuewu had something wrong and went mad to such a degree that it even hurt people. These must have something to do with Wei Fengyao.

Otherwise, it would be impossible for Princess Nan'an to do so, nor would it be possible for Wei Fengyao to really admit her guilt over this matter. Their responses today were obviously intended to turn the big dispute into a trivial matter and even to nothing.

The Madam Dowager pondered for a moment, then she coldly swept her gaze across Wei Qiuju and said, "I'll send someone to ask Princess Nan'an about this incident. All of you can go back now!"

"Grandmother, how about the Eldest Sister's face..." Seeing that this matter would probably be settled in this way and Wei Yuewu didn't receive any punishment, Wei Yuejiao became somewhat unwilling.

“This is something that Princess Nan’an should worry about. Your Eldest Sister is now the Heiress-apparent of Prince Nan’an Mansion and she has a wide range of rare medicine supplies. You don’t have to worry about that. If you do care about your Eldest Sister, why didn’t you speak to show your concern for her in Prince Nan’an Mansion?”

The Madam Dowager almost blurted out these words. She was full of anger at this time and she was suppressing her anger. But Wei Yuejiao’s talk was rather irritating to her. So it was not surprising at all that Wei Yuejiao would be scolded by her.

Wei Qiufu knew that the Madam Dowager was venting her anger on Wei Yuejiao. So she immediately lowered her head and restrained herself from talking anymore, nor did she dare to say anything else.

“Grandmother, I...” Wei Yuejiao was scolded inexplicably and started to weep at the moment. She covered her mouth with a handkerchief and sobbed.

“Third Elder Sister, don’t cry. Grandmother is old and can’t stand it!” Said Wei Yuewu.

Older people naturally didn’t want their juniors to be crying in front of them all day long. They believed it was rather disappointing and caused them bad luck. Now, the Madam Dowager was thinking about Wei Fengyao’s wounded face and was feeling uncomfortable. So when she found Wei Yuejiao was even crying in front of her, she quickly showed a trace of disgust in her eyes.

“What are you crying for? All of you, get out of here!” She snorted coldly.

Her tone was extremely harsh. Although she said these words to all of them, she was looking exactly at Wei Yuejiao coldly. Wei Yuejiao trembled as she found her grandmother’s gaze today was completely different from the usually amiable gaze in the past. So Wei Yuejiao dared not cry anymore. Then, she turned to stare at Wei Yuewu with a gloomy gaze and went out with everyone else while wiping tears in her eyes.

Wei Yuewu never cared about such gazes that couldn’t cause substantial harm to her. So she ignored that gaze and didn’t even look at Wei Yuejiao after leaving the Madam Dowager’s courtyard.

Wei Yuejiao knew that she was severely humiliated due to Wei Yuewu this time. She walked to the gate of the courtyard, stomped her feet hatefully, and turned away.

Wei Qiufu wanted to stay and talk to Wei Yuewu. But she could only restrain when she found Wei Yuewu showed her a polite smile and nodded before leaving with her maid.

A trace of thoughtfulness flashed in Wei Qiufu's eyes. Wei Yuewu was becoming more and more difficult to deal with! She didn't really know if the investigation had any progress. If it was true, she ought to come up with a more careful arrangement.

It was not an appropriate time to have any direct conflict with Wei Yuewu until the matter was clear...

"Fourth Elder Sister!" Wei Qiuju's timid voice came from behind.

"Let's go back as well!" Wei Qiufu nodded and said gently to Wei Qiuju.

"Yes, Fourth Elder Sister... I... what should I do next?" Wei Qiuju nodded. Seeing Wei Qiufu walking forward, she hurriedly trotted a few steps to catch up with Wei Qiufu and asked in a low voice.

Wei Qiuju was indeed at a loss at the moment. When the incident happened, she didn't do anything but insisted that she had developed a special relationship with the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an. Later, the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an tried his best to protect her, which made her feel safe.

But when she returned to the mansion, she became more and more afraid. When she was still in the carriage just now, Wei Qiufu also hinted that the reason why Wei Yan "committed suicide" was also to protect the reputation of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Otherwise, with Wei Yan's temperament, it would be impossible for her to go so far as to "commit suicide".

This confirmed Wei Qiuju's previous thoughts, and she believed that her own affair was also dishonorable. Upon thinking that the Madam Dowager could even punish Wei Yan so severely, Wei Qiuju believed that the Madam Dowager definitely would not let her off. So Wei Qiuju was both shocked and afraid. She had long forgotten how Wei Qiufu had framed her up. She only felt that Wei Qiufu's words were reasonable and wanted to rely on Wei Qiufu for help.

Naturally, she would listen to Wei Qiufu whatever she said...

"Miss, why do the Fifth Young Lady and the Fourth Young Lady become so close with each other again?" Huamo turned to look behind and asked in surprise.

"Because Wei Qiufu is useful!" Wei Yuewu's eyes lifted slightly as she said indifferently.

When Wei Qiufu was asking Wei Qiuju to take the same carriage with her, Wei Yuewu had already known that the two of them would reconcile.

Fortunately, she didn't have any good impression about Wei Qiuju, who was always sarcastic and would become selfish and vicious at critical moments. This time, the reason why she helped Wei Qiuju enter the Prince Nan'an Mansion was to let her fight with Wei Fengyao. Since both of them had conspired to plot against her, she would rather help Wei Qiuju enter Prince Nan'an Mansion for them to have internal fights with each other.

But when it came to Wei Qiufu, Wei Yuewu believed that Wei Qiufu had no reason to be involved in this matter, nor did Wei Qiufu need to contend with Wei Fengyao. However, Wei Qiufu did interfere in the matter and it seemed that Wei Qiufu had won Wei Qiuju's trust. Was she going to help Wei Qiuju fight with Wei Fengyao? Or was she optimistic about Wei Qiuju?

What Wei Qiufu did was rather strange. She hadn't settled her own personal affairs yet, but it seemed that she was actively ganging up with others to form her own cliques. In Wei Qiufu's seemingly indifferent eyes, Wei Yuewu could occasionally find traces of ambition.

Even the Madam Dowager probably didn't expect such an ambitious woman to appear in the most insignificant branch of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!

Unfortunately, Wei Qiufu wanted to climb high by sacrificing Wei Yuewu...

Back in Lotus Courtyard, Nurse Mei was also surprised by Wei Yuewu's sudden return. However, Nurse Mei still asked Shufei to go to the kitchen to get lunch for Wei Yuewu. Fortunately, the Madam Dowager had already asked the kitchen to prepare lunches for the young ladies. But even so, the maids sent by several young ladies still have to wait in the kitchen for a while.

“Why are there so many fresh vegetables?” Shufei asked in surprise while looking at the baskets of fresh melons and fruits in the kitchen. When she came into the kitchen in the morning, she didn’t see so many vegetables.

“We just received a message today. Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong would soon come back to the capital. If they are not delayed, they would be at home by noon tomorrow. The Madam Dowager especially asked the kitchen to make preparations, and more vegetables will be delivered tomorrow.” The charging maidservant answered with a smile as she sat on a small bench, trimming vegetables for cooking.

“Today’s message?” Shufei was stunned for a moment and asked.

“Indeed. I just received the message not long ago. Look, those fresh vegetables were immediately delivered to the kitchen. The Madam Dowager must feel sorry for Lord Marquis since he didn’t have many fresh vegetables at the border.” The maidservant replied.

After that, she looked around and found no one noticed her. Then, she reached out her hand and waved to Shufei.

Shufei hurriedly squatted down and moved her head closer...

“In fact, Concubine Dong likes fresh vegetables the most. At this time every year, when Concubine Dong comes back, our mansion would always prepare similar vegetables. It’s really not easy to find fresh vegetables at this time of year.” The maidservant complained while pointing at the baskets of vegetables in front of her, “We need to sort them out today. Tomorrow, new fresh vegetables will be delivered. By then, we need to pick the freshest vegetables, stir-fry them, and serve them to the table.”

“You do so every year?” Shufei asked with a blink of her eyes.

“Yes, we do. Once upon a time, we didn’t get prepared in advance and not many fresh vegetables were served on the table. I heard that Concubine Dong refused to have any food. Nanny Hong even sent people to punish us. As a result, every of us had our salary deducted.”

The maidservant’s voice became even lower, and there was a trace of indignation in it.

Well, Concubine Dong was merely a concubine in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Although there were many concubines in the mansion, no one ever came up with such particular requirements. Especially, no concubine would ever disgrace the kitchen servants as soon as she was back. So it was only natural for the maidservant to have some grudge against Concubine Dong.

At this time, the kitchen had already finished making the food for Lotus Courtyard. A junior maid brought it over for Shufei. Shufei stood up and returned to Lotus Courtyard with the lunch.

On the other side, the dishes for the other young ladies were also ready one by one, and the maids from various courtyards walked out with lunches in their hands.

Wei Yuewu was watching Huamo working on the embroidery screen. Huamo only had time to occasionally work on the embroidery pattern, so she had just finished a small part of it. However, the overall pattern was already visible. Obviously, the pattern was basically identical to one of the patterns she found at Wei Yuejiao's place.

However, although the pattern looked similar, it was still only a fake. The real screen that her mother had embroidered was still in Wei Yuejiao's possession.

Thinking that the screen was embroidered by her mother bit by bit, Wei Yuewu showed a harsh look across her eyes.

"Miss, I heard that Concubine Dong will be back tomorrow. The Madam Dowager asked the kitchen to prepare a lot of vegetables. It's said that those vegetables are specially prepared for Concubine Dong. But in this season, there might not be such vegetables tomorrow. So, the Madam Dowager asked the kitchen to send some vegetables to the kitchen today." Shufei reported as she placed Wei Yuewu's lunch on the table.

The Madam Dowager cared way too much about Concubine Dong! One would believe that Concubine Dong were Madam Dowager's favorite daughter.

Wei Yuewu stood up and received the towel from Jin Ling. She wiped her hands and asked indifferently. "What else did the kitchen say?"

Chapter 207 – An Old Story, And The Key To Mother’S Courtyard

“It was said that one time, Concubine Dong returned to the mansion, she left the dining table angrily because she didn’t like the dishes. As a result, the Madam Dowager punished the kitchen servants by deducting their salary.” Shufei told Wei Yuewu everything she had heard.

“Miss, I think the Madam Dowager is treating Concubine Dong so kind that they don’t seem to be a mother-in-law and a concubine. Concubine Dong is more like a relative of the Madam Dowager.” Huamo couldn’t help but interrupt when she heard what Huamo said.

“I don’t think they are relatives. On the contrary, it seems that the Madam Dowager is trying to please Concubine Dong.” Jin Ling had a deeper insight and said after thinking for a moment.

“How could it be? Concubine Dong is not even considered a mistress in this family. The Madam Dowager is the most respected in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.” Huamo retorted in surprise.

Wei Yuewu received the chopsticks from Shufei and had a small mouthful of rice. A ripple appeared in her eyes. The Madam Dowager’s attitude towards Concubine Dong was indeed strange. In fact, the Madam Dowager was treating not only Concubine Dong but also Wei Yuewu’s father in an unusual manner.

Her attitude towards Wei Yuejiao was also strange. Could a granddaughter who had grown up elsewhere have a closer relationship with the Madam Dowager even than a granddaughter whom she raised herself? Not to mention one of them was a legitimate daughter and another one was a concubine-born daughter!

No matter what, the Madam Dowager was expected to side with Wei Yan whenever Wei Yuejiao was having a dispute with Wei Yan. However, the fact was exactly the opposite. It was said that the Madam Dowager would side by Wei Yuejiao without hesitation whenever Wei Yan and Wei Yuejiao liked the same thing at the same time.

When it came to her return to the mansion, Wei Yuewu clearly knew that it was impossible for the Madam Dowager to have any real concern for her. However, when some accident happened to her, the anxiety and nervousness that the Madam Dowager had shown didn’t seem to be fake.

Was it because Wei Yuewu herself was the legitimate daughter of Marquis Hua Yang? Or was there some secret in the first branch of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang that made the Madam Dowager fearful of people of the first branch? Maybe, that was why the Madam Dowager would treat the people from the first branch differently, even including a concubine.

But what was the reason?

She inexplicably recalled the box left behind by her mother. She took a sip of soup and some faint mist slowly rose in front of her, giving her delicate face a subtle and unreal beauty.

Suddenly, Wei Yuewu seemed to remember something. "Jin Ling, go and invite Nurse Mei to come here."

"Yes, I'll go immediately!" Jin Ling immediately stopped arguing and went out to look for Nurse Mei.

When Nurse Mei came in, Wei Yuewu put down the bowl in her hand. After rinsing her mouth, she sat down again. She had to consult Nurse Mei about something so that she could be sure of something. She could only clearly remember some strange fragments of her childhood memories. The rest of her childhood memories were quite blurry.

Huamo served the tea. Wei Yuewu put it aside but didn't drink it. She lowered her head and pondered for a moment before asking, "Nurse Mei, I want to visit my mother's yard."

The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang was relatively large, and there were many courtyards in the mansion. The first branch had not many masters living in the mansion over the years. So quite a few courtyards were left vacant. When Wei Yuewu had just returned to the mansion, she heard that her mother's courtyard was still there. However, the courtyard was locked and Nanny Hong had the key. Occasionally, Nanny Hong would send people to clean the yard. She didn't let anyone in unless necessary.

"Miss, only Nanny Hong has the key. Nanny Hong will not allow you to go there." Nurse Mei said with an embarrassed look.

Nurse Mei clearly knew that Nanny Hong was the most trusted servant of the Madam Dowager. Without the Madam Dowager's permission, she would never give the key to Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu took a sip of tea. Her beautiful face behind the mist was somewhat blurry and distant. "According to the rumors in the mansion, my father refused to marry anyone else because of my mother. Is that true?"

"Lord Marquis is really nice to Madam Marquise. I was lucky enough to have witnessed the wedding between Lord and Madam. Ever since they got married, Lord Marquis would always listen to Madam Marquise. At that time, although I was not serving Madam Marquise, I knew that Lord Marquis would hurry back and help Madam Marquise shoulder responsibility whenever she was punished by the Madam Dowager. Sometimes, Lord Marquis would even volunteer to do protracted kneeling for Madam Marquise."

When Nurse Mei started to work in the mansion, Wei Yuewu's mother had just married into the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Wei Yuewu had inquired and she learned that a large number of servants were replaced and many new servants were brought in. As a result, many servants were unable to clearly tell what happened back then. Perhaps, some people did clearly know about those stories. But she didn't know how to find them.

He tried to share the responsibility for Mom? Wei Yuewu keenly noticed the implied meaning of Nurse Mei's words. But as soon as Nurse Mei finished speaking, she sighed softly.

Under such circumstances, her mother would only receive more punishment!

"What happened later?" Wei Yuewu asked, "Did my mother really have no child after being married for many years?"

Wei Yuewu felt that she had been looking in the wrong direction. Child? From the case of Madam Li, she could tell that the Madam Dowager was extremely concerned about the issue of offsprings. Her father and mother didn't have any child after so many years of marriage. That should be an important reason why the Madam Dowager punished her mother!

"Madam Marquise didn't give birth to any child for at least 7 years after her marriage. However, the Madam Dowager didn't really punish Madam Marquise for this matter except for asking Concubine

Dong to serve Lord Marquis. Even though Madam Marquise finally gave birth to a daughter, the Madam Dowager didn't blame her at all. Instead, the Madam Dowager found trouble with Madam Marquise in other matters."

Even Nurse Mei felt that this was strange. Every old servant in the mansion knew that the Madam Dowager disliked Madam Marquise the most. However, the Madam Dowager didn't make use of Madam Marquise's biggest weakness, namely, her failure to give birth to a male offspring. Instead, the Madam Dowager chose to find trouble with Madam Marquise in other aspects.

"Was there anything...unusual about my mother?" Wei Yuewu slightly frowned and asked after a pause.

"Madam Marquise had always been in poor health conditions. Soon after she married into the mansion, she became ill. At that time, the Madam Dowager even allowed her not to pay her daily respects. Madam Marquise didn't recover until after a long time. After that, she always had a sick look and her state of health was not very good. But I remembered that Madam Marquise was quite healthy shortly after she entered the mansion and she was in good spirits and health conditions. I wondered if that serious illness caused serious damage to her health."

Nurse Mei recalled. However, she was not a servant of Marquise Hua Yang. So she could only occasionally meet her. At this time, she couldn't provide a detailed account of Marquise Hua Yang.

"Had my father always treated my mother well even after he had Concubine Dong and Concubine Dong gave birth to Wei Yuejiao?" After hearing Nurse Mei's account, Wei Yuewu pondered for a moment and her eyes flashed with a trace of blurred contemplation.

"Lord Marquis had always treated Madam Marquise very well and he had remained indifferent to Concubine Dong. When Madam Marquise was still alive, Lord Marquis rarely went to Concubine Dong's place. The Madam Dowager even seriously scolded him for this, but it was still useless. However, after Madam Marquise passed away, Lord Marquis seemed to have changed into another person. He sent you away and started to treat Concubine Dong and the Third Young Lady well." Nurse Mei replied.

This answer surprised Wei Yuewu a little. Judging by Nurse Mei's words, could it be that her father was in fact an affectionate and loyal man? However, Wei Yuewu didn't think so. Nanny Han had been a close maid of her mother. Nanny Han's account was enough to make Wei Yuewu side by her own mother.

Obviously, something had happened between her mother and her father, so that her mother became seriously ill and remained in poor health conditions after that. As for the Madam Dowager's reaction, it was even stranger. It would be rather unacceptable for the Madam Dowager that her daughter-in-law didn't give birth to any child after so many years of marriage, since infertility was one of the seven reasons for which women got divorced. However, although the Madam Dowager hated Mom very much, she turned a blind eye to this and even never mentioned this matter.

Ever since Wei Yuewu returned to the mansion, she had several interactions with the Madam Dowager, and she didn't feel that the Madam Dowager was a kind and soft-hearted person.

"Nurse Mei, go to the Tranquility Courtyard to invite Nanny Hong to come over. Just tell her I have something to ask her." After careful consideration, Wei Yuewu's fair and tender fingers circled the teacup twice. Wei Yuewu had already come up with an idea. Since everyone was deeply convinced that her father was indeed having deep affections to her mother, she would like to make use of the situation.

The reason why she asked Nurse Mei so many questions was not only because she wanted to learn about the past stories between her father and mother, but also because she had to get the key to her mother's courtyard. This might be the key to solving the problem...

Just when they were talking, a young maid started shouting outside, "Sixth Young Lady, Nanny Hong is here!"

Huamo lifted the curtain and Nanny Hong walked in with a smile. "Congratulations, Sixth Young Lady. Congratulations, Sixth Young Lady."

Although Wei Yuewu was clear of what was going on, she didn't show it on her face. She asked with a faint smile. "What is the good news, Nanny Hong?"

"Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong will be back tomorrow. You will soon have a family reunion." Nanny Hong smiled happily.

"Tomorrow? Wouldn't it take a few more days?" Wei Yuewu asked in surprise. In the earlier message, Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong would arrive several days later because of Wei Luowen's injury. Slowing down would be beneficial to Wei Luowen's injury. That was exactly what the earlier message had said.

“Yes, the earlier message did say so. But Concubine Dong considered that you haven’t seen Lord Marquis for many years and she thought that they had better come back quickly. Therefore, she quickened the pace in order to get back earlier to see you.” Nanny Hong explained with a smile.

However, Nanny Hong only mentioned Concubine Dong, as if Wei Luowen, as Wei Yuewu’s own father, didn’t have any objection at all. That also meant Wei Luowen didn’t really care about this daughter. According to Nanny Hong’s description, only Concubine Dong seemed to be trying her best to please Wei Yuewu.

Well, perhaps Nanny Hong was waiting to hear her express thanks to Concubine Dong? Wei Yuewu sneered in her heart.

“No wonder when Shufei went to the kitchen to get lunch, she found a lot of fresh vegetables. It was said that those vegetables were specially prepared for Concubine Dong.” Wei Yuewu quickly changed the topic. Although she did mention Concubine Dong in her talk, she was in fact suggesting that the Madam Dowager cared about a concubine even more than she cared about Lord Marquis who was the real master of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

Wei Yuewu changed the topic very quickly and she also mentioned Concubine Dong, but there seemed to be nothing wrong with what she said. However, the implied meaning made Nanny Hong unable to continue the topic. So Nanny Hong could only chuckle a few times before replying, “Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong have been living at the border for a long time, where few fresh vegetables could be found. That’s why the Madam Dowager would prepare so many fresh vegetables for Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong.”

Inexplicably, Nanny Hong suddenly felt that the Sixth Young Lady was extremely difficult to deal with. Her heart skipped one beat and she felt slightly uneasy.

Wei Yuewu’s smile slowly faded away and the corner of her lips curled up with bitterness. Then, she asked, “Nanny Hong, do you know whether my father treated my mother well when she was alive?”

“Lord Marquis had treated Madam Marquise extremely well. That was why Lord Marquis hasn’t married for so many years. Although Concubine Dong has been serving him for so many years, he has not yet made Concubine Dong his legitimate wife. It’s all because Lord Marquis has been missing Madam

Marquise for so many years!” Nanny Hong was lost for a moment but she immediately explained with a smile.

“Did my father really treat my mother well?” Wei Yuewu raised her watery eyes and asked as if she wasn’t quite convinced.

“Absolutely!” Nanny Hong nodded while squinting.

As a matter of fact, Nanny Hong was not exaggerating, because she did witness how well the Marquis treated Madam Marquise. At that time, Madam Marquise was in fact the most precious treasure in his eyes that he was extremely attentive about her. Everyone could see from his eyes how much he cared about Madam Marquise when he was looking at her.

However, Nanny Hong could only keep something in her heart as a secret. She swore that she would never tell the secret to anyone. That secret involved a heinous crime that could have one’s whole clan executed. A nanny like her couldn’t afford the consequences.

Chapter 208 – The Fallen Leaves Of Winter

Wei Yuewu kept staring coldly at Nanny Hong. When she found that Nanny Hong’s eyes flickered, a sneer slid through her eyes. It seemed that Nanny Hong must know some inside stories.

“Nanny Hong, since my father has always been missing my mother, he would never allow my mother’s courtyard to become desolate in ruins, right? I want to borrow the key to my mother’s courtyard so that I could clean it up before my father arrives.” Wei Yuewu smiled and said.

“Well...” Nanny Hong hesitated.

Marquise Hua Yang’s courtyard was not a place that anyone could go. The Madam Dowager sometimes found it rather difficult to handle the courtyard. She only hoped that everyone would ignore the existence of that courtyard.

“Is that impossible? Or did you say those words merely to make me feel better? Could it be that my father didn’t care about my mother at all and would rather like to see the courtyard where my mother lived become desolate?” Wei Yuewu frowned slightly. Her long eyelashes flashed for a moment with a wisp of sadness.

Anyone girl would feel sad if her biological mother died when she was a kid and her biological father kept ignoring her mother’s old residence and allowed it to be desolate.

“No... it’s not as you imagine...” Nanny Hong, who had always been sophisticated, couldn’t help but even stutter at the moment. Today, Nanny Hong was merely coming to deliver a message on behalf of the Madam Dowager and to express Concubine Dong’s goodwill towards the Sixth Young Lady. But how did the topic deviate to Madam Marquise’s courtyard?

Moreover, she could not deny the deep affection Lord Marquis had towards Madam Marquise. She had always been a witness of their deep emotion, and many people in the mansion also knew about it. Moreover, Lord Marquis’s intentions had always been hard to guess. Nanny Hong didn’t dare to comment on this issue.

In the past, the Sixth Young Lady was sent away and when Lord Marquis was not in the mansion, it didn’t really matter to talk about this issue. But now that the Sixth Young Lady had come back, Nanny Hong was afraid that she might land herself in trouble if she said anything wrong.

Nanny Hong suddenly regretted not having someone tidy up Madam Marquise’s courtyard earlier.

“Nanny, if you find it difficult, then forget it. After my father returns to the mansion, I will directly ask him! I just want to know why he would allow my mother’s courtyard to become desolate like this since he has always cherished her for so many years.” Wei Yuewu wasn’t in a hurry as she looked at Nanny Hong and said leisurely.

However, the meaning behind her words was clearly quite serious!

Cold sweat started to appear on Nanny Hong’s forehead. No one ever dared to report that to Lord Marquis. Once Lord Marquis became angry upon hearing the news, Nanny Hong was clear that even the Madam Dowager might not be able to protect her.

“Sixth Young Lady, you don’t have to report to Lord Marquis. You are different from the other young ladies in the mansion since you were born by Madam Marquise. You can certainly tidy the courtyard up. I have the key on me and I’ll immediately give it to you.” As Nanny Hong spoke, she untied a bunch of keys from her waist.

She picked one key from the bunch and handed it over to Wei Yuewu respectfully.

Jin Ling received the key from the aside and thanked Nanny Hong with a smile, “Thank you, Nanny Hong! With this key, our young lady can clean it up first, so that when Lord Marquis returned to the mansion, he wouldn’t be angry with the desolate look of Madam Marquise’s courtyard.”

“This is my fault. I should have sent someone to clean it up a long time ago. However, the Second Young Lady came across frequent incidents. I have been busy helping the Madam Dowager handle those incidents. That’s why I forgot about this matter for a while. It’s truly my fault to let the Sixth Young Lady worry about this matter. I hope that you can forgive me!” Nanny Hong said apologetically, making Wei Yan the scapegoat for all her mistakes.

Nanny Hong’s implication was clear: she had been so busy that she forgot to tidy up the courtyard. She didn’t deliberately neglect her duty.

“It’s alright, Nanny Hong, please go back. I’ll go tidy it up in a moment!” Hearing this, Wei Yuewu silently swept her gaze across Nanny Hong’s face while slightly curving the corners of her lips.

“Yes, yes... I’m leaving...” Nanny Hong subconsciously wanted to leave. Suddenly, she remembered why she had come here. So she stopped, turned around again, and said with a smile, “Sixth Young Lady, the Madam Dowager asked you and the Third Young Lady to greet Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong tomorrow.”

Nanny Hong had been quite panicked. She almost forgot about her errand. When she remembered why she was here, she felt something strange in her heart. Hadn’t the Sixth Young Lady intentionally digressed from the topic?

“I got it. Nanny, you may leave now!” Wei Yuewu smiled silently and nodded to show her agreement.

Seeing that Wei Yuewu had agreed so readily, Nanny Hong secretly wiped away her sweat and took her leave.

“Miss, what did the Madam Dowager mean? It’s quite normal for you to greet Lord Marquis. But why did she ask you to greet Lord Marquis and Concubine Dong? She is merely a concubine and doesn’t really deserve to be greeted by you.” Jin Ling put the key on the table and said indignantly.

Wei Yuewu stood up and walked to the window. Her delicate little face was illuminated by the mottled sunlight outside the window. After a while, she said slightly, “I guess she wants to show her affection for me.”

In any case, Concubine Dong was merely an excuse. The Madam Dowager did ask Wei Yuewu to greet her father and Concubine Dong. But in the popular rumors, people would only say that Wei Yuewu went to greet her father. Moreover, Wei Yuewu could learn from the conversations between the Madam Dowager and Nanny Hong that Concubine Dong was a tricky person. Even though the Marquis never promoted Concubine Dong’s status, Concubine Dong kept serving the Marquis diligently without complaining anything.

In this case, everyone would think that Concubine Dong was a nice person.

Therefore, Concubine Dong would never embarrass Wei Yuewu in public. Instead, Concubine Dong would even highly praise Wei Yuewu. By doing so, she would portray herself as a virtuous woman who was wholeheartedly serving Marquis Hua Yang without seeking any status promotion or personal gains.

Wei Yuewu could even figure out why Concubine Dong asked to be greeted by her and Wei Yuejiao. In fact, Concubine Dong was trying to let more people see that Wei Yuewu and Wei Yuejiao were having a harmonious relationship and that she cared about Wei Yuewu, perhaps even more than she cared about her own daughter.

This would make everyone feel that Wei Yuewu, a motherless legitimate daughter, was not only arrogant and rude but also disrespectful of the elders...

“It’s fine. Let’s greet them tomorrow. Since Concubine Dong would like to deliver a wonderful performance tomorrow, we need to cooperate with her.” Wei Yuewu raised her head and looked out of

the window. A leaf drifted down from the window. The leaf, which was already on the verge of falling down, finally fell from the tree and became withered.

“Huamo, you grew up in the countryside, didn’t you?” Wei Yuewu stretched out her fair and tender hand. Coincidentally, the dim yellow leaf had fallen into her palm.

In contrast with the dim yellow leaf, her snow-white skin gave off a strange and incoherent feeling. But one could easily see her hand and the leaf with a single glance!

“Yes, I was raised up in the countryside. Although I was very young at that time, I still remember that I had a very happy childhood. Sometimes, I even took my brothers and sisters out with me. I really enjoyed my childhood in the countryside.” Every time she remembered her happy and free days in the countryside during her childhood, Huamo would be very happy.

Wei Yuewu and the other maids had all heard her talk about those interesting stuff in the countryside.

“I still remember you said that you could form various shapes of insects with leaves, and the insects you made looked very similar to real ones.” Wei Yuewu looked at the leaf in her palm.

“Yes, I know how to make insects with leaves. But now it’s winter and the leaves are rather withered. I’m afraid that the form of insect might not maintain very long because the leaf would break into pieces once I move it a little bit.” Huamo said while looking at the leaf in Wei Yuewu’s hand.

Summer leaves and winter leaves varied greatly in terms of flexibility and resilience. It was impossible for winter leaves to maintain for a long time.

“It’s alright. I only need the fake insect to keep its form for a while!” Wei Yuewu’s face didn’t change. Her butterfly-like eyelids flashed twice, and she continued focusing on the fallen leaf in her hand. A meaningful smile appeared on her cherry lips...

The door of the courtyard was pushed open. Somehow, Wei Yuewu felt her heart sank.

It could be seen that the courtyard had been cleaned up. But because it had been cleaned a long time ago, there were faint traces of withered grass in the cracks along the path. The ground was covered by a thick layer of fallen leaves.

Wei Yuewu walked in while pulling up her skirt. With every step she made, she could feel the leaves under her foot. She bit her lips and suppressed the pain in her heart.

It used to be the courtyard of Marquis Hua Yang's favorite wife. But now it had become desolate like this.

The courtyard was very big. It was actually a little bigger than the Lotus Courtyard. One could even imagine how prosperous it had been in its prime. Standing in the courtyard, Wei Yuewu closed her eyes slightly. Some intermittent fragments seemed to have passed through her eyes.

Everything else was blurry. Only a clear and elegant face would appear in her memories from time to time...

That was her mother's beautiful and tender face with a kind and benevolent gaze, which seemed to have traveled across space and time. Wei Yuewu pressed on her own chest. She felt slightly stifling and painful. It wasn't her delusion, but it really hurt. She squatted down due to the pain.

"Miss, what's wrong with you?" Shufei was the first one to find something wrong about Wei Yuewu and cried out in surprise.

"I'm fine!" Wei Yuewu gritted her teeth and kept feeling the pain receding like a tide inside her body as if the ache at that moment had been merely an illusion.

"Miss, let me help you inside to take a break." Huamo stopped picking up tree leaves and hurriedly said.

"No need. You continue to pick up leaves!" Wei Yuewu shook her head and stood up with the help of Shufei's support. She wiped away the cold sweat that had instantly come out during that painful moment with a handkerchief. Then, she stood firmly and calmed down for a while.

“Miss, are you really alright?” Jin Ling also asked with concern.

“It doesn’t matter!” Wei Yuewu shook her head. She let go of Shufei’s hand and walked into the room.

As the door was opened, a smell of dust came over. Looking at the thick layer of dust on the table and the flower stand, one could tell that no one had cleaned the room for a long time.

She walked to the other side of the flower stand and came into the slightly raised inner room. Although some dust was found in the inner room, it looked very neat and tidy. Without the dust, one would even believe that the mistress of the room was still leaning against the bench, handling the accountant books and doing some embroidery works occasionally. Wei Yuewu could even imagine that her mother’s eyes were filled with gentleness when she looked at the girl playing in the room at that time.

Seeing that Wei Yuewu’s face was too pale, Jin Ling couldn’t help but suggest, “Miss, you go and have a walk in the courtyard. There is a lot of dust here. I’ll let someone clean it up first. You can come in again later.”

“That’s right, Miss. Please go and take a look in the courtyard. The window is tightly shut. It’s very stuffy here.” Shufei walked to the window and gently pushed it open. A cold wind blew in and some dust was blown up.

Wei Yuewu nodded. She went out and walked towards the backyard.

Jin Ling and Shufei led the maids and old maidservants they had brought from the Lotus Courtyard to clean up the courtyard together.

Wei Yuewu led Huamo to the backyard behind the main room. There was a small garden. It was not big but was built with rockery and flowing water, which couldn’t be found in any other courtyard in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

The pond had long dried up, and there was not even the slightest bit of moisture at the foot of the rockery. In the past, the smaller half of the rockery should be in the pond.

“Huamo, you go and pick some leaves. I’ll stand here for a while!” Wei Yuewu squinted and looked at the rockery that was located at a high position. She did remember the rockery. But she couldn’t clearly remember the detail because a long time had passed and she was too young at that time.

Looking at the thick leaves on the path, Huamo nodded. However, she was worried about Wei Yuewu and said with concern, “Miss, then I’ll pick some from the side. If you have anything for me to do, just call me.”

“I’m fine!” Wei Yuewu slowly walked to the rockery and reached out her hand to gently touch the rockery. Her face became increasingly paler because of the realistic feeling. This was the place where she lived during her childhood, which used to be the most central courtyard in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

Chapter 209 – Qingyang, Characters Engraved On The Tree Root

However, with the death of the mistress, everything here seemed to have been sealed in the dust. Even if someone would clean the house during festivals, it was only a matter of formality.

The man who once said that he was deeply in love with her mother and was even willing to cancel his engagement with another woman for her mother had long forgotten everything about this place. He should have never visited this courtyard!

Otherwise, why would the people in this mansion treat this courtyard so lightly, and they even left the yard in mess for such a long time...

If Wei Yuewu’s mother was still alive, Wei Yuewu would never be sent to her maternal grandmother’s mansion at such a young age. Every time when Wei Yuewu’s maternal grandmother mentioned her mother with tears, Wei Yuewu felt much pain in her heart. Sometimes, she could not even say a word because of the pain.

As a result, Wei Yuewu’s maternal grandmother gradually stopped mentioning her mother in front of her. In the end, even if Wei Yuewu asked about her mother, she only gave a brief answer!

“Miss, come and take a look. There are some characters engraved here.” Huamo’s voice was filled with shock.

Wei Yuewu turned around and saw Huamo pointing to somewhere under the tree and saying in surprise.

Wei Yuewu pulled up the corners of her skirt and walked over. Only then did Wei Yuewu see clearly that the lower part of the tree had been scratched by something sharp. Although many years had passed, the characters were still vaguely discernible because of the deep cut at that time.

There were two lines of characters that read “Yuewu” and “Qingyang”. Apparently, they were the names of two kids, because two little figures were drawn below the characters.

The two figures seemed to be holding hands together and looked very friendly. They should be girls with two pigtails tilted on their heads.

One of the kids was named Yuewu and the other Qingyang!

Although they were not very well drawn, the kids seemed to be intimate friends, while one figure was a little older and the other was a little younger.

It was obvious that the figure named Yuewu was younger, and the girl named Qingyang was older!

Wei Yuewu frowned slightly. There wasn’t any woman called Qingyang in this mansion...

Huamo happened to come here to pick leaves. When she saw Wei Yuewu’s name, she couldn’t help but exclaim in surprise. At this time, she realized that there were not only Wei Yuewu’s figure but also someone else’s figure. She couldn’t help but ask with curiosity. “Miss, did you carve this when you were a child? Which family’s young lady is the other figure?”

“Why did you say that the other figure was the young lady of another family, rather than a maidservant?” Wei Yuewu stared at the pattern. Her eyes froze as she tightly clenched her hands inside the sleeves.

“That goes without saying. The one who can stand shoulder to shoulder with you must be a young lady from another noble family. How could a maidservant stand so close to you? Furthermore, she even left such a picture. Even if you were not sensible at that time, the other people wouldn’t allow you to act so willfully.”

Huamo blurted out her answer, but it also reminded Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu blinked her watery eyes. Therefore, the girl named Qingyang must be a young lady of another mansion that was familiar to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Otherwise, she wouldn’t come to play with Wei Yuewu. Furthermore, she must have had a good time with Wei Yuewu so that this picture was drawn.

Even if the picture was merely drawn by a kid for fun, one could still see the unusual meaning behind it.

Moreover, this picture was deeply carved that it didn’t seem to be something that an ordinary child could do. Probably, someone else had been ordered to carve this picture with a sharp object.

Qingyang? It seemed that she needed to investigate carefully to find whom this Qingyang was.

Was she the slightly older sister that kept looking at her warmly while spitting out large mouthfuls of blood?

Just like how the Third Princess had been raised in her mother’s courtyard for a period of time, this gentle girl was only a small fragment in Wei Yuewu’s memory. Was she Qingyang?

Otherwise, why had Wei Yuewu never heard of a young lady from any noble family named Qingyang? What had exactly happened in the Imperial Palace back then? Why was she locked up in an empty hall in great panic without a single attendant by her side? Had it really been just a coincidence for Wei Yuewu herself to enter that hall at such a young age?

And what had happened to the girl after that? Was she a wisp of warmth in the depths of her memory?

“Miss, last time when the Third Princess and the Fourth Princess went up the mountain to admire plum blossoms, I didn’t hear about any miss named Qingyang. This name doesn’t sound like the name of an ordinary young lady!” Seeing Wei Yuewu frowning tightly, Huamo couldn’t help but speak from the side.

Huamo and Shufei could read a few simple characters. When they started working in the mansion, Wei Yuewu would teach them how to read when she was free. Although they couldn’t write well, they knew quite a few characters now. Naturally, they could also recognize the characters “Qingyang” at the moment.

What Huamo said reminded Wei Yuewu. Indeed, the name “Qingyang” didn’t seem to be the name of an ordinary young lady. The name of an ordinary young lady of any noble family would obviously show some typical feminine connotation at the first glance. However, the name “Qingyang” sounded much masculine.

Moreover, this name caused Wei Yuewu to speculate about something. A trace of thoughtfulness flashed through her watery eyes. It seemed that this girl named “Qingyang” was also somewhat related to the Imperial Palace!

Wei Yuewu raised her eyes and looked in the direction of the Imperial Palace. She found that she could actually see the Imperial Palace from here. Although the vision was not very clear, she could still vaguely see a small section of the palace wall and a tall building inside the Imperial Palace.

It turned out that this place was actually very close to the Imperial Palace!

It was the first time that Wei Yuewu knew that the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang was so close to the Imperial Palace. It took several blocks and streets to get to the palace entrance from the front door of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. No part of the mansion was as close to the Imperial Palace as it seemed here. But here in this courtyard of her mother, the palace wall looked so close and conspicuous.

The tall palace walls and wide glazed tiles shone in the sunlight, forming a picture that represented the majestic power of the royal family.

But now, Wei Yuewu felt that the Imperial Palace was not really out of reach. She felt as if the Imperial Palace was right in front of her, and she could touch it with just a stretch of her hand...

“Miss, can you take a look at this stuff? Do you think it has any other implication?” Shufei’s head poked out of the back window as she said to Wei Yuewu who was standing under the tree.

Wei Yuewu nodded and returned to the room. The room had been cleaned up, and even a small hidden compartment near the flower stand had been searched. In fact, such a hidden compartment was not uncommon in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. In Wei Yuewu’s own room near the flower stand, there were also hidden compartments where small objects could be placed.

However, the small object that had been found in the hidden compartment caused the corners of Wei Yuewu’s eyes to sharpen a bit. She reached out her hand to hold the small porcelain bottle...

The porcelain bottle wasn’t big. Although the pattern on it was quite exquisite, it wasn’t rare. She removed the cork from the bottle and found that there was a faint medicinal fragrance inside. This was a small porcelain bottle for storing medicine.

“Miss, this stuff is very well hidden inside this pile of threads. If I hadn’t cleaned up this mess, I wouldn’t find there was a small bottle wrapped inside.” Shufei picked up a mess of threads and said to Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu turned her head and looked. It was indeed a large messy ball of threads that were difficult to sort out when wrapped together. When Shufei discovered the bottle wrapped inside, she directly cut the threads and took out the small porcelain bottle.

Was it just a very ordinary porcelain bottle? Wei Yuewu held the bottle and spun it around. She didn’t find anything. After thinking for a while, she flipped through the bottle again. As expected, she found the small character “Ming” at the bottom of the bottle!

It was the logo used by Doctor Ming, the private doctor working exclusively for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang! A harsh look flashed across Wei Yuewu’s face.

She turned the bottle back and smelled it again. Then, her hands trembled slightly and she subconsciously tightened her grip on the bottle. There was something wrong with the medicine!

There was definitely something wrong with this medicine!

The smell of the medicine was very fragrant. Even after so many years, there was still a strong smell. One could tell that the medicine was very powerful. It was a medicine that could be used as a great tonic. Of course, it was good for people in normal health conditions. But what if it was given to people who were too weak to take tonics? In that case, it would have no difference with poison!

Due to the difficult delivery, her mother's health conditions had deteriorated, and she suffered chronic illnesses and had to lie in bed. She should take warm medicine instead of this kind of strong tonic.

Wei Yuewu's watery eyes turned ice-cold. Indeed. The death of her mother was not as simple as it seemed!

Very good. This porcelain bottle was a vital piece of evidence...

As for the mastermind behind the scenes, it was either Concubine Dong or Madam Li. It was most likely that the two of them conspired to kill her mother.

Both of them had their motives to kill her mother: one desired to become Marquise Hua Yang, while the other aimed for the power to manage the entire mansion, or in other words, to ensure her own son could become the next Marquis Hua Yang.

After taking a deep breath, Wei Yuewu suppressed the bloody smell rolling in her chest. She carefully put the bottle into her pocket. She looked at the ball of threads. Perhaps, it was because of this ball of threads that the bottle remained intact after so many years!

Huamo came in and she was bothered by the waving curtain at the entry to the inner room. She caught the waving curtain and turned to ask Wei Yuewu, "Miss, this curtain is so old. Shall we change it for Madam?"

The other curtains in the room had already been put away. No one really knew whether this curtain had been forgotten or intentionally left behind for some other reason. It had actually been there for so many years at such a conspicuous place.

"No need. Leave it there!" Wei Yuewu's gaze fell on the worn curtain. She shook her head slightly with a cold look in her eyes. Was it really an old curtain? Indeed, it was not bad...

Early in the next morning, Wei Yuewu went to greet the Madam Dowager as usual.

The Madam Dowager woke up very early today and had already finished her breakfast. She was talking happily with Nanny Hong, and the atmosphere was quite relaxed.

When she saw Wei Yuewu coming in, the Madam Dowager smiled and waved to Wei Yuewu. "Yuewu, come here. Go with your Third Elder Sister to greet your father at the East City Gate. There's only one road over there and it is easy to see your father's carriage."

"How is father's injury?" Wei Yuewu obediently walked over and bowed to the Madam Dowager before asking.

"His injury has almost healed. Fortunately, Concubine Dong is taking care of your father along the way. Otherwise, with your father's temper, no one really knows how he would deal with his injury!" The Madam Dowager sighed and her face was full of concern as if she was really a good mother worrying about her son.

"Then I must thank Concubine Dong!" Wei Yuewu said softly.

Seeing that Wei Yuewu was very obedient today, the Madam Dowager felt very satisfied. She nodded and looked at Wei Yuewu's dress. "Don't dress too plainly. It's been many years since you've seen your father last time. Today, you can dress in a cheerful manner so that your father will be happy when he meets you."

"Dress in a cheerful manner? But I don't have such a dress!" Wei Yuewu said in embarrassment. Most of her clothes were of the plain and elegant type.

"It doesn't matter. Bring it over, Nanny Hong." The Madam Dowager instructed with a smile.

Chapter 210 One Dress for Each

Nanny Hong responded and went into the back room. She took out a new dress and put it in front of Wei Yuewu. Then, she said with a smile, "Sixth Young Lady, this is the dress Concubine Dong made in person for you. Concubine Dong rejected all the help from maids and nannies when she was working on this dress. She said this dress was exclusively made for you and that you must wear it. Concubine Dong especially sent a person to deliver the dress riding a horse early this morning."

That meant the dress was delivered to the mansion early this morning.

Wei Yuewu squinted and concealed the mocking smile in her eyes. She took a deep breath before suppressing the hatred in her heart. So, this Concubine Dong was especially trying to show how much she cared about her, right? Well, since that was the case, she would like to cooperate and stage a wonderful performance for Concubine Dong!

"When Concubine Dong comes back to the mansion, I ought to thank her!" Wei Yuewu said with a smile and asked Shufei to receive the dress.

"Concubine Dong really cares much about you. She only made a dress for you. Even the Third Young Lady doesn't have one. We could see that she does care about you! It's said that she also brought a lot of gifts to you because she learned that you were back to the mansion." Nanny Hong said.

As she spoke, Wei Yuejiao walked in with her maid. She bowed to the Madam Dowager first, then she looked at the dress in Shufei's hand jealously. The dress was made by her mother. She had seen her mother sewing the dress in person stitch by stitch. Each time she saw her mother working on the dress, she asked for it but was rejected several times. Although Concubine Dong would always satisfy her requests in all other aspects, she resolutely declined her request for the dress.

The Madam Dowager nodded. Nanny Hong smiled and took out another dress. "Third Young Lady, Concubine Dong said she had no time to make a new dress for you because she had been busy working on the dress for the Sixth Young Lady. Therefore, she had someone else make a new dress for you and asked you to make do with it at the moment."

When Wei Yuewu's gaze fell on the set of clothes, and a trace of cold ridicule flashed in her eyes. Concubine Dong really knew how to put her in a disadvantageous position. With a single glance, everyone could tell the difference between her and Wei Yuejiao when the two of them wore the dresses prepared by Concubine Dong. Such difference was completely reflected by her extravagant dress in comparison with the plain dress for Wei Yuejiao.

If they went out today wearing the dresses prepared by Concubine Dong, people would believe that she was an arrogant legitimate daughter bullying her elder sister who was born by a concubine. This would no doubt cause serious damage to her reputation!

Wei Yuejiao's dress looked a little plain. Moreover, at a glance, everyone could see that the dress was made of rough materials. It was a sharp contrast to the gorgeous dress in Shufei's hand. Everyone would think that Wei Yuewu was too arrogant and didn't know how to display modesty once Wei Yuewu put that dress on. As for Concubine Dong, not only could she gain a good reputation, she could also leave people an impression that she was generous and sincere to Wei Yuewu even more than she cared about her own daughter.

However, Concubine Dong was too confident this time. Did this Concubine Dong think that she was still the same naive little girl who knew nothing?

"Yes, thank you, Nanny Hong!" Even though Wei Yuejiao was unwilling to receive the rough dress, she could only bear this and responded with grievance. Fortunately, her mother did tell her that she would have plenty of opportunities to gain a winning advantage over Wei Yuewu next time and even forever, as long as she let Wei Yuewu go this time. By then, it was up to her to decide Wei Yuewu's life and death.

Wei Yuewu and Wei Yuejiao spoke a few more words with the Madam Dowager and then the Madam Dowager asked them to go back to have breakfast and put on new dresses and go together to welcome their father and Concubine Dong after breakfast.

The two of them left the Madam Dowager's courtyard one after another and headed for their own courtyard. It was rare for Wei Yuejiao to have a good temper today, so that she didn't leave earlier. Instead, she stopped and waited for Wei Yuewu to get closer. She then smiled and said, "Six Younger Sister, our father will definitely be glad to see you wearing this dress."

"That's for sure. Concubine Dong sewed this for me in person. But it's also true that Concubine Dong is merely a concubine. So, it's quite natural for her to sew this gift for me in person. Otherwise, others would say that Concubine Dong doesn't know how to behave herself." Wei Yuewu said calmly. However, the disdain in her tone and words made Wei Yuejiao's face change several times.

Wei Yuejiao tried hard a few times to suppress the anger in her heart.

However, Wei Yuewu didn't want to let her go. She turned her head and picked up a corner of the dress made by Concubine Dong. She slightly shook the dress and said with a hint of teasing, "Actually, this dress isn't very good. I wonder what Concubine Dong will do when she finds that an old maidservant is wearing the dress she made stitch by stitch. Will she be so angry that she couldn't help but spit blood?"

"You... how dare you..." Wei Yuejiao shouted angrily.

"Why don't I dare? Do you want to try and see if Concubine Dong will spit blood?" Wei Yuewu smiled faintly and said carelessly, "Anyway, she is just a concubine and a servant to me. I'm free to give this dress to anyone since this is merely a dress made by my servant!"

"Wei Yuewu, you're going too far!" Wei Yuejiao raised her eyebrows. She was so angry that her eyes were about to turn red.

"I didn't go too far. Concubine Dong is merely a servant to me. Don't tell me that I, as a legitimate daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, should respect a servant." Wei Yuewu suddenly covered her mouth and smiled. She sized up Wei Yuejiao and said, "Oh, I forgot that there is still a concubine-born daughter here. But since you are only a concubine-born daughter, you only deserve such a dress. Even the maidservants in the mansion are dressed better than you!"

"You are nothing but a concubine-born daughter. Normally, grandmother dotes on you in the mansion. However, when the two of us go out together, you have to behave yourself and allow me, the legitimate daughter, to stand out. Do you dare to compete with me?" Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Yuejiao. The last part of her sentence seemed to be spoken to herself. But every word seemed to pierce into Wei Yuejiao's heart.

"Give this dress back to me!" Wei Yuejiao was so angry that her face turned ashen. She snatched the dress from Shufei's hands and threw the dress in her maid's hands over to Wei Yuewu. Then, she raised her head towards Wei Yuewu and said, "I'll never allow you to ruin the dress made by my mother. You are only worthy of such coarse clothes."

"Third Elder Sister, quit it. Anyway, you have to obediently bring that dress back to me. Or, are you trying to steal my limelight?" Wei Yuewu cast a faint glance at Wei Yuejiao as if she didn't notice Wei Yuejiao's overreaction.

However, such behavior and words made Wei Yuejiao become even angrier. Wei Yuejiao had always believed that she was the focus of everyone's attention and she had never received such insult in the past. She knew that her mother's instruction was quite important. But upon seeing Wei Yuewu's arrogant manner, she felt that she couldn't endure it.

"Wei Yuewu, just wait and see if I dare to wear this dress!" Wei Yuejiao snorted coldly. She turned around and left with her maid. She would like to see what consequences she will have to face after she put on the dress made by her own mother! She was convinced that even if her mother was a bit angry, it didn't really matter. At most, she would scold her. This was nothing in comparison to losing face in front of Wei Yuewu.

"Miss, how could the Third Young Lady take away your dress?" Shufei said angrily from the side.

"Why can't she take it away? It's a dress made by her own mother. Just like I want to take back my mother's stuff, so does Wei Yuejiao!" Wei Yuewu said coldly. She still remembered that the screen embroidered by her mother was still placed in Wei Yuejiao's room!

That screen was something she had to get back. In fact, Wei Yuewu had deliberately provoked Wei Yuejiao into exchanging their dresses.

Wei Yuewu reached out her hands to pick up the dress that Wei Yuejiao had left behind with a meaningful gaze. "Help me change into this dress after a while! Let Jin Ling go to Brocade Clothing Shop again."

By the time Wei Yuewu came out again, she had changed her clothes. She was wearing a casual dress. Although the dress looked plain, it was made of quality materials that was not inferior to the dress made by Concubine Dong. But the dress was a bit longer and didn't seem to fit Wei Yuewu very well.

This dress was the one Wei Yuewu had asked Jin Ling to fetch from Brocade Clothing Shop. Huamo was carrying a small parcel in her hand behind Wei Yuewu.

As soon as Wei Yuewu came out, a young maidservant had rushed to report to Wei Yuejiao. Upon hearing that Wei Yuewu was not wearing the coarse dress that her mother had prepared for her, Wei Yuejiao heaved a sigh of relief and put on Wei Yuewu's dress as if this was her dress.

She had told Wei Yuewu that she would definitely wear this dress. But on second thought after she returned to the courtyard, she was afraid that she would ruin her mother's plan. So, she asked someone to keep an eye on Wei Yuewu.

If Wei Yuewu really wore that coarse dress, she couldn't wear this dress no matter how sarcastic Wei Yuewu was.

However, since Wei Yuewu was wearing her usual banquet dress, she wasn't going too far if she wore this dress. Besides, she must wear this dress if Wei Yuewu wore her usual banquet dress! Otherwise, she could no longer raise her head in front of Wei Yuewu in the days to come.

Wei Yuejiao had also thought about the consequences. Even if her wearing this dress had certain adverse impact on her mother's plan, the consequences wouldn't be serious!

The carriage had already been waiting in the backyard. Coincidentally, the coachman happened to be Old Li. Seeing Wei Yuewu coming over, he hurriedly came up to greet her. "Sixth Young Lady, the carriage is already. Please get in now!"

"Wait a moment!" Wei Yuewu smiled and slowly circled around the carriage. Finally, she stood in front of the carriage door.

"Can the carriage door not be closed tightly along the way?" Looking at the solid door, Wei Yuewu asked thoughtfully.

Old Li couldn't understand why Wei Yuewu would come up with such a question. So, he replied while looking at the door. "Sixth Young Lady, it's cold in winter. If you don't close the door, there will be wind blowing in."

"The carriage is too stuffy!" Wei Yuewu shook her head.

"You can open the window a little to allow some wind to come in without feeling cold inside the carriage." Old Li suggested. It was really difficult for him to do that because he was afraid that Wei Yuewu might get sick if the door was not closed.

“The door can be opened after the carriage stops, right?”

Although Old Li didn’t know what Wei Yuewu was going to do, he answered honestly, “Yes, of course. By then, I will definitely stop at a place that is sheltered from the wind and facing towards the sun. And you can let down the curtain and open the door.”

“Alright!” Wei Yuewu was very satisfied with this answer. So, she nodded and looked thoughtfully at Wei Yuejiao who was coming with an arrogant look. Then, she got into the carriage with the support of Huamo.

However, she didn’t sit in the innermost seat. Instead, she sat down near the door. After Huamo got into the carriage, she sat right behind Wei Yuewu, which was very close to the carriage door.

Wei Yuejiao also got into the carriage. Seeing that Wei Yuewu and her maid were seated near the door, Wei Yuejiao snorted coldly and took the seat far from the door. Since Wei Yuewu liked to sit near the door, just let her court disaster herself!

Seats near the door were the most uncomfortable!

The carriage door closed and the carriage slowly started moving. Wei Yuewu closed her eyes to have a rest. She didn’t say anything. It was still early.

Seeing Wei Yuewu didn’t say anything, Wei Yuejiao thought for a while and closed her eyes as well. Her mother repeatedly warned her that she must appear very friendly with Wei Yuewu today. Although they had a quarrel, Wei Yuejiao decided to be more generous and stop arguing with her. In any case, her mother had plenty of ways to deal with Wei Yuewu.

She only needed to keep an eye on the situation and cooperate with her mother!

The carriage arrived at the city gate in a short while. Old Li asked through the curtain, “Young ladies, please decide where to park our carriage. Outside or inside the city gate?”

“Outside the city gate!”

“Inside the city gate!”