

Young Lady 221

Chapter 221 – Mo Huating Came Again

Mo Huating? Wei Yuewu looked at the door with a deep gaze. She was very curious. Why did this Mo Huating appear at the family banquet of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang?

The curtain was raised, and Wei Luowen walked in the front, followed by Mo Huating who was dressed in an azure robe.

Wei Yuewu watched as Mo Huating walked in narrowing her eyes slightly.

Mo Huating was still the same as before. He looked both sharp and handsome. His dark eyes were cold and solemn, but there was a gentle smile on his face, which added some warmth to his face. When he saw Wei Yuewu turning her eyes, he even smiled at her.

The Second Master, the Minister of Rites, and the Third Master followed behind Mo Huating. Surprisingly, they were not as gloomy as they used to be and were all smiles.

After the several of them greeted the Madam Dowager, they sat down. The juniors who had been seated gave up their seats and retreated to the back. Only then did Concubine Dong bring Wei Yuejiao in.

Although Concubine Dong, who had been dressed up again, didn't look young, she was still pretty and charming. She walked over elegantly and knelt down to salute the Madam Dowager. There was not the slightest bit of error in her manners. She then stood behind Wei Luowen smilingly without saying a word.

She was a just concubine. On such an occasion, she should either stand or sit on a small stool rather than a chair.

"Concubine Dong, it's been hard for you to take care of the marquis. Come here and take a seat!" The Madam Dowager was in a good mood and pointed to a chair at the side.

“Taking care of Lord Marquis is my responsibility. Madam Dowager, you are truly kind. However, it is better to accept deferentially than to decline courteously. Thank you very much, Madam Dowager!” Concubine Dong answered appropriately. After giving Madam Dowager another deep bow, she took a seat in the lower place beside Wei Luowen.

Wei Yuewu’s gaze fell on that seat as she sneered in her heart. Previously, when Wei Luowen sat down, neither Wei Luowu nor Mo Huating took this seat. Obviously, they both knew that this seat was reserved for Concubine Dong.

A concubine actually dared to be seated in the position reserved for the legitimate Marquise Hua Yang, and she obviously took it for granted! Besides, no one in the hall was surprised, as if Concubine Dong was the best person for that seat.

In other words, for so many years, Concubine Dong had been seated like this!

Her mother, the late Marquise Hua Yang, died at the hands of Concubine Dong and Lady Li...

It had been a long time since Wei Luowen and the Madam Dowager parted. Now that they both sat down, they naturally had a lot to say. The mother and son spoke happily. The second and third masters, as well as Lady Zhang and Concubine Dong, would occasionally get in a word. For a time, the Madam Dowager was very happy and she laughed heartily while pulling the hands of her sons from time to time.

“You guys can go and take a stroll outside. It’s still early for dinner. Relax and have a good time. I will send for you later!”

The Madam Dowager smiled and suddenly remembered her grandsons and granddaughters in the room. She waved her hand and uttered those words.

“Grandmother, I want to stay here with you. It’s rare to see you so happy. I don’t want to leave!” Wei Yuejiao shook the Madam Dowager’s hand and said coquettishly.

“I don’t need your company right now. Go out with your sisters and brothers and play!” The Madam Dowager chuckled. She turned around and instructed Nanny Hong, “Have someone prepare some tea

for them. They can go wherever they like. It's rare for all of them to be together today. Let them have a good time together."

"Yes, Madam Dowager, don't worry. I will make sure that they have fun!" Nanny Hong also smiled and answered. Then, she instructed the maids to follow behind.

Since the Madam Dowager had said these words, the several of them could only take their leave.

Wei Yuewu was walking at the end. Suddenly, she felt a gaze fall on her. She subconsciously turned around, but she did not see anyone paying attention to her. Her eyes turned back and her eyebrows slightly knitted. At that moment, she really sensed that someone was staring at her.

She was puzzled in her heart, but her feet did not pause as she followed the others out of the room.

Wei Luowen raised his head to look at Wei Yuewu's back, the corners of his eyes slightly stiff!

"Sixth Miss Wei!" The faint voice carried a trace of smile. Wei Yuewu looked up and saw Mo Huating standing in front of her.

A moment ago, Mo Huating went out with Wei Ziyang and the others. However, Mo Huating lagged behind. It seemed that his target was her!

Perhaps Mo Huating had come here today for her.

"Marquis Jing Yuan!" Wei Yuewu curtsied as she said with a calm expression.

Now she was the Sixth Young Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, and Mo Huating was Marquis Jing Yuan. They were through.

The girl in front of him was very beautiful. Her eyes were filled with water vapor. Her long eyelashes curled up. In addition, she carried a cold aura around her. Anyone who looked at her would be amazed. Mo Huating's eyes instantly lit up.

Now there was no heavy makeup on her face when he first met her, nor was there any veil to hide her face when he met her the second time. Moreover, she had grown up a lot during this period of time, and she already had the appearance of a young lady. Even if she was nothing or came from an ordinary aristocratic family, Mo Huating felt that he would not regret marrying her.

Therefore, he regretted it now...

Seeing that Mo Huating was quietly looking at her without saying anything, Wei Yuewu became a little annoyed. She raised her eyes and asked unceremoniously, "Marquis Jing Yuan, what's up?"

"Sixth Young Lady, do you know why Marquis Hua Yang asked me to come here today?" Mo Huating calmed down and went straight to the point. Having dealt with her several times, he deeply understood that the girl in front of him was intelligent and quick-witted. There was no need to beat around the bush!

"No!" However, Wei Yuewu didn't seem to be interested at all. She calmly turned around, wanting to bypass Mo Huating.

Mo Huating stretched out his hands and blocked Wei Yuewu's path. "Sixth Young Lady, are you really not concerned about your marriage?"

"Marquis Jing Yuan, I remember that Her Majesty announced in front of everyone that our marriage was annulled. Could it be that Marquis Jing Yuan is still related to my marriage? Even my father can't question Her Majesty's decision, right?" Wei Yuewu looked up at Mo Huating and said coldly.

Regardless of what her father thought and why he called Mo Huating here today, she did not believe that her father would dare to openly resist the Empress' orders.

"Sixth Young Lady, the matter of the Second Young Lady is over. When in the Palace, I had no alternative. But, if I really wanted to marry the Second Young Lady, why didn't I agree to marry her at that time? Sixth Young Lady, although this engagement has been canceled, I can still make a proposal again. Marquis Hua Yang also said that it was Marquise Hua Yang who arranged the marriage for the two of us. It would be best to fulfill her wishes!" Mo Huating looked at Wei Yuewu and said gently.

There was actually such a thick-skinned person in this world. Wei Yuewu was so angry that she almost laughed!

Not only did Mo Huating lie through his teeth, he also brazenly expressed that he wanted to fulfill her mother's wishes by marrying her. Could it be that her mother really wanted her to marry such a scum?

"Marquis Jing Yuan, I remember saying that our engagement must be canceled, and it was indeed canceled. Now that it's canceled, do you think I'll agree to your proposal? Could it be that the daughters of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang must be married to your mansion to live a happy life? As for Second Elder Sister..."

At this point, Wei Yuewu raised her cherry lips mockingly. She did not believe that Mo Huating would not feel guilty.

Sure enough, Mo Huating's eyes dodged for a moment. "Sixth Young Lady, there were many misunderstandings between us in the past, but ever since you entered the capital, I have been trying my best to improve our relationship. I only hope not to be misunderstood by you. Who would have thought that in the end, my saving the Second Young Lady in the Palace would cause such a calamity?"

He spoke with righteousness, as if he was the symbol of justice.

Wei Yuewu smiled. A mocking cold smile mercilessly appeared on her lips, making her look beautiful as well as detached.

Misunderstanding? Did he mean that the assassination was just a misunderstanding? It was such a bloody massacre that even the snow was dyed red. Did he try to make her believe that Qin Ruo's miserable death was only a misunderstanding as a result of her subjective misinterpretation of the event?

Mo Huating really took her for a fool!

"Marquis Jing Yuan, I don't care what you say. Others don't know the truth, but how can we not know the truth? No matter how terrible the misunderstanding might be, I will never marry you. Please

conduct yourself with dignity, Marquis Jing Yuan.” Wei Yuewu moved sideways to avoid Mo Huating. This time, she did not try to follow the crowd. Instead, she turned around and walked towards the back of the room.

Although it was quiet there, it wasn’t far from the Madam Dowager’s room. People in the room could even hear her voice through the back window if she spoke with a loud voice.

Mo Huating wanted to stop her, but unexpectedly, Wei Yuewu didn’t charge forward, and instead she retreated. Since she walked towards the back of the room, it wasn’t appropriate for him to follow her. He looked at Wei Yuewu’s back with a sinister expression. After thinking for a while, he didn’t go over. He turned around and headed in the direction of Wei Ziyang’s courtyard.

Although Wei Yuewu rejected him, Mo Huating felt that there was still a chance for him. After all, Marquis Hua Yang had a good impression of him. It seemed that the rumors that Marquis Hua Yang doted on the late Marquise Hua Yang were true. He actually gave him such an opportunity to explain only because the marriage was arranged by Marquise Hua Yang.

Such an opportunity was simply great news for Mo Huating.

After he arrived at the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, he tactfully explained what happened to his engagement with Wei Yuewu. The engagement was canceled because he had saved Wei Yan and had no choice but to marry Wei Yan. As for Wei Yuewu’s taking the initiative to cancel the engagement, of course, it was because Wei Yuewu misunderstood him. In general, although there were many misunderstandings, they could be explained properly.

It was only because of the sudden incident involving Wei Yan that the engagement between the two families was canceled. In other words, Wei Yuewu and Mo Huating were both victims.

Wei Yan didn’t behave herself and she caused a fire. Mo Huating saved her heroically, but in the end, he had no choice but to marry her!

But now that Wei Yan was dead, even if Wei Luowen was unhappy with his niece, he couldn’t say anything. Dead people should be respected, so what else could he say now?

This was also the reason why Wei Luowen was willing to give Mo Huating a chance after hearing Mo Huating’s explanation!

“Miss, what does Lord Marquis mean? Why did he let Marquis Jing Yuan come over? Could it be that he wanted Marquis Jing Yuan to marry you?” Shufei said angrily after they were at the back of the room.

“Marry me? Perhaps!” Wei Yuewu stood under a tree and said coldly.

“How can Lord Marquis do such a thing? Does he really want Marquis Jing Yuan to kill you?” Wei Yuewu’s maids were deeply disdainful of Mo Huating, so when they heard Marquis Hua Yang actually wanted to marry Wei Yuewu to Mo Huating, Shufei was extremely angry!

“No way!” Wei Yuewu’s gaze landed coldly at the windows of the Madam Dowager’s backyard. There were bursts of laughter, some from Wei Luowu, and some from Concubine Dong and Lady Zhang...

However, it was them who were happy, while she was just a passer-by!

She must avenge her mother!

Chapter 222 – Concubine Dong And Wei Yuejiao Ate Humble Pies

When dinner was ready, the Madam Dowager sent someone to call her grandchildren back.

Wei Yuewu was the nearest to the dining place, so she was the first to return. However, Wei Ziyang and the others weren’t slow either. She had only been seated for a while before Wei Ziyang and the other brothers and sisters were back.

She was arranged to sit in the place below Wei Yuejiao, and even more coincidentally, Mo Huating was sitting on the other side, and Wei Ziyang was seated next to him!

Concubine Dong naturally didn’t have any seat, and even Lady Zhang stood at the side to serve the Dowager.

When the Madam Dowager saw the seats of Wei Yuewu and Mo Huating, her brows furrowed. Apparently, she did not like the arrangement very much. Wei Luowen glanced over, and his gaze was still indifferent and cold. Nobody could tell whether he was happy or angry. However, Wei Yuewu knew that it was impossible for a dignified marquis to personally arrange seats.

Wei Yuewu's gaze swept across the crowd silently. Finally, it landed on Concubine Dong, who was helping Lady Zhang serve the Madam Dowager. She sneered in her heart. This Concubine Dong really knew how to disgust her. She knew that her engagement with Mo Huating was canceled, but she still arranged adjacent seats for the two of them.

Was she still trying to send her into the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan?

It was a rule not to talk while eating. Everyone ate silently. Not long after, they finished the meal. Lady Zhang instructed the servants to tidy up the table. Everyone returned to the living room and sat down.

However, although they were divided into two rows, their seats were still arranged according to the previous sequence.

On one side of Wei Yuewu was Wei Yuejiao, while on the other side was Mo Huating. Next to Mo Huating was Wei Ziyang. Wei Qiufu, Wei Qiuju, Wei Ziyi, and Wei Zifeng sat opposite them.

Wei Yuejiao looked at Mo Huating and seemed to have discovered him only now. She gently pushed Wei Yuewu and asked, "Sixth Younger Sister, is this your fiancé Marquis Jing Yuan?" Although her voice was low, it was quiet in the hall, and almost everyone in the hall heard her.

"Third Elder Sister, you are wrong. Marquis Jing Yuan has nothing to do with me." Wei Yuewu quietly put down the teacup in her hand and said indifferently.

"How could that be? I heard that Mother had arranged a good marriage for you long before..." Wei Yuejiao's face was filled with surprise, as if she had only found out what happened to Wei Yuewu's engagement. Her voice also became louder.

The expression of the Madam Dowager seated in the place of honor immediately darkened.

“Third Elder Sister, if you don’t believe me, you can ask grandmother!” Wei Yuewu said expressionlessly.

Wei Yuejiao thought that Wei Yuewu was embarrassed so that she asked her to confirm it with the Madam Dowager. She smiled and turned around as she said “Grandmother!” with her eyes flickering. Well, she was determined to embarrass Wei Yuewu and make her uncomfortable.

Concubine Dong said that her father intended to marry Wei Yuewu to Mo Huating. She knew that Wei Yan had an affair with Mo Huating in the past. Even if Wei Yan was gone now, Mo Huating was definitely not a good person. If Wei Yuewu really married into the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan, the outcome must be very miserable for her. Of course, she and Concubine Dong were happy to see that.

Wei Yuejiao was confident that the Madam Dowager would have no objection. Marquis Hua Yang had already expressed his intention. How could the Madam Dowager say no? In the past, when the two of them had different ideas, the Madam Dowager would always yield to Marquis Hua Yang.

Wei Yuejiao only thought about plotting against Wei Yuewu, but she didn’t notice Wei Luowen’s expression suddenly turned cold.

“Alright, shut up. The engagement between the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang and the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan was canceled at the order of Her Majesty. How can we talk about it again?” The Madam Dowager didn’t wait for Wei Yuejiao to finish her sentence, and she already scolded her sternly.

Wei Yuejiao’s smile froze on her face. She looked at the Madam Dowager in disbelief. Tears immediately gushed out of her eyes. She had never received such a harsh reprimand from the Madam Dowager. Moreover, it happened in front of Mo Huating, an outsider.

Wei Luowen was also surprised by the Madam Dowager’s reaction. However, his expression was very extremely well-controlled. His eyes flickered for a moment and he didn’t say anything else.

Mo Huating also had a deadpan expression. He suddenly remembered Wei Yan in his mansion. Although she was only his concubine, she was still a daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. For this fact, the Madam Dowager would never agree to his marriage with Wei Yuewu. He lowered his head and pretended that he did not hear Wei Yuejiao’s words. Then, he began to ponder silently.

Concubine Dong, who was standing behind the Madam Dowager, was also stunned. She did not expect the Madam Dowager's reaction to be so strong. Furthermore, she clearly indicated that this was the Empress' intention. In fact, it was equivalent to breaking off the marriage between Wei Yuewu and Mo Huating. Furthermore, it was done in a high-sounding manner.

This meant that she could never mention this engagement in the future!

"Grandmother..." Wei Yuejiao stammered, "I... I didn't know!"

The complacency in Wei Yuejiao's eyes was replaced by anger, which was naturally directed at Wei Yuewu. She glared at Wei Yuewu fiercely. However, she had no choice but to admit defeat to the Madam Dowager.

"Grandmother, Third Elder Sister hasn't been in the capital for long. I'm afraid she doesn't know that this is the Her Majesty's order!" Wei Yuewu blinked her eyes and said sincerely.

These words made the Madam Dowager even angrier. She knew in her heart that Wei Yan was not dead and that she was currently in the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan. If Wei Yuewu really renewed her engagement with Mo Huating, serious trouble would be caused!

Wei Yan was now a "dead" person!

"There's no hurry to talk about Yuewu's marriage. Let's talk about Yuejiao's marriage first. She has grown up. Now that she has returned to the capital, we should find a nice young man for her this time!" the Madam Dowager ignored Wei Yuejiao and turned to Wei Luowen.

"Imperial Academician Xie!" These three words were spoken silently by Wei Yuewu. Others might only notice the movement of her lips. However, it was a different story with Wei Yuejiao. When she heard the Madam Dowager mention her marriage, she immediately thought of Xie Qingzhao. She subconsciously turned around and saw the three words being uttered by Wei Yuewu.

She suddenly stood up and said anxiously, "Grandmother, I don't want to marry that Imperial Academician Xie. I heard that he was an immoral person and had improper relations with other sisters in our mansion!"

Of course, she was talking about Wei Yan and Wei Qiuju. Although their scandals were properly dealt with and kept a secret to outsiders, Concubine Dong also had her own agents in the mansion, who kept Wei Yuejiao well-informed of the secrets. When she heard the Madam Dowager mention her marriage, she immediately became upset.

“How dared you!” The Madam Dowager was furious. She slapped heavily on the table and shouted sternly.

In the Madam Dowager’s eyes, it was really a shameful act for an unmarried young lady to say such words in front of a man who was an outsider to the family!

Wei Qiuju swept her eyes over Wei Yuejiao, and a trace of seriousness flashed through the bottom of her eyes. Did Wei Yuejiao’s words indicate that Concubine Dong knew about the relationship between her and Xie Qingzhao?

It seemed that she must not contact Xie Qingzhao in the near future!

In any case, the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang was just a part of her plan. Whether the matter concerning Xie Qingzhao succeeded or not, she had better not contact him for the time being. This Xie Qingzhao was deeply devoted to her and would be of great help to her in the future. There was no need to hurry at this time.

Concubine Dong reacted quickly. She went behind Wei Yuejiao and took her hand. Then, she knelt down to the Madam Dowager. With tears in her eyes, she said, “Madam Dowager, please calm down. Yuejiao has been living with Lord Marquis since childhood. She has always imitated Lord Marquis in every aspect of her manners. She was used to speaking her mind freely, and I often advised her against that. However, Lord Marquis... Anywhere, I failed to discipline her. Madam Dowager, please punish me.”

She wiped her tears with a handkerchief, but she was quite articulate. Every word carried a trace of sorrow, and it was obvious that she uttered those words from the bottom of her heart.

Wei Luowen’s expression relaxed after he heard those words. He was indeed not strict with this daughter.

“Grandmother, please calm down. Third Elder Sister has been living at the border since she was a child. She has learned from father to be a straightforward person. The border is different from other places, where there are many rules to learn and many taboos... Concubine Dong has taught her very well!” After saying these words, Wei Yuewu had a forced smile on her face. Although the smile was a gentle one, it made people’s heart ache for her.

As a legitimate daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, she was sent to her maternal grandparents’ mansion when she was still a little girl. She must have been extremely careful over the years, trying not to make others unhappy. How could she be as carefree as Wei Yuejiao, who grew up by her father’s side and could speak freely and ask for whatever she wanted!

Apparently, Wei Yuewu, the legitimate daughter of Marquis Hua Yang, couldn’t even compare with a concubine-born daughter.

In particular, by saying that Concubine Dong taught Wei Yuejiao well, she made people realize the drastic difference between Wei Yuejiao and her!

Hearing Wei Yuewu’s words, Wei Luowen’s eyes flashed with a hint of sharpness. His gaze towards Wei Yuejiao wasn’t as concerned as before. Instead, stared at Concubine Dong without saying a word.

“Alright, now that you’re in the capital, you have to obey the rules of the capital. Yuejiao, go back to your courtyard and copy Lessons for Women as a punishment!”

Since Wei Luowen had just returned to the capital, the Madam Dowager couldn’t make things too difficult for Concubine Dong. She waved her hand and gave her verdict.

Concubine Dong didn’t expect that Marquis Hua Yang didn’t say a word despite her humble apology. Besides, the Madam Dowager didn’t bother to give her face as she used to do. A trace of malice flashed in her eyes. She didn’t expect that such a little girl would change Lord Marquis’s temper with just a few words.

That bitch had been dead for so many years. Could it be that this cheap girl could compete against Yuejiao for Lord Marquis’ favor?

However, Concubine Dong also knew what to do at this time. She quickly hid the coldness in her eyes and said, "Yes. Yuejiao, hurry and thank the Madam Dowager!"

"Concubine Dong!" Wei Yuejiao was still at a loss for becoming the target of the Madam Dowager's anger. When she heard Concubine Dong asking her to yield, she was extremely reluctant. But when she saw Concubine Dong glaring at her, she didn't dare to say anything else. She picked up her handkerchief and wiped away the tears. Then, she said to the Madam Dowager, "Yes, Grandmother, thank you. I... will go and copy it immediately!"

"You can leave now!" The Madam Dowager said impatiently with a gloomy expression.

"You go and keep an eye on Yuejiao. Don't let her do such a disrespectful thing again!" Wei Luowen waved at Concubine Dong and said coldly.

"Lord Marquis, I..." Being berated by Wei Luowen in front of so many people, Concubine Dong immediately blushed.

"Leave now!" Wei Luowen's expression darkened.

"Yes, I'm leaving!" Concubine Dong didn't dare to disobey Wei Luowen. She had no choice but to retreat with Wei Yuejiao.

Wei Yuewu tilted her head and her eyes moved slightly. A dark light flashed in her eyes. Since Mo Huating appeared here, he must have something important to do. She did not want Concubine Dong and her daughter to stay here and cause trouble!

There was a strange pause in the room, but in the next moment, Wei Yuewu's eyes narrowed coldly.

Mo Huating actually stood up and took out an item from his pocket. He strode in front of Wei Luowen and presented the item in his hand. Then, he respectfully said, "Lord Marquis, please have a look!"

Wei Yuewu instantly widened her eyes at the sight of the bright red envelope...

Chapter 223 – Marriage Contract Reappeared

It was the marriage contract between Mo Huating and her!

Sure enough, Mo Huating came prepared. Although the Madam Dowager had made her stance clear, he still dared to bring it over...

“Lord Marquis, this is the marriage contract my mother exchanged with Marquise Hua Yang and these are two letters left behind by Marquise Hua Yang on her deathbed. One is addressed to my mother, tasking her to honor the marriage contract at all times. The other is addressed to Zhaoyi Tu, Her Majesty, asking her to help take care of this marriage. Even though my mother...”

Mo Huating seemed to think of his dead mother and he choked for a moment.

Wei Yuewu knew that Mo Huating came with bad intentions, but she didn't expect that he would be so audacious. Not only did he take out the marriage contract, but he also took out the letters her mother wrote to Marquise Jing Yuan and Zhaoyi Tu.

She held her fingers slightly in her sleeves, but she did not say a word. She wanted to see what trump card Mo Huating had that could make her father directly disobey the Madam Dowager's words and bypass the Empress' orders.

Wei Luowen's fingers trembled slightly, but he still reached out to pick up the letter placed under the marriage contract. Although there was no expression on his face, everyone felt that he wasn't calm at this moment.

But in the end, he put his hand on the letter and didn't open it. After pausing for a moment, he looked up at the Madam Dowager and said in a deep voice, “Mother, what happened to Wei Yan? Yuewu's mother had arranged this marriage for her, Marquise Jing Yuan also agreed to it, and Zhaoyi Tu was the witness of their marriage contract. Why did Marquis Jing Yuan end up getting involved with Wei Yan?”

“Actually, this was also what Yuewu wanted. When Wei Yan was in the Palace, she encountered an accident. Marquis Jing Yuan went into the fire to save her. In that case, if Marquis Jing Yuan did not

marry Wei Yan, she would have no choice but commit suicide. Yuewu also agreed at that time, and that was why the Empress canceled their engagement!”

The Madam Dowager hesitated for a moment, but she still gave a brief account of the matter. She did not mention the fact that Mo Huating had an affair with Wei Yan.

Wei Yuewu sneered in her heart. The Madam Dowager really pretended not to know anything and omitted a lot of details, including the fierce quarrel and fight between Wei Yan and Chen Nianshan who competed for Marquis Jing Yuan, which she witnessed in the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan.

The face of the Madam Dowager was filled with helplessness when she uttered those words. In this situation, it seemed that this was the only way for her to save Wei Yan.

However, although the Madam Dowager gave an almost flawless account of the matter, Marquis Hua Yang was apparently not convinced.

Men were different from women in that they paid more attention to results.

“Mother, now that Wei Yan has passed away, then none of these obstacles exists. Since Marquis Jing Yuan is willing to renew the marriage contract and is now making a proposal in our mansion, the Empress won’t blame us for accepting the proposal. Moreover, Marquis Jing Yuan had to save Wei Yan at that time. Since the situation has changed and the previous marriage contract was canceled, the two families can have a new marriage contract. ”

Wei Luowen thought for a moment before respectfully responding to the Madam Dowager.

The Madam Dowager immediately had an awkward face. Other people didn’t know about Wei Yan’s situation. However, she knew that Wei Yan was currently in Mo Huating’s mansion and was his concubine. If Wei Yuewu really renewed her engagement with Mo Huating, serious trouble would be caused! However, she couldn’t directly tell Wei Luowen about her worry. She could only look at her second son.

“Elder Brother, although Wei Yan let us down, she was still my daughter... It’s better to wait for some time!” Wei Luowu stood up, his eyes filled with sorrow.

Surprisingly, he wasn't opposed to the marriage proposal. He only asked Wei Luowen to wait for a while longer.

"Alright! Mother, Second Younger Brother, give Wei Yan a proper funeral. She is a daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, and she deserves it." Remembering that Wei Yan hanged herself, Wei Luowen sighed. Although he didn't like this niece, he watched her grow up. Now that she was gone, it felt like a dream. Moreover, she was still young. Whatever mistakes she made, bygones were bygones!

"Forget it, it's not a good thing after all!" The Madam Dowager shook her head and refused.

Of course, she would not allow a funeral for Wei Yan, who was still a living person and would "come back to life" in the future.

"Elder Brother, don't do it. I can't afford to lose face!" Wei Luowu also objected with a pale face.

Since his mother and younger brother were both opposed, and Wei Luowen was only Wei Yan's uncle, he no longer insisted. He turned to Mo Huating and said, "Marquis Jing Yuan, then..."

Wei Yuewu raised her eyes, and her gaze fell on the slightly complacent Mo Huating. The corner of her lips curled into a cold smile. It was clear that her father was going to make a decision for her and agreed to the proposal.

Mo Huating was really good at calculation! Did he think that she, a weak and unmarried girl, dared not oppose her father openly, so that he staged on such a play?

"Father, I don't agree to this marriage!"

Her eyes looked both cold and indifferent. She looked up at Wei Luowen without dodging. However, there was not the slightest warmth in her eyes that was expected of a daughter who saw her father.

Although Wei Luowen was accustomed to seeing life and death, he quickly avoided Wei Yuewu's gaze that seemed to be from a stranger. His heart trembled slightly. Her pair of cold and beautiful eyes looked exactly like those of Rui'er, who also looked at him like that after that incident.

Almost at the same time as he dodged Wei Yuewu's gaze, Wei Luowen woke from the trance and looked at Wei Yuewu. He asked in a deep voice, "Why? Marquis Jing Yuan has a deep affection for you. What happened in the Palace back then was also unavoidable. Could it be that you really wanted to go against your mother's will?"

"Father, Marquis Jing Yuan once tried to assassinate me. It's impossible for me to marry him!" Wei Yuewu looked at Mo Huating and said word by word.

She was a daughter of an aristocratic family. Therefore, she could not say that Wei Yan and Mo Huating had an affair in front of so many people, especially considering that there were so many men present. Just now, Wei Yuejiao was reprimanded and ordered to leave because she said that Xie Qingzhao had improper relations with other sisters in the mansion.

"Assassination?" Wei Luowen was surprised.

"Marquis Hua Yang, I am really not to blame for this. When I heard that Sixth Young Lady was entering the capital, I went to pick her up. Who would have thought that I would be late? Sixth Young Lady encountered an assassination. I took Second Young Lady's maid with me to identify her body. However, Sixth Young Lady jumped out of nowhere and actually accused me of having an affair with Second Young Lady's maid. She also said that I sent people to assassinate her."

Mo Huating's face was filled with sadness and grievance. He talked about the matter with a natural expression, and he also had helplessness and a bitter smile on his face. It was obvious that during this period of time, he had found a way to cover up his evil deeds.

Those words explained almost all of Wei Yuewu's previous doubts.

It was obvious that Mo Huating had been making preparations for a long time! Today, he came to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang fully prepared. Otherwise, it was impossible for him to have the letter that was originally in the hands of Zhaoyi Tu.

“Marquis Hua Yang, if you don’t believe me, you can investigate it. The magistrate who handled the case is still there!” Mo Huating looked at Wei Luowen with an upright expression and he even offered to ask Wei Luowen to investigate this matter.

The expression on his face was so frank and honest that Wei Luowen was impressed and looked less serious.

Mo Huating was indeed treacherous. He knew the psychology of people well. After failing to assassinate her, he actually put on a play to show that he was also a victim, as if he was the most innocent one. He tried to make people believe that he didn’t even know what had happened, but he was questioned by her. As for Wei Yan, she was dead. It would be a bit too much to hold a dead person responsible.

Well, if Mo Huating was prepared, how could she not be prepared at all? A strange smile appeared on her cherry lips. Mo Huating, didn’t you bring Wei Yan into your mansion? That was good. I would let you know that you had lifted a rock only to drop it on your own feet!

As for the assassination, it was just a prelude of the real attack!

“Father, I witnessed the assassination at that time. Of course, Marquis Jing Yuan will insist that it has nothing to do with him. However, I heard that Marquis Jing Yuan recently took in a new concubine...” Wei Yuewu paused for a moment. Her beautiful eyes seemed to be able to pierce through the hearts of people as she landed her gaze on Mo Huating and smiled.

Of course, this concubine was Wei Yan, who was known to be dead!

The Madam Dowager and Second Master became nervous upon hearing her words. Of course, the two of them knew the truth very well.

“This... is just an ordinary concubine!” The smile on Mo Huating’s face also stiffened. He did not expect that Wei Yuewu stopped pursuing the assassination and launched an attack by referring to Wei Yan.

Of course, he mustn’t let others know that Wei Yan was still alive.

“Marquis Jing Yuan, you haven’t married yet, but you already have a concubine. This kind of thing shouldn’t be done by someone of your character, right?” Wei Yuewu asked aggressively.

Although the young masters of aristocratic families could have bedroom maids before getting married, they basically wouldn’t give them any official title. A bedroom maid could be elevated to the position of a concubine only after the wife had entered the mansion.

Of course, some dandies were exceptions. But Mo Huating’s reputation had always been very good, and it was impossible for him to have a concubine before getting married. However, he had clearly made Wei Yan his concubine. By doing so, he was trying to convince the second branch of the Wei clan and the Madam Dowager that he did like Wei Yan.

However, he didn’t expect that Wei Yuewu would actually know such a thing.

But Mo Huating reacted quickly. After pondering for a moment, he came up with a solution and said to Marquis Hua Yang with a face full of shame, “This is indeed my fault. After my marriage contract with Sixth Miss Wei was dissolved at the order of the Empress, I... I was so sad that I abandoned myself and casually took in a concubine. However, if I can marry the Sixth Young Lady, I will immediately send this concubine away.”

In other words, Mo Huating had this concubine because of his unhappy marriage. It was an improper act. However, when people thought that he was forced to cancel his engagement with Wei Yuewu and agree to marry Wei Yan at the order of the Empress, they would somehow feel sympathetic to him. After all, he had agreed to marry Wei Yan in order to save her life.

After hearing Mo Huating’s explanation, anyone would feel that Mo Huating had a deep affection for Wei Yuewu!

Seeing that Mo Huating had indeed jumped into the trap, Wei Yuewu raised her eyes and said, “Marquis Jing Yuan, do you dare to let us meet that concubine? I heard that concubine was one of my Second Elder Sister’s maids!”

Wei Yan’s maid? Wei Luowen frowned. What did that mean? Could it be that Wei Yan and Mo Huating already had an affair before what happened in the Palace?

Mo Huating didn't expect that Wei Yuewu would play such a trick on him. For a moment, he was so shocked that he couldn't even speak. He looked at Wei Yuewu in astonishment, not knowing how to respond.

The Madam Dowager's expression darkened and she was about to speak.

However, Wei Yuewu would in no case give her a chance to speak at this time. She stared at Mo Huating with a cold smile and continued, "Marquis Jing Yuan, if you want to prove your innocence, you can send someone to take your concubine here. But it's best to send people from our mansion along with your people in case no one will be able to explain it clearly!"

In other words, if Mo Huating denied it, he should directly fetch the concubine here so that everyone could confirm the identity of his concubine. This sounded reasonable, but how would Mo Huating dare to fetch Wei Yan here? He was now really cornered!

Although Mo Huating had long recognized that Wei Yuewu wasn't plain looking and untalented as she was rumored to be, he had never expected that Wei Yuewu would be so powerful that she could make him completely speechless. He had never had such a powerful opponent before, not to mention the fact that she was only an unmarried young lady.

He couldn't help but turn his eyes to Wei Yuewu and cast a deep look at her.

Chapter 224 – Marquis Jing Yuan, Are You Afraid?

At this moment, Mo Huating had no choice but to look at the woman in front of him. Under her butterfly-wing-like long eyelids, her watery eyes were as beautiful as glowing glass, adding a bit of faint mysterious aura to her exquisite appearance. She was as beautiful as a fairy in a painting and looked indescribably attractive.

Mo Huating had to admit that although Wei Yan was beautiful, she was far inferior to Wei Yuewu.

But she looked extremely indifferent and almost totally ignored him. This made Mo Huating inexplicably annoyed. A trace of deep thought flashed in his eyes. As long as he liked a woman, he would definitely be able to get her...

The Madam Dowager opened her mouth slightly. Then, she tightly closed her mouth. Whatever she said at this moment, others might believe that she sided with Mo Huating and spoke up for him. Moreover, the Madam Dowager was extremely opposed to Wei Yuewu and Mo Huating getting re-engaged in her heart.

Wei Yuewu's gaze quietly swept across everyone's face thoughtfully. She had expected the Madam Dowager's reaction. But the Second Master Wei Luowu was extremely abnormal. As Wei Yan's father, shouldn't he object to this engagement the most? However, she found that his face was as gloomy as Mo Huating's.

Could it be that he really wanted his daughter to be inferior to her? However, judging from this second uncle's recent behavior, she knew that he was ambitious. He was even dissatisfied with being inferior to her father. So how could he allow his daughter to be suppressed by her?

Apparently, Mo Huating's visit and the marriage proposal today were not his own business...

"Marquis Jing Yuan, could it be that you don't dare to do so?" Wei Yuewu smiled gently and a beautiful curve appeared at the corner of her lips.

This was a serious challenge to Mo Huating. But at this moment, Mo Huating was unable to refute her. If Marquis Hua Yang sent people to his mansion to fetch Wei Yan, Wei Yan would definitely think that her matter was settled and would immediately come over. Once Wei Yan's fake death was exposed, he might be charged with the capital crime of deceiving Her Majesty. How could Mo Huating survive such a charge?

"It's just a concubine. Sixth Miss Wei doesn't have to worry about it. After I return to the mansion, I'll have someone send her out immediately. I won't make you unhappy." Mo Huating could only say this at the moment. But everyone could tell that he was just making a pretext with those words.

Wei Luowen frowned even more tightly. He looked at Mo Huating with a gloomy gaze. He suddenly reached out and picked up the letter that was placed aside. He opened the envelope and read the letter quickly. After a while, he took the other letter and read it carefully.

Seeing that Wei Luowen was focused on the letter, Mo Huating heaved a sigh of relief. The two letters were true. They were indeed evidence that Marquise Hua Yang entrusted Wei Yuewu to his mother.

“Father, the only reason why Mother wanted to marry me to the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan was that she knew she didn’t have much time left. She thought that she could entrust me to her old friend. However, Marquise Jing Yuan died early, leaving Marquis Jing Yuan alone at a young age. In this case, the engagement between the two mansions could be regarded as non-existent.” Wei Yuewu’s gaze slowly swept over the two letters.

Although she couldn’t see the letters, she knew that her mother must be worried about her. That was why she used engagement to place her under the protection of the mansion of Marquis Jing Yuan. However, she didn’t expect that Mo Huating was so evil and wanted to kill her.

Wei Yuewu was hinting that her birth mother could only do so under the circumstances at that time. But Mo Huating was completely indifferent to her afterward. She also mentioned her birth mother to provoke Wei Luowen so that he would protect her and reject Mo Huating’s proposal.

Wei Luowen’s hand that was holding the letters trembled once. He felt that his heart was heavily pricked. Rui’er knew that she was going to die. But instead of entrusting their daughter to him, she turned for help from her best friend...

The letters in his hand immediately became as heavy as a big rock. He knew how much Rui’er loved this child. She gave birth to this child regardless of her health. But Mo Huating actually ignored her to such an extent...

“Marquis Jing Yuan, since you have taken Wei Yan’s maid as your concubine, you shall not mention the engagement between you and Yuewu anymore.” Wei Luowen decisively put down the letter in his hand and said.

He was a grand general who had fought a bloody path out of the battlefield, so his decision was naturally more decisive and carried great weight.

Hearing what he said, Wei Yuewu heaved a sigh of relief and relaxed. Now that Wei Luowen had made the decision, Mo Huating could no longer talk about the engagement with her.

“Marquis Hua Yang, how about Marquise’s letters...” Mo Huating didn’t expect Wei Luowen to be so decisive and said anxiously.

“It’s been many years since Rui’er wrote the letters. She could not predict what happened today. Since Marquis Jing Yuan has already taken a concubine and the engagement has been canceled, there’s no need to renew it!”

Wei Luowen’s gaze swept past Mo Huating as he said those words with disdain.

“But...” Mo Huating still wanted to argue further. But this time, Wei Luowen didn’t give him chance to speak.

“It’s getting late. Marquis Jing Yuan, you should go back and rest early!” As he spoke, he stood up and put the letters in his pocket. After bidding farewell to the Madam Dowager, he strode away.

Seeing him get up, the Second Master and Third Master naturally stood up. They also clasped their hands and left.

Now, there were only Wei Ziyang, his two brothers, and a few ladies left in the inner courtyard. No matter how thick-skinned Mo Huating was, he could not stay any longer. He could only bid farewell to the Madam Dowager and left.

Wei Ziyang and his younger brothers and sisters also left together. Coincidentally, they took the same path as Mo Huating.

Wei Yuewu still walked at the end of the row.

After they left the Tranquility Courtyard together, Mo Huating looked at Wei Yuewu quietly. Under the light, she was exceptionally beautiful but was also exceptionally cold. Sensing his gaze, Wei Yuewu also raised her head and her cold eyes met with Mo Huating’s. Then, she smiled mockingly and lowered her head.

The group of people left one after another. In the end, only Wei Ziyang accompanied Mo Huating out.

“Eldest Young Master, I want to see your father, the Lord Minister!” Mo Huating suddenly stopped and said with a serious expression.

“My father might not want to see Marquis Jing Yuan!” Wei Ziyang looked at Mo Huating with an indifferent expression. He didn’t know what happened to Wei Yan. He thought that Wei Yan had really hanged herself because of Mo Huating. Naturally, he would not play nice with Mo Huating.

In particular, Wei Yuewu had mentioned that Mo Huating’s concubine was Wei Yan’s maid, which made him feel that Mo Huating was immoral.

“Eldest Young Master, I really have something urgent. Please, do me a favor, Eldest Young Master!” Mo Huating cupped his hands and his face was full of sincerity.

“Then, please wait here for a moment, Marquis Jing Yuan. I will go and ask my father.” Although Wei Ziyang was reluctant to help, he was afraid that Mo Huating really had something important.

“Yes!” Mo Huating smiled and bowed deeply. He was extremely polite.

Wei Ziyang turned around and left. Soon a lad servant arrived. He respectfully said to Mo Huating who was standing aside, “Marquis Jing Yuan, our Lord Minister invited you to the study for a chat!”

“Lead the way!”

“Yes!” The lad servant took his order and brought Mo Huating to Wei Luowu’s study.

Inside the study, a lamp was burning. Wei Luowu had already returned. He was writing something angrily under the lamp. His emotions were not calm. When Mo Huating entered the room, he waved his hand. The lad servant silently retreated and closed the door for them.

In the study, Mo Huating sat down on a chair with his hands behind his back. His face darkened under the light.

Wei Luowu hurriedly put down the writing brush in his hand. He bypassed the writing desk and bowed deeply to Mo Huating who was sitting in the guest chair. "Lord Marquis..."

"Lord Minister, there is no need to stand on ceremony!" Mo Huating casually waved his hand and said bluntly, "What do you think of this matter? Didn't your elder brother have a deep affection for the deceased Marquise Hua Yang?"

"It should have been the case in the past. But lately, he has been treating Concubine Dong and her daughter even better. Moreover, Wei Yan can't show up yet."

Wei Luowu was also puzzled. In the past, his eldest brother had a deep affection for Marquise Hua Yang. Whatever her decision was, Marquis Hua Yang would never reject it. But when he saw her letter today, he was not moved. Could it really be that he had forgotten about her after so many years?

There was no doubt that what Wei Yuewu had said also played a key role.

"Lord Minister, regardless of whether my marriage with the Sixth Miss Wei succeeds or not, my promise to you will never change. The Second Young Lady's future status will definitely be high and mighty. She will never be suppressed by anyone."

Mo Huating's gaze shone brilliantly as he stared at Wei Luowu. But his expression was extremely cold.

"Yes, I know. But this matter..." Wei Luowu knew that Mo Huating wasn't suspecting that he did not help him with all his heart. So he hurriedly explained.

"Since this matter has developed like this, I will put the marriage aside first. Now that Marquis Hua Yang has returned to the mansion, I hope that Lord Minister will be more careful and know what to do." Mo Huating interrupted him bluntly and said indifferently. Then, he stood up and walked toward the door.

Wei Luowu hurriedly escorted him outside the door. As he saw Mo Huating leaving, a trace of darkness flashed in his eyes. He stood in the dark corner of the corridor for a long time.

However, he didn't know that his meeting with Mo Huating had been monitored by another person.

When Mo Huating left, a black-clothed man silently slipped down a tall bamboo in the bamboo forest behind the study. After the black-clothed man landed on the ground, he identified the direction and hurriedly flashed into the darkness, disappearing in a flash...

Inside the study, Wei Luowen put down the brush in his hand and looked at the sky outside. It was already late. He said with an indifferent expression, "Imperial Academician Xie? Let him in!"

It didn't seem to be a good time to receive guests at this moment. Moreover, he had only returned to the capital today. Didn't this Imperial Academician Xie know that it was rude to ask for an audience at this time?

But now that he was here, Wei Luowen decided that he had better meet him.

Xie Qingzhao dressed in a light blue robe walked in with a lad servant and bowed deeply to Wei Luowen.

Wei Luowen waved his hand slightly. "Imperial Academician Xie, please sit down. Why do you visit me late at night?"

Xie Qingzhao sat down on a chair aside. His face was slightly pale from nervousness, which made him look a little more embarrassed.

Chapter 225 – Xie Qingzhao Played The Trick Again

"Lord Marquis, visiting you late at night is truly impolite, but... things..." Xie Qingzhao secretly looked at Wei Luowen's expression as he said.

However, Marquis Hua Yang, an important official in the imperial court who was known as the strongest general in the Zhongshan Kingdom, remained expressionless all along.

His calm gaze carried a hint of killing intent. The scar on his face made him look even more frightening. Such a face was truly not something that Xie Qingzhao could understand clearly.

“Imperial Academician Xie, if you have something to say, please say it!” Wei Luowen coldly looked at the young man in front of him. His words were filled with impatience.

“Marquis Hua Yang, I want to marry Sixth Miss Wei!” Gritting his teeth, Xie Qingzhao stood up again and cupped his hands towards Wei Luowen.

“Why?” Wei Luowen stared at Xie Qingzhao for quite a while before asking him in a deep voice.

Normally, proposing was the task of a matchmaker, who must visit the mansion at a proper time and following a proper procedure.

Why did Xie Qingzhao enter the mansion alone without bringing a matchmaker with him? Why did he propose in the middle of the night? From whichever perspective, this young man was behaving in a strange manner.

He made people believe that he was doing a shameful thing.

“Lord Marquis, please accept my proposal!” This time, Xie Qingzhao knelt down and kowtowed heavily to Wei Luowen. “Lord Marquis, it’s all my fault. If you want to blame someone, then blame me! However, the Sixth Young Lady and I love each other. Although we have just met a few times, we have always behaved properly and decently.”

Xie Qingzhao’s voice wasn’t loud. But it was like a giant drum beating near Wei Luowen’s ears. A trace of anger flashed across his face.

She had risked her life giving birth to their daughter. Now this Xie Qingzhao came out of nowhere and claimed to have an affair with their daughter? What did he mean by saying they had always behaved properly and decently? If that was the case, there wouldn’t be such a thing as proposing in the middle of the night!

Sure enough, they had a shameful affair. Yet he actually came to him for his approval.

The anger in his heart surged upwards. He was almost unable to suppress it. It had been many years since he felt this kind of irresistible anger. It took him a long time to calm down. He sternly asked, "Xie Qingzhao, did you clearly remember when you met my younger daughter?"

This time, he was no longer courteous and called Xie Qingzhao by his name.

"When I came back from the Plum Blossom Nunnery, I collided with the carriage of the Sixth Young Lady. She helped me deal with my wound. Afterward, I moved to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. She also talked to me privately about poems and other things. Today, I waited at the city gate as she had asked me to do. I originally wanted to step forward to greet you. However, something else happened at that time, so I didn't do it. Lord Marquis, if you don't believe me, you can investigate it."

At this time, Xie Qingzhao suddenly calmed down. He raised his head and looked at Wei Luowen sincerely. "Lord Marquis, the sun and moon can testify to my affection for the Sixth Young Lady."

What he said before was partly true and partly false. An investigation into it couldn't find anything, and could only prove that he did have interactions with Wei Yuewu. As for his entanglement with Wei Qiuju and Wei Yan, he only needed to say that it was a misunderstanding.

Xie Qingzhao was not afraid that the Madam Dowager would tell Marquis Hua Yang about it!

"No proof!" Wei Luowen stared coldly at Xie Qingzhao.

"I have a brush as proof!" Xie Qingzhao replied immediately, "I sent a brush to the mansion the day before yesterday and it was delivered to the maid of the Sixth Young Lady. Lord Marquis, if you don't believe me, you can directly ask her to bring the brush over. It also contained a letter I wrote to her."

"Someone, go and invite the Sixth Young Lady and take the brush container on her desk to here!" Wei Luowen said sternly.

"Yes." A lad servant answered and ran out of the courtyard.

Wei Yuewu was reading a book under the lamp. It was about jade. There was an introduction to thumb rings in it, which attracted her. Ordinary thumb rings were naturally worn by men. But there were also some special ones that women could also wear. Of course, the wearers had special statuses...

"Miss, Lord Marquis asked you to go over and wanted you to bring the brush container on your desk along." Jin Ling lifted the curtain and walked in with a somewhat anxious expression.

Hearing this, Wei Yuewu sneered. It came as expected and happened at a good time. Father had just been back today, and the fact that he came in the night to talk to her father indicated that it must be a shameful thing that couldn't be known by others.

So, it was Xie Qingzhao again? Or was it the first cooperation between Wei Qiufu, Lady Li, and Concubine Dong?

Wei Yuewu put down the book. She stood up and instructed, "Jin Ling, go to my Third Elder Sister's courtyard first, tell her about what our father has said and then come over with her."

"Yes, Miss!" Jin Ling nodded and retreated. She knew martial arts and naturally moved the fastest.

Wei Yuewu's gaze landed on the brushes in the brush container. She smiled faintly and said coldly, "Shufei, take the brush container, let's go!"

"Yes!" Shufei came over and picked up the brush container. Then, she followed behind Wei Yuewu out of Lotus Courtyard and headed for Wei Luowen's study.

The scene in the study remained the same as when the lad servant left. Xie Qingzhao was still on his knees silently as if he was owning up to his mistake and sincerely repenting. Behind the large writing desk, Wei Luowen sat there and reviewed some documents. However, from time to time, he stopped writing and looked at Xie Qingzhao with a murderous look in his eyes.

Xie Qingzhao, who was kneeling on the ground, only felt that the killing intent in his eyes was intensifying, which caused him to feel chilly in his back. Cold sweat began to appear on his hands that were properly placed on both sides of his body.

This Marquis Hua Yang was a general. If he really got provoked, it would be a great disadvantage to him! However, the information he had gathered said that this Sixth Miss Wei wasn't favored by Marquis Hua Yang. Since she had done such a shameless thing, she would naturally be dealt with secretly.

But did this Marquis Hua Yang really not like this daughter? Why did the killing intent that he felt become even stronger?

As Xie Qingzhao was wondering, he suddenly heard a gentle and sweet voice beside him, "Yuewu pays my respects to father!"

Looking sideways, he couldn't help but break out into cold sweat. Wei Yuewu came! It was great. Marquis Hua Yang's aura was too shocking. He was truly feeling guilty staying alone with him.

Wei Luowen quietly looked at the face in front of him. It wasn't very similar. But he could see several similar special features. Moreover, her pale appearance and thin body reminded him of the scene before Xinrui died. He almost didn't dare to think back to the scene.

Inexplicably, he didn't dare to look into those clear eyes.

"It is so cold outside. Why didn't you wear more?" His voice unconsciously carried a trace of warmth.

After so many years of ignoring her, this distant father actually showed a look of concern for her. Wei Yuewu sneered in her heart. But a faint smile appeared on her face which carried a sense of gentle gratitude. "Thank you, father. I don't feel cold!"

She indeed didn't feel cold at the moment because her heart was already completely cold. There was no way it would warm up again.

Perhaps sensing the softness in his words, Wei Luowen calmed down and his voice became cold and indifferent again. He pointed at Xie Qingzhao and asked, "What... is going on between you and him?"

"Sixth Young Lady, it's me... I know that this matter needs further discussion. But I was afraid that the Lord Marquis would arrange a marriage for you again. That's why I came here to propose at night. You

can scold me and beat me up, but don't deny our relationship! Whether... the two of us can stay together in the future or not is entirely up to the Lord Marquis."

Seeing Wei Yuewu turning around, Xie Qingzhao immediately showed a deeply affectionate expression. He turned his head to look at Wei Yuewu. His words were even more affectionate.

Wei Luowen's face looked even colder.

"Imperial Academician Xie, what is this about? You have entangled with the Second Elder Sister, Fourth Elder Sister, and Fifth Elder Sister before. Is it my turn now? Imperial Academician Xie, I heard that the disciples of a sage should be honest. But why did you repeatedly get entangled with the young ladies in our mansion who haven't been married yet?"

Wei Yuewu was naturally prepared for Xie Qingzhao's appearance. Her gaze swept past him coldly as she coldly berated him.

When she spoke of the Fourth Elder Sister, she deliberately emphasized and deepened her tone. Sure enough, she saw Xie Qingzhao's expression changed. He almost got panicked.

"What's going on?" Wei Luowen also noticed something unusual. His eyes flashed with a faint light and his brows furrowed tightly.

"Sixth Young Ladies... you... how can you say those words? The two of us are in love with each other. You promised me again and again that you would arrange for our marriage after your father returned to the capital. But I can't wait any longer. I heard that Marquis Jing Yuan came to force you to marry him today. Sixth Young Lady, I... I had no choice but to ask for an audience late at night. You...why don't you join with me to plead Lord Marquis for his approval?"

Xie Qingzhao's face was filled with sorrow as he looked at Wei Yuewu with a pale face. He didn't seem to believe what Wei Yuewu had said. His eyes turned red with sadness.

He had explained that he appeared in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang at this time because he was afraid that Mo Huating would make a successful proposal to her. That was why he met Wei Luowen without informing Wei Yuewu beforehand.

This showed the importance he attached to Wei Yuewu on the one hand and the helplessness he felt on the other.

After Xie Qingzhao said those words, his gaze landed on the brush container that Shufei was holding. He pressed down his hands on the ground with excitement and stood up. Then he grabbed the brush container from Shufei's hand and took out an item from it. He handed it forward and said angrily out of control, "Sixth Young Lady, don't deny it. Look, what is this?"

Well, he perfectly played the part of a scholar who had been abandoned by his lover!

"What is that? Just a brush. Does Imperial Academician Xie feel that something is wrong with it?" Wei Yuewu glanced at the brush in Xie Qingzhao's hand and said calmly.

"You... you're an unmarried young lady. Why do you use such a big brush? This is clearly used by men!" Xie Qingzhao's heart involuntarily skipped a beat under the glare of her cold eyes. He hurriedly pointed at the brush in his hand and said anxiously.

"I grew up in my maternal grandmother's mansion. To help me relax, she usually asked me to write characters in a bigger size. That's why I have the big brush. What's wrong? Could it be that Imperial Academician Xie wants to say that this is yours?" A faint mockery appeared on Wei Yuewu's face and her tone was icy cold and harsh!

Chapter 226 – Press The Tip Of The Brush With Strength

Xie Qingzhao was stunned. He didn't expect Wei Yuewu was able to deal with the situation so calmly. Shouldn't she be panicked and helpless?

Wei Luowen had been watching coldly aside. At this moment, he suddenly opened his mouth and forcefully slapped the table. He angrily said, "Xie Qingzhao, you are just an Imperial Academician, how dare you slander my daughter in my mansion? Are you courting death?"

"Lord Marquis, open it and take a look. There is a letter in it I wrote to the Sixth Young Lady." Xie Qingzhao was so anxious that he presented the brush in front of Wei Luowen.

Wei Luowen took the brush with a sullen face and examined it carefully.

“The letter is in the tip of the brush. Use force...” Xie Qingzhao prompted. But before he could finish his words, he saw Wei Luowen easily took off the tip of the brush. After examining it, he stared at Xie Qingzhao expressionlessly.

When he saw that there was nothing in Wei Luowen’s hand, Xie Qingzhao’s forehead was covered in sweat. He subconsciously turned to look at Wei Yuewu.

Her clothes were always plain and simple. There was a winter plum embroidered at the corner of her skirt, carrying a pink aura that made her pure and childish. But it formed a strong contrast with her icy face at this moment.

Xie Qingzhao could even feel the disgust in her clear and beautiful eyes!

Yes. There was a sense of deep disgust that almost made his heart skip a beat.

“Father, why did you ask me to bring my brushes here?” A tender voice broke the serious atmosphere in the room.

Wei Yuejiao walked in with Yuzhu who held a brush container in her hand.

Seeing that Wei Yuewu had arrived before her, Wei Yuejiao glared coldly at her and continued, “Father, what happened to you? Why did you suddenly want to see my brush container?”

Wei Luowen was stunned for a moment. Just as he was about to say something, Wei Yuewu said. “Third Elder Sister, this Imperial Academician Xie said that he wanted to see our brush containers. He said that there was something wrong with them. Since he has reported to Father, you and I are obligated to bring our brushes over and let this Imperial Academician Xie have a clear look.”

“Isn’t it just a brush container? Is this a big deal? Father, look, I brought this here just now. When I heard that Father wanted to see my brush container, I even had someone find a few more brushes.” Wei

Yuejiao had provoked Wei Luowen before. At the moment she was still being punished with copying the scriptures. How could she dare to disobey Wei Luowen's orders?

Her brush container was surely full of brushes, and the big brush was placed in it. Compared to the other brushes, it looked much more conspicuous.

Everyone couldn't help but land their gazes on the brush. Judging from its appearance, this brush was almost identical to Wei Yuewu's.

Xie Qingzhao suddenly had a bad premonition. His fingers trembled slightly. Could this... this be his brush? Marquis Hua Yang took off the tip of Wei Yuewu's brush a moment ago with great ease. Wasn't that his brush?

Wei Yuejiao didn't know what had happened. She only felt that after she finished speaking, everyone looked at her brush container. Thus, she generously placed it in front of Wei Luowen and said, "Father, do you want to take some brushes from me? Father, look!"

"Father, since we are both your daughters, please take off the tip of the brush and examine it!" Wei Yuewu turned her gaze to Wei Luowen and bowed respectfully.

However, the meaning behind her words made Wei Luowen feel as if he had received a heavy blow. She was her daughter and his daughter whom she had given birth to with all her might. How could he underestimate her?

Reaching out to Wei Yuejiao's brush container, he picked the brush and examined it carefully. If no one told him, he wouldn't be able to see that the small crack in the tip of the brush. He forcefully pressed down on the tip of the brush and pulled it out. As the tip was removed, a thin piece of twisted paper fell out from inside.

Although Xie Qingzhao was very thoughtful, he was only a young man in his twenties. The corners of his lips twitched and he subconsciously said, "This... how is this possible..."

"Why is it impossible? Is Imperial Academician Xie sure it's me? I remember that there was a letter from the Fifth Elder Sister before. Then it was sent to Grandmother. I guess that letter was Imperial

Academician Xie's real private letter, right? I don't know how I offended Imperial Academician Xie or someone related to you. Why did you try to harm me again and again?"

Wei Yuewu smiled coldly. Her gaze fell on the piece of paper. Wei Luowen unfolded it and carefully read it. He looked more and more serious as he read it. In the end, he almost couldn't control his anger.

He clapped his hands heavily on the table. Then he bypassed the desk and grabbed Xie Qingzhao by the hand. "Come, let's go into the Palace now. You are just an Imperial Academician. Why have you repeatedly tried to ruin my daughters' reputation? What's your goal?"

Wei Luowen was really furious. Over the years, he had to ignore his daughter, and his negligence had become an excuse for others to bully her. Now this daughter he loved so much was slandered by someone to have an affair with a man. How could he not be angry? That letter indeed contained a recipient's name that read "Wu'er."

The signature below was of course Xie Qingzhao. However, the recipient's name Wu'er was clearly added by someone else and the original name had been erased. Apparently, someone wanted to frame her.

Xie Qingzhao did not expect Wei Luowen's temper to be so fierce. He pleaded anxiously, "Lord Marquis, listen to me. I still have something to say!"

"Father, let Imperial Academician Xie explain. He won't come for no reason. If it wasn't for something, why would he ask for an audience with you late at night?" Wei Yuejiao was the one who enjoyed Wei Yuewu's misfortune most. She didn't know what was going on at this time. But from the tone of Marquis Hua Yang, it was clear that something disgraceful happened between Xie Qingzhao and Wei Yuewu.

When she recalled that Wei Yuewu had said that her father and grandmother wanted her to marry Xie Qingzhao, she couldn't help but be angry. She rolled her eyes and immediately felt that it was best to get Xie Qingzhao involved with Wei Yuewu. Therefore, she tried her best to speak in favor of Xie Qingzhao.

However, Yuzhu, who was standing behind her, felt that something was wrong. She reached out and pulled her sleeve. She pointed at the brush on the desk, motioning to her to look at the paper that fell out of the brush.

"Third Elder Sister, do you think what Imperial Academician Xie said might be very reasonable?" Wei Yuwu smiled coldly and turned to Wei Yuejiao.

"He... since he came late at night, it is clear that the thing cannot be known by others. We must let him finish. Father, do you think so?" At this moment, Wei Yuejiao didn't have the mood to care about Yuzhu. She waved her sleeve and hurriedly explained to Wei Luowen.

"Third Elder Sister, although we don't have the same mother, we are at least sisters in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. But today... you and Concubine Dong have both shown me what true family is!" After saying these words with a sad expression, Wei Yuwu put on a long face. With the support of Shufei's hand, she sat down on a chair aside and silently waited for the situation to develop.

These words reminded Wei Luowen of everything that happened at the city gate today as well as what Concubine Dong had said and done to defend Wei Yuejiao. His look became serious.

"Xie Qingzhao, what is all this about?" Wei Luowen picked up the brush and smashed it fiercely at Xie Qingzhao. Xie Qingzhao subconsciously stretched out his hand to receive it. But he was just a scholar and was not a match to Wei Luowen. The brush knocked on his forehead before he could grab it. The force was so strong that it made him stagger a few steps and he almost fell down.

However, he still reached out to catch the small piece of paper that was thrown over with the brush. When he saw the words on the small piece of paper, he found that there were obvious signs of it being altered. Although the recipient's name was still "Wu'er", its writing style was different from the characters below. Everyone could figure out that the characters "Wu'er" were added to cover up the original recipient's name.

He was stunned for a moment!

"Who... who changed this?" He said this subconsciously. Because this brush was from Wei Yuejiao, he asked Wei Yuejiao subconsciously as if he was questioning her.

Wei Yuejiao was furious. She was still angry with Wei Yuwu's mentioning the matter at the city gate a while ago. When she saw Xie Qingzhao staring at her blankly, she glared at him and berated, "Does it have anything to do with me? Why do you look at me? Could it be that I'm the one who changed it?"

Today, she suffered a lot in Wei Yuewu's hands. In the end, she was reprimanded and punished in front of everyone. She was just looking for a chance to vent her anger on someone. When she heard Xie Qingzhao's words, she immediately lost control and started to vent her anger!

"If it's not you... who is it?" These words were almost spoken unconsciously. Only after saying these words did Xie Qingzhao realize that he had made a mistake. He turned to look at Wei Luowen and saw that he had already taken his seat behind the desk again. His cold gaze landed on him, reminding him of a rumor that Marquis Hua Yang once killed a thousand people in one night. His entire body got stiffen.

He could no longer hold the paper in his hand, which dropped and fell to Wei Yuewu's feet.

Shufei squatted down and picked it up. She brought it to Wei Yuewu. Wei Yuewu reached out and took it. She looked at it for a moment and sneered. No matter what, Xie Qingzhao would never have thought that the brush was not in her hands but was found in Wei Yuejiao's brush container.

Perhaps none of the people who framed her expected that this brush wouldn't end up in her hands. Although it was addressed to her, she obliterated the original name and added her name. Such an obvious sign would only let people believe that her name was added by someone with a special purpose...

"Lord Xie, is this the evidence that you and I have an affair? Please tell me who was so intent on removing the original name and replacing it with mine? However, perhaps the person who wrote it didn't realize that the handwriting of a weak girl is different from that of yours."

The handwriting was just in the ordinary small seal style. It could only be seen that the name was written by a woman. But no one could tell who had written it. There were too many people who could write in this style. So it was impossible to find the writer.

Almost all young ladies of the aristocratic families could write in this kind of small seal style. There was nothing special about it.

"Lord Xie, there should be a name in the letter that the Fifth Elder Sister sent to my grandmother, right? How about getting the letter now?" Wei Yuewu mercilessly pressured him steadily. Her beautiful eyes shone even more shockingly.

Chapter 227 – No One Was Stupid

That letter was written to Wei Qiufu, and it could not be compared with this one. It was a letter that proved that the two of them were having an affair. How could Xie Qingzhao be calm at this time? His expression was panicked, but he could not speak any word.

“You... you...”

He truly regretted it to the extreme. He suddenly realized that this Sixth Miss Wei in front of him was not simple. His previous failures weren't just coincidental. Today, when he came to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, he was simply throwing himself into a trap and lifting a stone to smash his own foot.

“Lord Xie, please explain clearly who asked you to harm me like this? I am a weak woman, and I have just been back to the capital. I am sure that I have never offended Lord Xie, but why did Lord Xie harm me like this?” Wei Yuewu said coldly. Although her tone was fierce, her words hinted at a path of life, a path of life for Xie Qingzhao.

Those who ranked among the top three in the Palace Examination presided by the emperor were never really stupid...

“It's not me... I'm not trying to harm you!” Xie Qingzhao shook his hands and he was almost frightened out of his wits. As long as he thought of the letter in Madam Dowager's hand, he would not be able to calm down. That letter involved not just him but also Wei Qiufu, whose safety he cared about wholeheartedly. She was so beautiful. If he ruined her life, how could he be worthy of her affection?

Wei Yuejiao also realized what happened at this time. She was not stupid either. In order to prove her innocence, she immediately berated Xie Qingzhao, “Who else could it be except you? There's also your stuff. Why is it here? These are clearly gifts from my concubine mother. How come your brush got mixed up in my gifts?”

“Lord Xie, please explain why your brush was mixed up in Concubine Dong's gifts and sent to my Third Elder Sister?” Wei Yuewu said indifferently. She was pressing forward step by step!

"I... I..." Xie Qingzhao looked at Wei Yuewu and then Wei Yuejiao, unable to find an answer in a short time.

"Looks like Lord Xie wanted to send it to someone else. I wonder who changed the recipient's name." Wei Yuewu said meaningfully.

After saying those words, she lifted the corner of her skirt and was going to walk out.

Shufei asked in a low voice, "Miss, it's not good to disturb the Madam Dowager at this time, is it?"

Hearing that Wei Yuewu was going to get the letter from the Madam Dowager, Xie Qingzhao was very anxious. He recalled Wei Yuewu's previous hint and casually pointed at Wei Yuejiao. However, he immediately answered, "I... I wanted to give it to Third Young Lady... It should have been taken away by Third Young Lady's concubine mother!"

There were only two young ladies here, one was Wei Yuewu, and the other was Wei Yuejiao!

Moreover, Wei Qiufu had reminded Xie Qingzhao that Marquis Hua Yang had a very capable concubine who was coming back with Marquis Hua Yang to the capital this time. The fight between the legitimate daughter and the concubine mother was about to begin.

In that case, the one who framed the legitimate daughter was naturally this Concubine Dong! Just now, this Third Miss Wei also said that the gifts were sent by Concubine Dong.

"Nonsense!" Hearing Xie Qingzhao mentioned her and then her mother, Wei Yuejiao was stunned. Then, she was furious and rushed over. After slapping Xie Qingzhao fiercely in the face, she gave him a hard kick.

Unprepared, Xie Qingzhao was kicked and stumbled back two steps in a row. His body smashed into the door behind him, and he almost fell down. For a moment, even his hair was in a mess.

"I'm not lying. I sent this brush to Third Young Lady. The person who received the brush also claimed to be serving the Third Young Lady. But since the Third Young Lady denied having received the brush and

said it was delivered by Concubine Dong, that meant it was Concubine Dong who received the brush at that time.” At this time, Xie Qingzhao could only bite down on Concubine Dong and make her the scapegoat.

“Are you saying that it was Concubine Dong who altered the recipient’s name in the letter?” Wei Yuewu looked quite shocked.

“It... should be her. The recipient’s name I wrote was Yuejiao!” Xie Qingzhao continued to make up the story. Fortunately, he was quick to react and was able to immediately take Wei Yuewu’s hint. However, his train of thought was unknowingly led by Wei Yuewu.

“Nonsense, if my mother changed your letter, why did she send it to me?” Wei Yuejiao wanted to beat him up, but her maid Yuzhu held her tightly. She struggled desperately, pointing at Xie Qingzhao and scolding him angrily.

“But... maybe Concubine Dong was confused and sent it to the wrong place!” Xie Qingzhao had no way to back down now. He could only continue making lies to justify what he had said. Fortunately, he reacted quickly and immediately thought of a reason.

There were so many gifts to be sent, and the gifts were delivered to the young ladies at the same time. Even if Concubine Dong divided the gifts properly, it was possible that the servants took the wrong gifts. In fact, this was very likely to happen. After all, it was the first day of their return, and the servants were so busy that they were likely to make mistakes.

“Father, I didn’t expect this matter had something to do with Concubine Dong!” Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Luowen with a calm expression. She didn’t look like a young lady from an aristocratic family who had just been slandered and almost had her reputation ruined. She looked at Wei Luowen fixedly, and her gaze made him feel pity for her.

“Nonsense, both of you are talking nonsense. My mother wouldn’t do such a thing. Father, beat this person to death or cripple him for slandering my mother!” Seeing that Wei Luowen was silent, Wei Yuejiao was really anxious. At this time, she even forgot to address Concubine Dong as concubine mother. She pushed Yuzhu away and ran over to pull Wei Luowen’s sleeves and shook them.

This was her habitual action. In the past, as long as she acted like this, Wei Luowen would almost always give in to her requests.

But today, when Wei Luowen saw Wei Yuewu's cold and calm eyes, he felt embarrassed and uncomfortable for a moment. He reached out and pushed Wei Yuejiao's hands away, reprimanding her sternly, "You have already grown up, yet you still behave like a child. Look at your Sixth Younger Sister, see how dignified she is!"

After saying those words, he turned around and glared coldly at Xie Qingzhao, "Explain why you said that you had an affair with Yuewu when you came in. According to your story, the person you liked was originally Yuejiao, but why did you say that you liked Yuewu when you entered the mansion?"

Wei Yuewu looked at Xie Qingzhao quietly and sneered in her heart. Xie Qingzhao had made inconsistent statements, which were quite evident and hard to justify. It was impossible for Xie Qingzhao to keep out of the matter completely today. Even if he could make Concubine Dong a suspect in the matter regarding the brush, his previous words did not make sense.

"I... I did like the Third Young Lady, but after my lad servant delivered the brush, the maid who received the brush at that time caught up with him halfway as he was returning. Then, the maid told my lad servant that tonight...if I came here to make a proposal to the Sixth Young Lady, I would definitely get what I wanted. For the sake of the Third Young Lady, I... followed the maid's words."

He stammered, but no matter what, this could be considered an explanation for his previous words. As for whether Wei Luowen believed him or not, Wei Yuewu did not care. Once the seeds of doubt had been sown, they would take root at the right time.

"When did you take a fancy for me? Nonsense!" Wei Yuejiao didn't dare to be as presumptuous as she had been before being scolded by Wei Luowen. Now that she heard that Xie Qingzhao was still slandering her mother, her entire body trembled with anger.

"When I happened to see you before a shop, I was shocked by your beauty! I inquired and found out that you were the Third Young Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang." Xie Qingzhao had no option but to make Wei Yuejiao a victim. He did not dare to get Wei Yuewu involved at all.

Whenever he thought of the letter that Wei Yuewu had mentioned, his hair would stand on end!

After he finished speaking, he looked at Wei Yuewu's expression and saw that although she still looked cold, she was not angry. He heaved a sigh of relief. Apparently, she was satisfied with what he said.

He must think of a way to get back that letter. Otherwise, it would be a permanent evidence against him. He had long forgotten about it, but now he realized that Wei Yuewu could use it to prove his guilt! Now, he didn't dare to harm her!

"Xie Qingzhao, what are you going to do?" Wei Luowen said sternly.

"Lord Marquis, it was my fault that caused Third Young Lady's reputation to be damaged this time. However, I'm really not clear of what happened. I promised Lord Marquis that from now on, I will not mention anything about what happened tonight. Neither will I do anything to damage Third Young Lady and Sixth Young Lady's reputations."

Hearing Wei Luowen's question, Xie Qingzhao wiped the sweat off his forehead and hurriedly promised.

"How did you dare to say that? Who do you think you are? Father, kill this shameless guy and throw him out to feed the dog!" Wei Yuejiao screamed. She wished she could jump over and scratch Xie Qingzhao's face.

"Third Elder Sister, this is the capital!" Wei Yuewu quietly reminded her. To Xie Qingzhao who was so frightened by Wei Yuejiao's cruel words that he started to sweat again, these words were like life-saving straws.

"Lord Marquis, although you have great merits and power, I am an Imperial Academician personally conferred by His Majesty and I am a court official. Moreover, before I came, I also told a few good friends that I would come to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang today. If I did not appear in my own mansion tomorrow, they would definitely report to His Majesty." Xie Qingzhao said anxiously.

"Father, don't let him go. Kill him!" Wei Yuejiao was not willing to give up. Having grown up and lived at the border for many years, she had no respect for laws at all. The servants of the mansion would occasionally be beaten to death because they went against her will. For her, killing people was not a big issue. How would she let Xie Qingzhao get away with it?

Wei Yuewu remained silent. The corner of her lips curled into a sneer. However guilty Xie Qingzhao was, he was a court official. How could Wei Luowen simply take his life? Moreover, if this matter went beyond the limit, it would damage the reputation of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Even if Wei Luowen wanted to punish Xie Qingzhao, he wouldn't use this matter as an excuse.

Now, Xie Qingzhao had provided an explanation to his previous actions. It seemed that he had also been set up by others.

Seriously speaking, Concubine Dong was the most likely mastermind behind the scenes. However, Xie Qingzhao looked panicked and his words weren't thoroughly convincing either.

"Someone, send him back!" Wei Luowen's expression changed as he finally made up his mind and said sternly.

A guard came in from outside the door. He bowed respectfully to Wei Luowen and carried Xie Qingzhao out like he was handling a chicken.

Xie Qingzhao did not dare to struggle. He felt as if his entire body had been pulled out of the water. He felt a chill running down his spine. He knew that Marquis Hua Yang would not believe everything he said, but he had to leave in this situation.

Wei Yuejiao stamped her feet and pointed at Xie Qingzhao's back, screaming relentlessly, "Father, you just let him go like that!"

Wei Luowen ignored her and turned to Wei Yuewu who had been calm and indifferent. He said softly, "Yuewu, come here." Then, he stretched out his hand and took out an item from under his writing desk and placed it on the desk.

Chapter 228 – Presumptuous! Who Is Your Mother?

Wei Luowen took out an exquisite box from under the writing desk. The moment he opened it, many gemstones of various sizes were revealed under the light. They were brightly colored and lay silently in

the box. Although they had not undergone much further processing, they still looked extremely beautiful when placed together.

Wei Yuejiao widened her eyes and covered her mouth, no longer caring about Xie Qingzhao.

“Father, what does this mean?” Wei Yuewu looked up at Wei Luowen.

“These... these are for you. Take them and put them on your jewelry as you like!” Under the stare of his daughter’s clear eyes, Wei Luowen, who was always gallant on the battlefield, suddenly felt that he did not dare to face Wei Yuewu. He pushed the box nearer Wei Yuewu.

“Thank you, father, but I dare not take them!” Wei Yuewu smiled and calmly refused.

Wei Luowen was stunned and looked at Wei Yuewu in confusion.

“Father, I have been used to a simple life. I never liked these beautiful gemstones since I was a kid. Father, please put them away and allow me to take my leave!” Wei Yuewu took two steps back and bowed respectfully to Wei Luowen. After that, she leisurely walked away without a look at those precious gemstones!

Only Shufei noticed that the corners of Wei Yuewu’s eyes were slightly red, but Wei Yuewu immediately lowered her head and hid the sadness in her eyes. Shufei hurriedly walked a few steps to catch up.

“Wei Yuewu, you... you actually dared to reject our father’s gift!” Wei Yuejiao’s eyes were filled with envy. These were all Marquis Hua Yang’s collections. In the past, she longed for them but couldn’t get even one piece. But now, Marquis Hua Yang wanted to give them all to Wei Yuewu.

“Third Elder Sister, I’m not you. I definitely won’t take anything that I shouldn’t have!” Wei Yuewu stood still and said in a faint voice without looking back.

Without waiting for Wei Yuejiao to jump off her feet, she left with Shufei.

Seated behind the writing desk, Wei Luowen, a general who had fought numerous battles, felt his eyes misting as he clenched the box in his hand tightly with his fingers.

“Father, look... look... she’s actually such a person!” Wei Yuejiao was annoyed and pointed at Wei Yuewu’s back, complaining loudly.

However, Wei Luowen looked so calm that Wei Yuejiao felt nervous in her heart. She could not help but slowly put down her finger that was pointing at Wei Yuewu.

“Yuejiao, now tell me about that writing brush.” After Wei Yuewu left, Wei Luowen calmed down and asked.

The moment Wei Luowen started to talk about what had just happened, Wei Yuejiao realized what was the most important issue. She immediately withdrew her gaze from the gemstones and hurriedly explained, “Father, I really don’t know what happened to that brush, but it can’t be changed by concubine mother. Otherwise, concubine mother wouldn’t have sent the brush to me. There must be some misunderstanding! Father, don’t misunderstand concubine mother!”

“Why did you push your younger sister out of the carriage at the city gate?” Wei Luowen said coldly.

“I didn’t. Father, I really didn’t push her. At that time, we exchanged a few angry words. I intended to push her, but I didn’t use much strength. However, a strange insect suddenly appeared in her hand. I was so scared that I lost control of my hand and accidentally pushed her out of the carriage.” Wei Yuejiao said anxiously. She was truly wronged in this matter.

“What about the clothes?” Wei Luowen frowned and rolled his eyes as he gazed at Wei Yuejiao.

Wei Yuejiao felt nervous under the gaze of Wei Luowen. She pinched the corner of her clothes and told the truth timidly, “I did snatch the clothes from Sixth Younger Sister. I... I just thought that my mother...”

“Presumptuous! Who is your mother? Your mother has already passed away. That’s your concubine mother. Your younger sister’s mother is your only mother. Never forget that you only have one mother!” Wei Luowen suddenly became furious. He slapped his hand heavily on the table and berated Wei Yuejiao sternly.

The long scar on his face looked even more ferocious because of anger. Wei Yuejiao was so frightened that she cried out of control. She turned around, covered her face with her hands and ran away.

Yuzhu looked at the angry Wei Luowen and didn't dare to stay any longer. She hurriedly chased after Wei Yuejiao.

Things quieted down in the study. Nothing could be heard except the occasional flickering of the lanterns. Wei Luowen pressed his hand on the box. The anger in his eyes gradually receded, and finally, there was a trace of sorrow in them...

"Lord Marquis, I've taken that man out of the courtyard!" The guard came back and reported.

Under the light, Wei Luowen froze for a moment and stood up with a cold expression. "Go to Concubine Dong's courtyard!"

"Yes!" The guard nodded and retreated. A lad servant came in to serve Luo Wen and followed Wei Luowen to the inner courtyard.

Concubine Dong's courtyard was actually located on the side of the mansion. Ever since she became Wei Luowen's concubine, she had been living in this courtyard. Moreover, Wei Luowen did not have any other concubine, so she had all that courtyard for herself.

Her living conditions were much better than other concubines in the second branch.

Moreover, there had always been rumors that Concubine Dong would be elevated to the position of wife. Therefore, no one in the mansion dared to neglect Concubine Dong's courtyard. Although she had been living at the border these years, the courtyard was always kept clean. It was completely different from Marquise Hua Yang's courtyard, which had been locked all year round and left unattended.

When Wei Luowen arrived, the entrance to the courtyard was still brightly lit. It was obvious that the hostess inside was still awake. Maids and old maidservant were in and out, and they were very busy.

Marquis Hua Yang brought a lot of things from the border. This time, he would not only report his work but also stay in the capital for a period of time to heal his old injuries. When Spring Festival was over, Wei Ziyang would go to the border first. It was time for Wei Ziyang to deal with the issues at the border independently. After all, he was an heir of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang...

As for him, he could have a good rest in the capital for some time.

Therefore, he brought a lot of things with him this time. It was reasonable for Concubine Dong to be still busy now!

Thinking that Concubine Dong had been serving him diligently all these years, his expression relaxed a little.

"Lord Marquis is here. Quickly report to concubine Dong. Lord Marquis is here!" A sharp-eyed maid saw Wei Luowen and ran to report to Concubine Dong.

So, when Wei Luowen entered the courtyard, Concubine Dong had already been waiting for him at the porch.

"Lord Marquis!" Seeing Wei Luowen coming over, Concubine Dong hurriedly bowed respectfully. She behaved exactly as a concubine should do.

"What is this?" Inside the hall, Wei Luowen slapped the brush in his hand heavily on the table. His face was gloomy. Anyone who was familiar with him knew that he was now extremely angry.

"I don't know!" Concubine Dong knelt down with a plop, looking quite perplexed.

"Isn't this the brush you sent out?" Wei Luowen sneered.

"Lord Marquis, you really wronged me. I've been busy sending gifts to all the branches today. I really don't know where this brush came from. Lord Marquis, let me check the gift list and verify to whom I have sent writing brushes." Concubine Dong hurriedly said as she instructed the people beside her to get the gift list.

Not long after, the gift list was presented to Wei Luowen, “Lord Marquis, look, I only sent brushes to the three young masters. How could I send brushes to others? Lord Marquis, is there something wrong with this brush?” Concubine Dong looked at Wei Luowen timidly with a perplexed expression.

“Didn’t you send someone to receive the brush?” Wei Luowen stared at Concubine Dong and asked.

“No! I’ve been busy today. I only sent things out and didn’t receive anything.” Concubine Dong shook her head and denied.

“But the person sending this brush admitted that he had an affair with your good daughter!” For a moment, Wei Luowen wasn’t sure if he really misunderstood Concubine Dong. Therefore, he directly talked about the affair of Wei Yuejiao.

“Yuejiao!” Concubine Dong was shocked.

Although no wind blew in, the curtains in the inner room moved silently!

“This is the capital, not the border. Tell your good daughter to restrain herself. Think about what happened at the city gate! She made such an indecent scene there. Furthermore, it attracted the attention of a young man. Tell her not to go out unless she has urgent things to do. She should spend more time copying books such as Lessons for Women!”

Wei Luowen said coldly.

“But...but, when we were at the border, didn’t Lord Marquis say that Yuejiao’s temperament was similar to yours, so that it didn’t matter if she was allowed more freedom?” Concubine Dong suddenly covered her face and cried, looking weak and puzzled.

She looked really pitiful.

Wei Luowen pondered for a moment before saying, “Although I don’t object to letting her live a comfortable life, I won’t allow her to bully her younger sister. Yuewu has been innocent since childhood.

Yuejiao pushed her younger sister out of the carriage and refused to admit it. This was really not what an elder sister should do.”

“Lord Marquis, think about it. Haven’t I always been most concerned about the Sixth Young Lady? In the past, I wanted to deliver things to the Sixth Young Lady’s maternal parents’ mansion, but every time, you stopped me and said that there was no need for us to do so. But now, you said that Yuejiao is inferior to the Sixth Young Lady and that Yuejiao hasn’t behaved properly as an elder sister. Lord Marquis, what face do I and Yuejiao have to live in this world!”

Concubine Dong began to sob. Her tearful complaint was a perfect reminder to Wei Luowen of his partiality and her unselfishness, as well as the inexplicable grievances she had suffered.

These words were very reasonable. Besides, Xie Qingzhao’s stuttering and hesitation prevented Wei Luowen from completely believing him. At the moment, his expression relaxed, but he was still not convinced by Concubine Dong. He asked doubtfully, “Do you really have nothing to do with the brush?”

Concubine Dong flatly denied, “Lord Marquis, I have just been back today, so how can I know anything about the brush? Even if the brush was used by someone to frame the Sixth Young Lady, the suspect must be from the other two branches. I really have nothing to do with this.”

“I remember telling you about it before...” Wei Luowen’s expression turned fierce. Although his voice was not loud, the bitter hostility in his expression caused Concubine Dong to unconsciously tremble.

“Lord Marquis, don’t worry. I will definitely cherish the Sixth Young Lady as the apple of my eye. Even if I have to make Yuejiao suffer, I won’t let the Sixth Young Lady feel bad. Even if I were exalted by you in the future, I wouldn’t dare to suppress the Sixth Young Lady!” Concubine Dong had said these words to Wei Luowen before. Now she solemnly swore again on her knees.

Seeing her like this, Wei Luowen pondered for a moment and stood up with an inexplicable expression, “I have something to do in the study, so I won’t be coming back tonight!”

After saying that, he left.

"Concubine, please get up quickly!" After Wei Luowen left, Nanny Dong, who was standing at the side, hurriedly came to help Concubine Dong up. She asked worriedly, "Concubine, does Lord Marquis believe you?"

"Believe me? As long as this bitch is here, he won't completely believe me!" A sinister expression appeared on Concubine Dong's face. She picked up the brush that Wei Luowen had placed there and smashed it fiercely onto the ground.

"Go, write to Lady Li!"

Chapter 229 – Strange Laughter At The Back Door

The curtain of the inner room was quietly pulled open, revealing Wei Yuejiao's face. She poked out her head and asked cautiously, "Mother, has my father left?"

After she ran out of Wei Luowen's study, she immediately came to Concubine Dong's courtyard and told Concubine Dong to make preparations.

"Yes!" Concubine Dong's expression was cold.

"Mother, my father actually gave all of his gems to Wei Yuewu. What is special about that little bitch that she deserves to be doted by father so much? I grew up beside father." Wei Yuejiao's wide skirt twisted uncontrollably, her face filled with unwillingness and resentment. "She can't even compare with a single finger of mine. Why should father leave all the good stuff to her?"

Thinking back to the glittering gemstones and Wei Yuewu's determination when she refused to have them, Wei Yuejiao couldn't control her anger. She felt that without Wei Yuewu, those things would all belong to her. The most hateful thing was that Wei Yuewu actually showed no interest in the gemstones at all. Humph! That bitch was really a hypocrite!

"Concubine, I feel that something is wrong!" Nanny Dong's attention was focused on what Wei Luowen had just said. With a serious expression, she said, "Only the Second Lady and we know about the brush. The Sixth Young Lady didn't know anything at all. Why did the situation develop like this?"

“According to our plan, Xie Qingzhao should come to make a proposal to the Sixth Young Lady, and his writing brush was found in the Sixth Young Lady’s brush container. In addition, the two of them met by chance several times. All these things considered, it was evident that Xie Qingzhao had an affair with the Sixth Young Lady. But why were you and the Third Young Lady involved?”

“It’s all because of that Xie Qingzhao. He actually targeted me and said that brush was sent to me!” Wei Yuejiao gritted her teeth and said hatefully.

“How could Xie Qingzhao change like that? Lady Li said that Xie Qingzhao could be trusted, but he changed his words at the critical moment. He even sold Yuejiao and me out.” Under the lamp, Concubine Dong’s face was gloomy. That beauty had long since disappeared and was replaced by bitter resentment and ferocity.

“Mother, what’s going on with that letter? Who wrote it? It was just because of the letter that my father said Xie Qingzhao’s statements were inconsistent.” Wei Yuejiao suddenly remembered these things. She picked up a piece of paper and handed it to Concubine Dong.

The recipient’s name was clearly “Yuewu”, but the original name that was obliterated made people really suspicious. In addition, the writing style of “Yuewu” was totally different from that of the contents of the letter. Needless to say, this letter had been intended as evidence of the affair between Wei Yuewu and Xie Qingzhao. But now, it served to prove Wei Yuewu’s innocence.

Anyone who saw the letter would think that it was a trap for Wei Yuewu.

“Yuejiao, why do you have this brush?” Concubine Dong gritted her teeth and hatefully slammed the letter on the table.

“I don’t know either. Didn’t you send this brush to me today? I felt curious when I saw it. However, I thought that you wanted me to practice calligraphy, so I accepted it without asking why.” Wei Yuejiao thought for a moment and said.

It was really strange for the brush to appear in the gifts to Wei Yuejiao.

“Concubine, could it be done by the Sixth Young Lady?” Nanny Dong asked hesitantly.

“How is that possible? She’s just a little bitch!” Wei Yuejiao found it hard to believe.

“Third Young Lady, think about these things: concubine was blamed for giving you and the Sixth Young Lady different dresses; you were blamed for accidentally pushing the Sixth Young Lady out of the carriage at the city gate. This time, concubine and you were blamed for the brush and the letter! Concubine, don’t you feel suspicious?” Granny Dong was very cunning and she immediately connected all the dots.

Reminded by her, both Concubine Dong and Wei Yuejiao became suspicious. Originally, Concubine Dong could obtain a good reputation as soon as she entered the capital city. However, because of these successive things, not only did she fail to have a good reputation, she and Wei Yuejiao were both suspected of being unkind to Wei Yuewu. After entering the mansion, she was even reprimanded.

This had never happened before!

There must be something they didn’t know.

The root of the problem seemed to lie with Wei Yuewu.

“Go, ask the maids who delivered the gifts about what happened!” Concubine Dong instructed.

Nanny Dong nodded. Not long after she went out, she came back and reported, “Concubine, two maids said that when they were on their way delivering the gifts, they met Sixth Young Lady’s maid, who knocked into one of them and accidentally knocked over Sixth Young Lady’s gifts.”

At this time, Wei Yuejiao had realized what happened to the brush after hearing Concubine Dong’s words. She immediately shouted loudly, “Mother, this seems to have something to do with that bitch. Look, this brush should be delivered to her, but it’s with me now. She must have deliberately let the maid put the brush in my gifts.”

Nanny Dong pointed in the direction of the main courtyard and reminded Concubine Dong, “Concubine, the Sixth Young Lady isn’t easy to deal with. We must not allow her to continue like this. Otherwise...”

The main courtyard used to be occupied by the late Marquise Hua Yang, but it was currently empty.

"She is just a little girl who knows some tricks. Even though I haven't been in the capital for the past few years, the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang is still under my control. I will definitely keep her at the mercy of me!" Concubine Dong's expression turned fierce. "I thought this little girl was easy to fool. Since she is such a hard nut, she shouldn't blame me for being merciless!"

The corners of her bright red lips curled up, and the venom in her eyes seemed to overflow.

She had plotted for that position for so many years and was slowly approaching it step by step. Just as she was about to reach the top, she was obstructed by a little girl. How could she let her get away!

"Prepare ink and brush. I am going to write to the Second Lady. How is she doing in her parents' house? Her precious daughter died at Wei Yuewu's hands. I would like to see how she can endure it!"

It was pitch dark. Xie Qingzhao stumbled at the entrance to the alley. Looking at the door in front of him, he suddenly burst into laughter.

He laughed with such defiance and arrogance that he almost couldn't stop laughing. In the end, he supported himself by holding the tree on one side and bent down laughing.

The door opened with a squeak. An old maidservant came out with a lantern. She looked at Xie Qingzhao who was laughing like a lunatic and hurriedly ran over. She lowered her voice and hurriedly said, "Lord Xie, Imperial Academician Xie, what's wrong with you? Are you going to let everyone hear you laughing?"

Xie Qingzhao kept on laughing without looking at her. The old maidservant was so anxious that she kept stomping beside him, occasionally looking at the dark entrance to the alley. This was the back door of the mansion, and there were few people here. However, with Xie Qingzhao laughing so loudly, it was likely that he would attract one or two passersby.

Moreover, the laughter in the middle of the night was so hoarse that it really made people feel scared in their hearts!

"Lord Xie, please, I beg you, please stop laughing. This... this is really too scary!" The old maidservant said anxiously when she saw that Xie Qingzhao couldn't breathe due to the laughing.

After a long while, Xie Qingzhao finally stopped laughing and held the tree trunk to catch his breath. His handsome face had a strange smile in the midst of the light, but it made people's hair stand on end.

"Tell your Second Lady, the mission has been done. That brush was sent to the hands of Third Miss Wei! This shouldn't be considered a breach of my promise, right? Please ask your Second Lady to keep her promise and stop using this to blackmail Fourth Miss Wei. This matter has nothing to do with her. It's obvious that you didn't arrange it properly, but you asked me to be the cat's paw."

Xie Qingzhao's lips carried a trace of mockery as he wiped away the tears due to his wild laughter and uttered those words coldly.

"What? The brush isn't in the hands of the Sixth Young Lady, but in the hands of the Third Young Lady? How... how is this possible?" The old maidservant was shocked.

Xie Qingzhao sneered, "How is that impossible? If you don't believe me, you can ask your Second Lady to investigate it herself. That brush is in the hands of Third Miss Wei. In order not to expose the Second Lady, I specifically said that I like Third Miss Wei and made Concubine Dong a scapegoat. If the Second Lady thinks that what I said is wrong, she can go to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang to tell the truth. She can admit she is the mastermind behind the farce and it has nothing to do with Concubine Dong or Third Miss Wei!"

"As for Fourth Miss Wei, please ask the Second Lady to keep her promise. Now my reputation has been ruined, but I am still an Imperial Academician. If the Second Lady still refuses to let go of Fourth Miss Wei, she shouldn't blame me for making public everything that happened today!" Xie Qingzhao's expression turned fierce as he finished these words.

Then, he waved his sleeve and turned around to leave.

The old maidservant was bewildered by the sudden news. Seeing that Xie Qingzhao was leaving, she wanted to stop him. "Hey, Lord Xie... no... wait a moment. Please...don't go before you... I...Ouch!"

However, Xie Qingzhao left without turning his head. She could only stamp her feet helplessly. Then, she carried the lantern and entered the mansion. After closing the back door, she hurriedly went to Lady Li's courtyard.

This was the mansion of Lady Li's parents!

"Master, Xie Qingzhao went to the mansion of Li Ying, tutor of the Crown Prince and met a woman at the back door. He seemed to have sent a brush to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang and given it to the Sixth Young Lady. But in the end, the brush was found on the Third Young Lady's desk. It seemed that their scheme against Sixth Miss Wei didn't work!"

The guard reported on one knee.

The gorgeous gauze curtains were raised high. Under the layers of snow-colored palace gauze, Yan Huaijing dressed in simple plain pajamas was working on a drawing of a beautiful woman. He wrapped his wide and loose sleeve with one hand and raised his brush seriously in the other. His long and dark hair casually scattered behind his head, making him look more and more elegant, as if he was an ancient cultivator of the flourishing Tang Dynasty.

Hearing the guard's report, he raised his brush and the corners of his handsome lips hooked up. He seemed to be smiling, but his pair of long and narrow phoenix eyes were icy cold.

"So, it was because of Fourth Miss Wei that Xie Qingzhao was willing to help Lady Li?" A bloodthirsty cold light flashed in Yan Huaijing's eyes as he asked. This made him look more like a scary Asura. "Since Lady Li has returned to her parents' mansion and is uneasy, there is no need for her to go back. Someone, find two beauties tomorrow and send them to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang as gifts to the Lord Minister!"

"Master, aren't you going to give them to Marquis Hua Yang?" The guard was puzzled. After all, Marquis Hua Yang had just been back, and master should send one or two beauties to him. It was also convenient for them to monitor Marquis Hua Yang.

"Marquis Hua Yang? No need. Someone will grant beauties to him!" Yan Huaijing smiled and looked meaningfully at the guard who was a member of the elite Flying Dragon Intelligence Agency. "Marquis

Hua Yang has worked so hard and made great contributions. The Emperor has to reward something to him! What's more suitable than giving him beautiful women? I heard that Marquis Hua Yang doesn't have a wife!"

The guard was not stupid, and his eyes immediately lit up. "Master, do you mean that His Majesty will grant a marriage?"

"Just wait and see. The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang will become more and more lively!" Yan Huaijing put down the brush in his hand. He picked up the painting he had just drawn and examined it. He felt very satisfied. Then, he said to the eunuch beside him, "Put it away. Send it to Marquis Hua Yang tomorrow morning. Tell him that all my message is included in the painting!"

Chapter 230 – He Would Take Care Of His Own Little Fox

Wei Yuewu was his little fox. How could he allow others to spy on her?

Although the time was not ripe yet, Wei Luowen and Wei Louwu could not fail to receive his warning!

The wind swept up a corner of the painting. The woman in the painting was a dazzling beauty and looked as pure as clean snow!

"Master, suddenly sending gifts to the Lord Minister, this... is a break with convention!" The guard hesitated for a moment, but he still expressed his worries. From whichever perspective, his master shouldn't send the Minister such a gift. The fact that a vassal lord sent beautiful women to the backyard of a high-ranking court minister would be easily interpreted as an act of surveillance.

Yan Huaijing inserted the brush back into the bookshelf and gracefully shook his snow-white pajamas. A lazy smile appeared on his handsome face. "Leak information to the three heirs-apparent. Let them know that I have a good personal relationship with Minister Wei and I am going to send beauties to Minister Wei. As for the women, the more beautiful, the better."

"Master, how about the top two virgin beauties of the Red Chamber?" The guard immediately understood Yan Huaijing's intentions and asked with a blink of an eye.

Yan Huaijing gave no reply this time. He rolled up his sleeves and cleaned his hands in the basin of water presented by the eunuch. Then, he received a handkerchief and carefully wiped his hands. The corner of his lips curled into an obscure smile.

The guard understood and respectfully retreated.

The guards outside heaved a sigh of relief and secretly wiped their sweat. The aura of their master was truly astonishing. Everyone knew that his master was elegant and handsome, but no one knew that his master was evil-minded to the extreme.

It was clearly he who wanted to send beauties as a gift, but he even egged on the other three heirs-apparent into following suit.

However, the guard felt that he should be more careful about this Sixth Miss Wei. He had never heard of a woman for whom his heir-apparent had put in a lot of effort!

Wei Yuewu wasn't asleep either. Under the lights that had been turned down, her gaze was somewhat confused. The conversation between her and Shufei after they left Wei Luowen's study would occasionally appear in her mind. That scene and the box full of gemstones kept surfacing in her mind. Wei Yuewu could tell that any piece of gemstone in that box was very precious. Although Wei Luowen's income was high, it was impossible for him to take out so many gemstones at once. Moreover, they were of different sizes. It was obvious that they did not belong to the same batch of gemstones. They should have been collected by Wei Luowen over the years.

Collecting so many gemstones was not something that could be accomplished overnight!

She looked at the box outside. Although it was exquisite, the style was very old. In other words, the box should have existed for a long time. Had her father been using this box to store gemstones he collected? Why did he do this? Hadn't he been ignoring her for many years?

"Miss, will Lord Marquis scold Concubine Dong? Will he punish her?" Shufei followed behind her and asked happily. In Shufei's opinion, Lord Marquis would definitely teach Concubine Dong a lesson under such circumstances.

"No!" Wei Yuewu said coldly. The wind blew past her slightly red eyes. The night was dark, and no one would notice her instantaneous fragility.

That instantaneous fragility didn't occur when Xie Qingzhao slandered her, nor did it occur when Wei Yuejiao acted arrogantly. Instead, it occurred when Wei Luowen took out that box of gemstones and spoke warmly to her!

Her heart suddenly twitched! It hurt! It hurt very much. Yes, it really hurt. Tears were about to overflow her sour eyes. That kind of sad and angry feeling made her lose control of her emotions for a moment. She actually dashed out like this!

Only when she walked into a shadowy place did she take out her handkerchief and secretly wipe away her tears.

Understand was one thing and knew was another thing, but when she really faced it, she realized that sometimes she really wouldn't ignore it.

"Why not? Isn't the evidence conclusive and irrefutable?" Shufei asked in confusion.

"Do you think Xie Qingzhao's performance is convincing?" Wei Yuewu answered indifferently. She put her fingers into her sleeves because her fingertips were cold. For a moment, she seemed to find traces of love in Wei Luowen's eyes in the study. How could this be true?

"That Xie Qingzhao is so annoying. He claimed to have an affair with you in the beginning. Then, he said it was the Third Young Lady. He really doesn't look like an upright person!" Shufei thought about Xie Qingzhao's words and couldn't help but say angrily.

"Not only that. My father and Concubine Dong have been together for so many years. How could they not have a deep relationship? How could he really punish Concubine Dong for Xie Qingzhao's evasive words?" At this moment, Wei Yuewu felt a chill seizing her heart.

They were husband and wife, father and daughter, whereas she was alone. The only one who loved her was her mother, who had passed away many years ago! He was her father, but he had abandoned her

for so many years, so what did he mean by giving her such a precious box of gemstones at this time? What exactly did he want to do?

“Besides, Concubine Dong is not simple. She will definitely persuade my father. My Third Elder Sister is not an idiot either. I’m afraid she had thought of a way to report to Concubine Dong before my father went there!”

“Wouldn’t it be much ado about nothing for us?” Shufei took a few steps to light the road at Wei Yuewu’s feet so that she could see her way clearly.

“No!” Wei Yuewu shook her head with a cold smile on her lips. Of course, it wouldn’t be much ado about nothing. It took Concubine Dong more than ten years trying to climb up to the position of Marquise Hua Yang. Such endurance was not something an ordinary person could have, but right now, Concubine Dong must have reached the end of her endurance.

Because Wei Yuejiao was coming of age, and her marriage must be settled immediately.

With her status as Marquis Hua Yang’s concubine-born daughter, she could certainly marry well. However, it was nothing compared to getting married as a legitimate daughter. Concubine Dong had delayed Wei Yuejiao’s marriage because she wanted Wei Yuejiao to become a legitimate daughter before getting engaged!

A small leak would sink a great ship. People’s trust could be corroded bit by bit. She would slowly destroy the trust and favor that Concubine Dong had won from Marquis Hua Yang over the years!

She would never forget to avenge her mother!

“Miss, will Concubine Dong guess it was done by you?” Shufei suddenly thought of this and anxiously stopped to ask.

“Yes, she will!” Wei Yuewu was quite affirmative.

“Then what should we do?” Shufei was very anxious and looked up at Wei Yuewu.

“We do nothing! Concubine Dong will pretend not to know anything, but she will launch secret attacks on me!” Wei Yuewu smiled faintly. The smile on her face was gentle and faint, but it was inexplicably chilling.

Of course, Concubine Dong would secretly attack her, and she would even collude with Lady Li. Of course, Wei Qiufu must have also played a big role in it. Otherwise, how could Xie Qingzhao, a dignified imperial academician, come directly to the mansion and stage such a farce.

“Concubine Dong will ask the maids to find out that you knocked them over. This matter is very easy to investigate. It doesn’t take much effort. Concubine Dong may even think that I am just able to play such insignificant tricks. Even if she is on guard, she won’t worry too much about me. After all, I am better for nothing. Right now, her most important thing is to ascend to the position of Marquise Hua Yang. So, she would leave me for Second Aunt!”

Wei Yuewu gracefully picked up the corner of her skirt and continued walking forward. Lady Li and Concubine Dong must have collaborated closely over the years! Since the two of them could plot to kill her mother, it was only natural for them to gang up to deal with her now!

However, Lady Li was currently in the Li Mansion. She had to rely on Concubine Dong if she wanted to make any trouble!

Moreover, after this incident, could Wei Qiufu continue to live in peace with Wei Yuejiao?

By claiming that there was something going on between him and Wei Yuejiao, Xie Qingzhao had clearly slandered Wei Yuejiao. It seemed that there would definitely be much fun in the mansion!

That was good. The more fun there was, the easier it was for her to fish in troubled water!

She had nobody to rely on in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. To fight Concubine Dong and Lady Li, if she didn’t take some extraordinary measures, she would have died countless times!

The more Concubine Dong underestimated her, the better, and the more convenient it would be for her to act!

“Will the Second Lady come back?” Shufei didn’t understand what Wei Yuewu meant for a moment. She widened her eyes and hurriedly took two steps to overtake Wei Yuewu and asked as she held a lantern in her hand to light the road.

“That is up to my Second Uncle!” Wei Yuewu smiled. Whether Wei Luowu would forgive Lady Li or not, it was impossible for Lady Li to return to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang for the time being. Anyway, the person who drugged Wei Qiuju and her had not been identified. If Lady Li came back at this time, it was very likely that she was found guilty.

Wei Yuewu didn’t believe that Lady Li was clean-handed after being in charge of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang’s backyard for so many years!

“Miss, what if...if...” Shufei hesitated and looked at Wei Yuewu’s face. Seeing that her expression was normal, she mustered her courage to continue, “Miss, what are you going to do if Concubine Dong was really elevated to the position of Marquise Hua Yang?”

“Impossible!” A trace of hostility flashed through Wei Yuewu’s eyes. No matter what, she would not let this vicious woman who killed her mother become the new Marquise Hua Yang. Even if she had to sacrifice her life, she would not allow it...

Suddenly, a soft squeak came from the window, interrupting her thoughts. Wei Yuewu quietly reached under the pillow and held the sharp hairpin. She looked up at the window. It was now in winter, and all windows were closed at night.

Shufei and Huamo had always been very careful when checking windows and there could be no windows left open.

It was quiet both inside and outside the room. Only the window was slightly open. From Wei Yuewu’s angle, she could see a small crack. Her long eyelids were slightly raised, and her eyes shone from beneath her trembling eyelids as she looked at the window quietly.

The window didn’t move, and neither did Wei Yuewu!

It seemed that time had stopped, and Wei Yuewu felt that the hairpin in her hand was becoming wet with sweat!

The window creaked again and there was a bigger crack. Then, something fell through the window and landed on the writing desk at the window. After that, the window seemed to be pulled from the outside, and with a heavy sound, the window closed and there was no sound anymore!

The room was dark again. Wei Yuewu lay quietly in the darkness for a while. She waited until she felt that there was really no one outside. Then, she held the hairpin and gently got up from the bed.

Without lighting the lamp, she walked to the window in the darkness according to her memories.

She gently placed her hand on the window and hesitated for a moment, wondering what she would see when she opened the window...