

## Young Lady 271

### Chapter 271 – Truth And Wei Ziyang’S Fury

“Eldest Brother!” Wei Qiuju did not expect that Wei Ziyang would suddenly appear and she called out to him.

“Eldest Brother!” Wei Yuewu also forced herself to stand up with the support of the table.

“Did you hurt your foot?” Seeing Wei Yuewu’s appearance, Wei Ziyang asked in a daze. He happened to meet the doctor just now, who said that his mother had broken her leg. The doctor also told him that Lady Li’s conditions were not good and that his father was also here. Therefore, Wei Ziyang hurriedly called a servant of Li Mansion to lead him here.

However, he did not see his father and mother. Instead, he saw that Wei Yuewu was injured in the foot, which made him think that he might have heard wrong.

“Second Uncle and Second Aunt are inside. Second Aunt’s foot is injured. I am not seriously injured, but Second Aunt’s injury is very serious!” Wei Yuewu smiled and pointed to the wing room, pretending to speak in a low voice, “Eldest Brother, go take a look, but don’t disturb them. Second Aunt is resting.”

“Alright, I’ll go take a look!” Hearing that something had really happened to his mother, Wei Ziyang hurriedly said. Ignoring Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiuju, he strode towards the wing room. After a few steps, he remembered Wei Yuewu’s words and deliberately lightened his steps. Her mother was still resting at this time, so he really could not disturb her.

Seeing Wei Ziyang slowing down, Wei Yuewu slowly sat down again. Her butterfly-like long eyelashes fluttered a few times, and her clear eyes carried a bit of thoughtfulness. Compared to the other people of the second branch, she truly felt that Wei Ziyang was an upright person. However, with such a mother and two younger sisters, he might stand on the opposite side of her at any time.

It was time to let him see what kind of person Lady Li was...

This opportunity was not bad!

When Wei Luowu returned to the room and saw that Lady Li was still unconscious on the bed, he

It was in the middle of winter. When the cold water poured down on her head, Lady Li woke up slowly. When she saw Wei Luowu staring at her as if he wanted to eat her, she recalled Wei Luowu's actions just now. She couldn't help but shiver. Trembling, she resisted the pain and cried out, "My lord!"

"Shut up, you bitch! How dare you fool around with another man in Li Mansion? What face did you leave for Ziyang?" Wei Luowu shouted sternly.

"This... this has nothing to do with me. I... I don't know what on earth..." Lady Li stammered.

"You don't know? This is Li Mansion, not the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Today, Li Mansion is the host, and the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang is the guest. There shouldn't be anyone who set you up, right? Are you going to tell me that the man was brought to you by others? You hid in such a remote courtyard, did you think I would be kept in the dark?"

Wei Luowu glared at her coldly and berated her hatefully.

As long as he thought of the scene he had just seen when he entered the room, Wei Luowu wanted to cut Lady Li into pieces. Did this bitch know what she was doing? If people found out what happened today, how could he have the face to stand in the court? How could he see the day when he was able to stand up with head high in front of his elder brother, Marquis Hua Yang?

Lady Li was rendered speechless by Wei Luowu's questions. Of course, it was she who had sent someone to pick up this man, an actor in the opera troupe who performed in Li Mansion today. He was pretty good-looking, so she lured him here with the goal of ruining Wei Yuewu's reputation. When the time came and Wei Yuewu took the bait, she just needed to say that Wei Yuewu was of loose morals and had taken a fancy to this actor who performed in Li Mansion.

But she didn't expect things to turn out like this. What she had done before would only make people feel that she had an ulterior motive. Moreover, she really couldn't explain herself clearly now. After all, when Wei Luowu came in just now, she was entangled with the man on the bed...

If she hadn't seen Wei Luowu breaking that actor's neck, she wouldn't have woken up from the effect of the drug. But before she could completely understand what was going on, she saw Wei Luowu breaking her leg and then she fainted.

Lady Li desperately thought that she really couldn't explain this matter clearly!

"From today on, you will be recuperating in Li Mansion. Even if your son gets married, you don't have to come back!"

Wei Luowu said in a stern voice. The words that came out of his mouth were even more ruthless.

At the door, Wei Ziyang was stunned for a moment. He didn't understand why Wei Luowu was so ruthless. He pushed the door and was about to enter, but he immediately froze upon hearing Lady Li's words.

"My lord, I know that even if I had a thousand mouths, you would still think that I was a cheap woman and cheated on you. But Ziyang is my son. I am currently recuperating in Li Mansion. If Ziyang gets married and I don't go back, what will others think of me? Are you forcing me to die?"

Lady Li cried loudly without caring about her image. She once again tasted the despair brought by death!

When she saw Wei Luowu clearly in the main room, she had already despaired, but she still hoped that Wei Luowu would show leniency towards her for the sake of their decade-long marriage and their children.

Wei Ziyang had been engaged long before. Previously, they had been preparing the wedding for him. There wasn't much time left before their son got married. Lady Li had even thought about advancing Wei Ziyang's wedding so that she could return to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang earlier.

No matter what the reason was, a mother must appear when her son got married.

"So you still know you should be a human? Do you still have the face to be a human? How about calling other people in to see how cheap you are? You bitch, you even hooked up with a man on such a day. If

your mother knew that you were shameless to such an extent, she would probably spit blood and choke herself to death. If Ziyang knew that his mother was so despicable, he would rather not have a mother."

Wei Ziyang's hand that was holding the door handle trembled.

"My lord.. I... I was really wronged. If it weren't for that slut..." Lady Li cried out in a shrill voice.

"Shut up. Are you telling me that this matter is related to Yuewu again? Did she witness your affair with the adulterer so that you want to take her life? Li, heaven is watching your every move. Even if Yuewu didn't see it today, someone would eventually find out about you!"

Wei Luowu laughed out of anger. "Li, do you want me to pull out the adulterer in the main room for everyone to see? Do you think you can feel proud when you go out in the future?"

"My lord..." Lady Li cried. Unfortunately, this time, Wei Luowu was not willing to pay any attention to her. At the moment, he felt that the Lady Li in front of him was not only ugly but also disgusting. He recalled the scene of Lady Li in scant clothing when he entered the room. She did not look like a noble lady at all! How could she deserve to be the wife of a minister?

Back then, he was really blind so that he agreed to marry such a cheap woman.

Because of this slut, his concubines had failed to bear children for him. Besides, this slut even made him a cuckold. Once she returned to Li Mansion, she couldn't wait to meet her adulterer, not even letting go of her mother's birthday.

Outside the door, Wei Ziyang suddenly turned around and walked directly to the main room, whose door was only slightly closed. He pushed it open and looked inside. There was nothing strange about the living space, so he went straight to the inner room.

The moment the inner room was pushed open, he saw a man lying on the bed. His upper body was bare and his lower body was in a mess. The quilt on the bed was also in a mess. The man's neck was stiff and twisted. It was obvious that he had been dead for a while.

So, his mother really had an affair with this man? Wei Ziyang almost couldn't stand, and he only managed to stabilize himself by grabbing the door with his trembling hands.

He grew up at the border and was used to life and death. It was really nothing to see a dead person. But now, this man had an affair with his most respected mother. How could he bear it?

However, the truth was right in front of him. The words that his father and mother had said just now were also resounding in his ears. He could not help but believe them.

"Ziyang!" Wei Luowu's voice came from behind.

Wei Ziyang turned around with red eyes and looked at Wei Luowu who had come over without being noticed by him.

"Ziyang, your mother has gone mad!" As soon as he saw his son, Wei Luowu knew that he could not accept this fact. He quickly softened his voice and comforted him.

"Father, how are you going to deal with mother?" These words almost burst out from Wei Ziyang's mouth as he asked in a hoarse voice.

"Just let your mother recuperate in Li Mansion. I... will personally tell your grandmother about it!" Wei Luowu answered after pondering for a while.

"Yes, father, I understand!" Wei Ziyang said, clenching his fists. He suddenly turned around and strode out.

He left the room and went straight out of the courtyard, not even looking at the two cousins in the courtyard.

"Sixth Younger Sister, what happened to Eldest Brother? Did he argue with Second Uncle?" Wei Qiuju did not understand what had happened to the seemingly amiable Wei Ziyang. He had stopped at the door of the house and did not enter. Then, he went directly into the main room. When the Second Uncle came out of the wing room and entered the main room, he walked out without looking back.

"It's fine, Eldest Brother will think it through!" Wei Yuewu shook her head, feeling bitter in her heart. Compared with the other people in the mansion, Wei Ziyang at least did not deliberately harm her, and he also cared about her.

However, she had to do this...

Wei Luowu also walked into the courtyard and saw the silent Wei Yuewu. He walked over and said, "The two of you can go back first. Yuewu, your foot was injured. If you can't hold on, you can go back now. If..." He paused, "If you can still hold on, then have lunch before leaving."

He had asked the lad servant to invite the elder brother of the Li family over to discuss the situation. It was really inconvenient for Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiuju, two unmarried young ladies, to stay here.

He asked Wei Yuewu to stay in Li Mansion as long as she could hold on because he needed to create an illusion that the two mansions were on good terms in front of outsiders. This was to avoid gossips in the future when Lady Li didn't return to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang on the wedding of her son.

"Yes, Second Uncle. I'm fine. Don't worry!" Wei Yuewu understood the meaning of Wei Luowu's words and answered gently. Then, she left the courtyard with Wei Qiuju.

By now, Li Mansion's master, tutor of the Crown Prince, had learned that something happened to his younger sister. He hurriedly asked the guests for leave and rushed over.

Wei Yuewu's injury was not serious, but her foot still could not touch the ground. Although she was supported from both sides, she was very tired from walking for a while. She had only walked a short distance before she was so tired that she was covered in sweat. She had no choice but to sit down and rest in the corridor on the side.

They did not walk the same path as before when they came to the courtyard. Instead, they followed the directions of a maid and took a shortcut to the inner courtyard. They barely met anyone along the way.

Of course, Wei Qiuju was accompanying her at this time. Along the way, she was really anxious to ask Wei Yuewu what she should do. However, thinking about the strange incident that had happened to

Lady Li and seeing Wei Yuewu's tightly-knit brows, she knew it was not the right time to talk about her issue. Seeing Wei Yuewu sit down, she really could not help but ask.

"Sixth Younger Sister, do you have any way to save me? I... I don't want to be suppressed by Eldest Sister and get killed by her!"

## Chapter 272 – Secrets Of Li Mansion'S Backyard

"Fifth Elder Sister, do you really want to enter Prince Nan'an Mansion?" Wei Yuewu's cherry lips parted slightly as she revealed a faint smile.

"Sixth Younger Sister, you know what happened to me. If I don't enter Prince Nan'an Mansion, which young master of an aristocratic family would be willing to take me as his legitimate wife?" Wei Qiuju's expression changed slightly. She revealed a bitter smile and weakly leaned against the pillar beside her.

Perhaps rumors about the so-called affairs between her and the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an had already spread in the circle of noble ladies. The prospect of a good marriage for her had been slim before, let alone now.

"Even as an ordinary concubine?" Wei Yuewu raised her eyebrows and asked.

"Yes, even as an ordinary concubine." Wei Qiuju gritted her teeth and said hatefully. If Wei Fengyao hadn't spread rumors outside, she wouldn't have to enter Prince Nan'an Mansion just as an ordinary concubine no matter what.

If there was a chance in the future, she would definitely think of ways to climb higher!

"You can go and beg grandmother!" Wei Yuewu pointed out a way for her. "Grandmother attaches great importance to the dignity of our mansion. If a daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang had to become a concubine of someone, grandmother would rather see her die!"

Her words made Wei Qiuju's whole body tremble. She suddenly remembered Wei Yan. At that time, the once glorious Wei Yan was in a dilemma and had no alternative but to enter the Xie Mansion as an ordinary concubine of Xie Qingzhao. Then, something happened to Wei Yan.

She had reportedly hanged herself because she couldn't bear it. However, did she really commit suicide? With Wei Yan's temperament, no one could imagine that she would take such a dramatic step...

"Sixth Younger Sister..." Wei Qiuju had cold sweat all over. She sat up straight in shock and shouted loudly.

"Fifth Elder Sister, don't worry. You are going to enter Prince Nan'an Mansion, not the Xie Mansion. Moreover, the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an also expressed his pity for you. Grandmother will not do anything extreme. Instead, she will help you!" Wei Yuewu smiled sweetly, knowing that Wei Qiuju had misunderstood her meaning.

"So, grandmother will help me?" Wei Qiuju finally came to understand a little and asked hesitantly.

There was no wonder why she asked so. As far as she recalled, the Madam Dowager had never given her a smiling face. She was merely an invisible person in the eyes of the Madam Dowager. It was hard to believe the Madam Dowager would do anything particularly for her.

"Fifth Elder Sister, you are a daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. The entire mansion would be put to shame if you enter Prince Nan'an Mansion as an ordinary concubine. Moreover, Eldest Sister's face was ruined. Grandmother also saw the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an's attitude that day. Although nothing bad will happen to Eldest Sister, there has been estrangement between her and the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an. The two of them can hardly be reconciled with each other!"

Wei Yuewu lazily took out a handkerchief and gently wiped the sweat on her forehead. She had sweated due to the pain in her ankle.

Wei Fengyao avoided severe punishment from Prince Nan'an Mansion by making a scene that day. Although Prince Nan'an Mansion wouldn't be too harsh with her out of respect for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, her appearance had been ruined and she was hated by the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an. It was impossible for the two of them to be an affectionate couple again.



Considering the friendship between the two mansions, it was indeed the best option if Wei Qiuju entered Prince Nan'an Mansion at this time. No matter how, a daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang must bear a child for the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an, so that the two mansions could be tightly connected.

However, if Wei Qiuju's position in Prince Nan'an Mansion was too low, it was unlikely that she would get the favor and respect of the heir-apparent in the future. This result was definitely not something that the Madam Dowager wanted to see.

The Madam Dowager had always attached great importance to the reputation of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Apparently, Wei Fengyao was not of much use now. She was at most a legitimate wife on the surface who was out of favor with the heir-apparent. At this time, the Madam Dowager would even be happy to see Wei Qiuju enter Prince Nan'an Mansion.

Having thought this through, Wei Qiuju immediately stood up excitedly and sincerely bowed to Wei Yuewu. "Thank you, Sixth Younger Sister, for saving me!"

"Fifth Elder Sister, you have to try your best to save yourself after entering Prince Nan'an Mansion!" Wei Yuewu looked at her exaggerated performance and smiled faintly.

"I will!" Wei Qiuju gritted her teeth and said hatefully.

Of course, she knew that Wei Yuewu was reminding her of Wei Fengyao. It could be said that she had been landed in such a difficult situation purely because of Wei Fengyao. If Wei Fengyao hadn't asked her to give Wei Yuewu the talisman back then and to help her plot against Wei Yuewu, she wouldn't have been forced to admit that she had an affair with the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an.

But even so, Wei Fengyao still didn't give her a chance to live, and she actually spread rumors outside to ruin her reputation.

If Wei Fengyao was still as glorious as before whereas she entered Prince Nan'an Mansion with a low status, it was highly likely that grandmother would sacrifice her for the sake of Wei Fengyao. Thinking of Wei Yan's fate, how could Wei Qiuju not hate Wei Fengyao?

Apparently, Wei Fengyao was pushing her to a dead end!

Since Wei Fengyao did not want her to live, she was determined to put up a desperate fight!

Seeing the hatred in Wei Qiuju's eyes, the corners of Wei Yuewu's lips curled up into a smile. Her long eyelashes showed a trace of satisfaction.

Wei Fengyao hated her to the bones. Now, she had won Wei Qiufu to her side and wanted to use Wei Qiufu's power to deal with her. Of course, Wei Qiuju was no match for Wei Qiufu, but she could still be a drag to Wei Fengyao.

She could even leverage the Heir-apparent of Prince Nan'an's power to compete with Wei Fengyao.

Although wives and concubines didn't use weapons, the fights between them were even fiercer than those on the battlefield. This also meant that Wei Fengyao and Wei Qiuju would inevitably stand against each other. Moreover, Wei Qiuju did not look simple. Didn't her concubine mother leave a loyal and devoted maid Yueya for her?

It was hard to say who would win once she entered Prince Nan'an Mansion...

"Miss, why did those lad servants working in the frontyard come to the backyard?" Jin Ling suddenly tugged at the corner of Wei Yuewu's clothes and asked warily.

The corridor they were in was diagonally facing a moon gate, through which they saw a few lad servants carrying several large food containers. Apparently, the boxes were not light, because it took two lad servants to carry one box. Two of them even put it down to rest, and they happened to stop at the other side of the corridor.

What was even more coincidental was that these lad servants on the other side seemed to have also seen Wei Yuewu and Jin Ling, and their gazes were also vigilant. Jin Ling was most sensitive of this kind of gaze!

"They are not ordinary lad servants!" Jin Ling reminded Wei Yuewu in a low voice.

Wei Yuewu turned her gaze away from the lad servants. At this time, Wei Qiuju also saw the lad servants carrying food boxes over. Her eyes widened in surprise. It was rare to see lad servants in the inner courtyard. Even if lad servants ran errands in the inner courtyard, there wouldn't be so many of them appearing in groups like now.

Wei Qiuju did not know that the several of them had already attracted the attention of the lad servants. She pointed at them and said in surprise, "What are those lad servants up to? Why are they so sneaky?"

"Let's go!" Wei Yuewu suddenly stood up and held Jin Ling's hand.

"Yes, Miss!" Jin Ling reacted quickly. She reached out and held Wei Yuewu in her arm, bringing her into a wing room on the side of the corridor.

Wei Qiuju's reaction was not slow either. Seeing this, she knew that the situation was not good. She immediately brought her maid and ran in behind Wei Yuewu.

Not long after they left, two lad servants appeared in the place where they had been. From afar, they looked like common lad servants. But when looked at a closer distance, they were actually two guards in their twenties with fierce-looking eyes.

Wei Yuewu bit the corner of her lips tightly. Her watery eyes looked through the window and stared at the two lad servants, who turned around in search of something before leaving resentfully. She felt sweat on her forehead. At that moment, she could feel the killing intent in lad servants' eyes.

These two lad servants should not be the lad servants of Li Mansion!

Li Mansion has a secret...

Wei Qiuju was also watching, and she also sweated out of fear. At this time, she was even shivering as she leaned against the window. Although the people outside had left, she still did not dare to speak.

"Miss, they left!" Jin Ling said after a while.

Wei Qiuju relaxed and suddenly sat down on the ground. Yueya hurriedly supported her and the two of them fell to the ground together.

“Fifth Elder Sister, have you been to this place before?” Wei Yuewu calmed down and sat on a chair with the help of Jin Ling.

It was her first visit to Li Mansion, but Wei Qiuju must have been here before.

“This place... should be near the wall of the backyard...” Wei Qiuju stood up with the help of Yueya and sat on the chair opposite Wei Yuewu. “I have never been to this kind of place when I visited Li Mansion. I only walked around in the backyard with others...”

At this point, Wei Qiuju suddenly opened her eyes wide and her face turned pale. Yueya, who was at the side, also seemed to have thought of something, and the expression on her face changed dramatically.

“Fifth Elder Sister, did you remember something?” Wei Yuewu asked.

“Last...last time, I visited Li Mansion with Second Elder Sister. The two of us walked around casually together, and then we came here and saw a courtyard. There were people in the courtyard, and they were men. Second Elder Sister and I saw them from afar. Second Elder Sister felt curious and wanted to go in, but halfway through the road, we were stopped by Lord Li.”

Wei Qiuju continued, “Lord Li also warned us not to speak of it. Otherwise, we might be killed!”

Recalling that scene, Wei Qiuju couldn't help but shiver. At that time, Lord Li's expression was completely different from his usual gentle image. Instead, he had quite a bit of killing intent on his face.

Even Wei Yan did not dare to say anything. Wei Qiuju naturally would not say anything at that time. She only nodded her head vigorously to indicate that she would not say anything about what she had seen.

“There is actually someone hiding in Li Mansion's backyard?” Wei Yuewu frowned.

Lady Li's eldest brother was a subordinate of the Crown Prince Mansion. From whichever perspective, he was a confidant of the Crown Prince. However, there were actually some people hiding in the backyard of his mansion. The position of the Crown Prince was now unassailable. Therefore, these people could not be the Crown Prince's confidants. But if that was the case, why would he, a subordinate of the Crown Prince Mansion, be hooked up with these people?

No matter how one looked at it, this matter was really weird.

It seemed that this Lord Li was really suspicious in terms of his loyalty to the Crown Prince!

"Let's go and take the original path!" Wei Yuewu said. It was obviously dangerous to stay here at this time. Li Mansion would definitely not want others to know about this matter. Therefore, none of the guests today came here. If it were not for the maid pointing the wrong way for them, they would not have taken the shortcut and walked this way.

Thus, the four of them turned around and returned to the previous main road. At this time, almost all the guests had arrived. When they appeared, the banquet was about to begin.

"Sixth Miss Wei, you are late!" A tender voice accompanied by a woman's gentle breath sounded beside Wei Yuewu's ears.

#### Chapter 273 – Chaos In The Mansion Of Marquis Hua Yang

"Eldest Miss Jing!" Seeing that it was Jing Wenyan, Wei Yuewu bowed slightly. Eldest Miss Jing basically did not attend banquets. Wei Yuewu did not expect that she would actually come to Li Mansion's banquet.

"I have been here for quite a while. I thought I would run into Sixth Young Lady here, but I didn't expect it would take so long before I saw you!" Jing Wenyan said warmly, not noticing the trace of indifference in the corner of Wei Yuewu's eyes.

"I sprained my ankle, so I came late!" Wei Yuewu smiled. She suddenly remembered that Li Yue'er was also invited by Jing Wenyan to her courtyard last time. It seemed that the two of them had a good relationship.

"Are you seriously injured? Do you need to be treated by a doctor?" Jing Wenyan looked down at Wei Yuewu's slightly raised foot and asked with concern.

"It's fine. Second Uncle has already fetched a doctor to take care of my foot!" Wei Yuewu shook her head and refused with a smile.

At this time, the banquet had already started. Because of Jing Wenyan's invitation, Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiuju sat at the same table with her.

Li Mansion's old lady also walked out and accepted everyone's congratulations. However, no matter how Wei Yuewu looked at her, she felt that this old lady did not look happy at all. Her smile was very stiff.

Wei Yuewu bowed to the old lady with everyone and then returned to the table.

"Fifth Young Lady, Sixth Young Lady, have you finished eating?" An old maidservant of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang hurriedly came in and whispered to Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu looked at the old lady, who was still sitting in the top seat of honor. By now, all the people had bowed to her, and some began to go leave. Since they had bowed to the old lady, leaving at this time wasn't an act of discourtesy.

"We're done!" Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Qiuju and said.

The two of them stood up together and were about to leave. Lady Zhang bid farewell to Li Mansion's old lady and Lady Li, after which they all went out of the banquet hall.

Beside the carriages, Wei Luowu was already waiting there. Wei Ziyi and Wei Zifeng were both there, and only Wei Ziyang was absent.

Seeing that everyone was here, the women got on the carriages, and the man got on their horses, and the group of them left Li Mansion and headed back to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

After returning to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, Wei Luowu strode towards the inner courtyard. At this time, Lady Zhang also noticed something unusual and did not dare to get too close to him. She thought for a moment and said to Wei Qiuju and Wei Yuewu, "You two go back to your own courtyard first. In a while, if your grandmother has something, she will send for you. Yuewu, you twisted your foot. Take a good rest."

"Yes, Third Aunt!" Wei Yuewu nodded and then took leave. Although she was not seriously injured, she felt very tired after the journey, especially because one of her feet couldn't touch the ground.

When they returned to Lotus Courtyard, the maids saw that Wei Yuewu's foot was injured and hurriedly helped her sit down. Jin Ling looked at her foot again and found that although it was still swollen, there were signs of gradual improvement. Only then did she let out a sigh of relief in her heart.

Shufei served tea. Wei Yuewu took a sip and asked, "Did he come?"

Seeing that Wei Yuewu was fine, the maids were also relaxed. Shufei was the first to laugh, "Miss, there was a fight over there before you came back. Even the Madam Dowager was startled!"

Wei Yuewu smiled and did not speak. She knew Wei Yuejiao's temper. Once she was agitated, she would really make a scene. Moreover, this Xie Qingzhao could be considered a pain in the butt for her. Wei Yuewu could imagine that as long as Wei Yuejiao thought that she might marry that Xie Qingzhao, she would even wish to die.

Moreover, Xie Qingzhao secretly came to see her. If people saw the two of them meeting, they might think that she really liked Xie Qingzhao. In that case, she couldn't explain herself even if she had a hundred mouths.

"Did the Third Young Lady go and beat the Fourth Young Lady?" Jin Ling asked excitedly. "Quickly tell us what happened."

"It was said that the arrogant Imperial Academician Xie came to the mansion and he claimed to have an urgent matter to discuss with the Second Master. However, the Second Master was out and therefore the servant led him to the Second Master's study. He waited in the study for a while and came out for a walk. Nobody knew how he met the Third Young Lady, who was having a walk in the garden. The two of them chatted for a while and then the Third Young Lady became angry. She slapped Imperial Academician Xie and drove him away."

"After that, she went to Fourth Young Lady's courtyard to make a big fuss. She said that what the Fourth Young Lady wanted to do with Imperial Academician Xie had nothing to do with her. However, she would not allow the Fourth Young Lady to get her involved with Xie Qingzhao! The situation escalated to such an extent that the Madam Dowager sent for the two of them. At this time, they should still be in the Madam Dowager's Tranquility Courtyard!"

Shufei had stayed in the mansion to keep an eye on the matter and was naturally very clear about the development. She told Wei Yuewu in detail what had happened.

After listening to Shufei's report, Wei Yuewu put down the handkerchief she was playing with and raised her eyes slightly. "So, the Third Young Lady and Fourth Young Lady are still with the Madam Dowager?"

"Yes, even Concubine Dong was called over. I heard that the Madam Dowager even reprimanded Concubine Dong. Now, Concubine Dong is still kneeling in the Madam Dowager's courtyard."

"How about my father?" Wei Yuewu raised her eyebrows and asked calmly.

"The Madam Dowager sent someone to ask for the opinion of Lord Marquis. However, Lord Marquis only asked someone to pass a message, saying the Madam Dowager should make all the decisions in the backyard." Shufei answered.

This matter had gone a little out of control, and everyone in the mansion knew about it. How could Lord Marquis not know?

However, seeing Lord Marquis's indifference, people in the mansion who had always been optimistic of Concubine Dong began to doubt in their hearts. Did this mean that it was impossible for Concubine Dong to become Marquise Hua Yang?



People couldn't be more doubtful when they saw Concubine Dong was punished with protracted kneeling. Could it be that even the Madam Dowager was also dissatisfied with Concubine Dong?

"Huamo, go get two cushions for Concubine Dong later. Tell her that I know she was punished to kneel. I was afraid that her knees would hurt, so I deliberately gave her the soft cushions that had just been made." A faint smile appeared on Wei Yuewu's lips as she spoke to Huamo who was beside her.

"Get cushions for Concubine Dong?" Huamo was stunned for a moment and didn't understand why she was asked to do so.

Shufei immediately understood what Wei Yuewu meant and she pulled Huamo's sleeve with a smile. "Hurry up, Huamo. Concubine Dong may be going back to her own courtyard now. If you arrived there late, few people would know about our young lady's concern for Concubine Dong!"

"Yes... I understand!" After being pulled by Shufei, Huamo also came back to her senses. It turned out that the real purpose of their young lady was to humiliate Concubine Dong. She immediately responded and casually took two cushions from around her and ran out with a smile.

Concubine Dong had indeed just come out. No matter what, she had never imagined that the Madam Dowager would be so heartless as to actually punish her with protracted kneeling.

Although she hadn't been kneeling for long, she had lost her entire face. As long as she thought servants in this mansion would be pointing fingers at her, she would grit her teeth with anger.

"Mother..." The Third Young Lady Wei Yuejiao was also angry. She came out with Concubine Dong. At this time, she rubbed her handkerchief and felt much aggrieved.

"Third Young Lady, you should call me concubine!" Concubine Dong said sternly.

Seeing that Concubine Dong's expression was so fierce, Wei Yuejiao began to shed tears as she said in a wronged tone, "Concubine! But I was really treated unfairly for what happened today. It was clearly that Xie Qingzhao to blame, who came to me and talked nonsense about what happened to Fourth Younger Sister. What happened to her has nothing to do with me. Why did he ask me?"

“Then why did you rush to Wei Qiufu’s courtyard? If there was anything, you could bring this Xie Qingzhao over to see me. Isn’t it good for us to deal with it together?”

Concubine Dong scolded Wei Yuejiao angrily. If the matter hadn’t been known by the Madam Dowager, how would she lose so much face?

“Yuejiao, did you forget what I told you before we came to the capital? I told you to be careful, especially because the Sixth Young Lady has returned and the situation is different from the past. Now you see, even your father doesn’t care about us, and the Madam Dowager is even more...” Concubine Dong glared at Wei Yuejiao angrily.

“Concubine, before we entered the capital, you said that you would pick a good family for me and marry me out as a legitimate daughter. But look at the man grandmother has picked for me! How is this person worthy of me? He had neither wealth nor noble status. Besides, he is immoral and the one he loves in private is Fourth Younger Sister. What... what kind of a person has grandmother picked for me?”

The more Wei Yuejiao spoke, the more aggrieved she felt. She wiped away her tears with a handkerchief. Today, she was walking around the garden when that Xie Qingzhao came over and he refused to leave as she asked. He claimed to have something important to say and that he had received a letter from her. When she retreated to the side to talk with him, he simply kept asking about Wei Qiufu.

Afraid that the people in the mansion might really think she had something to do with Xie Qingzhao, she got angry and directly slapped Xie Qingzhao in the face before letting the servants drive him away.

Wei Yuejiao was inexplicably disturbed by Xie Qingzhao for the sake of Wei Qiufu. When she recalled Wei Qiufu’s indifferent attitude since she entered the capital city, how could Wei Yuejiao remain calm? She immediately became angry and went to look for Wei Qiufu with her maid.

In fact, this kind of thing happened in the past. However, the target was not Wei Qiufu, but Wei Yan. Speaking of which, she and Wei Yan were also like two needles against each other. Sometimes, the two of them would quarrel, but in the end, the Madam Dowager would always scold Wei Yan. Therefore, Wei Yuejiao did not think that she went too far this time.

However, what she did not expect was that not only did the Madam Dowager not stand on her side this time, but she even called Concubine Dong over and reprimanded her for failing to properly educate and discipline her. Her father, who loved her most, did not even show up.

“Yuejiao, don’t forget the Sixth Young Lady is the undisputed legitimate daughter!” Seeing that Wei Yuejiao was sad, Concubine Dong’s expression eased up a bit, and she said earnestly, “You are still not a legitimate daughter yet.”

Wei Yuejiao was unconvinced and retorted, “Didn’t grandmother and the others treat me well when I wasn’t a legitimate daughter before?”

“That was the case in the past, but now it’s different. The Sixth Young Lady has returned, and even the Lord Marquis dots on the Sixth Young Lady!” Concubine Dong sighed.

“Damn slut, why didn’t she die? Didn’t you say that she had congenital deficiencies and wouldn’t be able to survive?” At the thought of Wei Yuwu ruining her plan this time again, Wei Yuejiao gnashed her teeth in hatred. If Wei Yuwu died early, wouldn’t everything be fine? In that case, she would be father’s only daughter. How come that cheap girl Wei Yuwu didn’t die?

“Yuejiao, shut up!” Hearing Wei Yuejiao mention congenital deficiencies, Concubine Dong looked around in panic and shouted angrily.

“Concubine...” Wei Yuejiao argued.

“Yuejiao, never mention this matter again in the future!” Concubine Dong’s expression became fierce. Her gaze also swept over the few most trusted servants beside her, who immediately lowered their heads one by one, not daring to make the slightest movement. When she was at the border, Concubine Dong punished people very harshly. None of the servants she brought with her to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang dared to disobey her.

“Concubine, our young lady heard that you were punished to kneel by the Madam Dowager, so she specially asked me to come over and send two cushions to you. If you are not feeling well in the leg later, you can lean on the cushions.”

Huamo appeared at the intersection with a smile, carrying two cushions in her hands...

## Chapter 274 – A Tale Of Foot Injury

“You cheap slave...” Seeing that Huamo really came over with two cushions, Wei Yuejiao raised her eyebrows and was about to get angry.

“Third Young Lady!” Concubine Dong interrupted her loudly.

At this time, Huamo had already walked up to Concubine Dong and bowed to Concubine Dong and Wei Yuejiao respectfully. “Concubine Dong, our young lady just returned to the mansion. She heard that something happened in the mansion today, and you were even punished by the Madam Dowager. She was afraid that you would get injured after kneeling for a long time, so she asked me to bring two cushions over for you.”

Huamo smiled and handed over the two cushions in her hands.

The two old maidservants who followed behind Concubine Dong looked at each other and finally landed their gazes on Concubine Dong, not daring to receive the cushions.

Wei Yuejiao had never been humiliated like this. She was so angry that her face turned red. Her lips trembled and she could not speak for a moment. Her hearing was good and she actually heard the laughter of two young maids not far away.

“Tell that cheap...”

“Give my thanks to the Sixth Young Lady. Tell her that I appreciate her kindness. Otherwise, I might really get injured.” Concubine Dong raised her voice and said coldly. She motioned the two old maidservants beside her to receive the cushions and glared at Wei Yuejiao.

“Yes, Concubine Dong. Then I will go back now. Our young lady also hurt her foot in Li Mansion today. She can’t get up now!” Huamo handed over the cushions and said.

“Sixth Young Lady injured her foot? Is it serious?” Concubine Dong asked calmly.

It seemed that Lady Li had made her move this time, but why did she only injure that slut in the foot? Didn’t she say that slut would definitely be ruined this time?

“She just accidentally twisted her foot. There is nothing serious!” Huamo answered with a smile.

Concubine Dong was stunned and asked, “Then... did anything happen to Li Mansion?”

“Nothing. It’s just that our young lady was not feeling well and came back early with the Second Master.” Huamo answered with a confused look.

Before Concubine Dong could ask again, Huamo had already left in a hurry, saying that Doctor Ming was coming to take a look at Wei Yuewu’s injured foot.

As Huamo left in a hurry, Concubine Dong’s expression turned cold. Wei Yuewu had only slightly injured her foot and nothing serious happened in Li Mansion. Did this mean Lady Li blew it again?

Wei Yuejiao knew a little about the inside story. By now, she had calmed down. She grabbed Concubine Dong’s sleeve and asked anxiously, “Concubine, what happened to that slut?”

“Don’t talk nonsense!” Concubine Dong glared at her fiercely and swept her gaze around.

There were quite a lot of maids and old maidservants watching the fun today. Previously, Concubine Dong had been pointed at by the servants all the way as she went to the Madam Dowager’s courtyard. After Wei Yuejiao made such a big fuss, more people stopped and watched them.

This was something that had never happened before. Everyone knew that Concubine Dong was most likely to become Marquise Hua Yang, and no one would dare to provoke her.

But the situation today was different. Concubine Dong had been punished by the Madam Dowager. The meaning behind this was enough to make the servants look at Concubine Dong differently.

"Let's go!" This place was still close to the Madam Dowager's Tranquility Courtyard. Concubine Dong didn't want anything to happen here. She whispered to Wei Yuejiao and turned around to leave.

Although Wei Yuejiao was unbridled, she knew that this was not the place to talk. She followed behind Concubine Dong and went to Concubine Dong's courtyard.

After sitting down in the room, Wei Yuejiao could not wait to speak, "Concubine, that slut Wei Yuewu is going really way too far. She actually dares to send cushions to you. What does she want to do? Is she afraid that others do not know you have been punished?"

Thinking of the scene of Huamo sending the cushions over, Wei Yuejiao was so angry that her face turned green. She slammed her hand heavily on the table. She had never suffered such grievances in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

"Yuejiao, you have to calm down. She's doing so particularly to provoke you!" Concubine Dong's face was extremely gloomy, but she could still control her emotions. "Don't be provoked by her into doing something similar to what you did at the entrance of the city gate. Otherwise, others would say bad things about you!"

Concubine Dong had already asked Wei Yuejiao about the matter at the city gate. Of course, she believed Wei Yuejiao's words more.

"Concubine, are you going to let her laugh at you for nothing? What will the people in the mansion think of you?" Wei Yuejiao said, unconvinced.

"Of course, I won't let a little girl like her gain the upper hand for nothing. Go back first and stay in your courtyard. Don't cause any more trouble and make me suffer with you. The Madam Dowager also said that you are grounded now. Remember not to get into conflict with anyone in the mansion. Everything will be fine after this period of time!"

Concubine Dong suppressed the anger in her heart and said to Wei Yuejiao sincerely and earnestly. She was still working on her next big plan. At this time, of course, she would try her best to avoid being implicated in unnecessary troubles, especially those caused by Wei Yuejiao. As long as something happened to Wei Yuejiao, she would inevitably be implicated.

Wei Yuejiao finally calmed down and listened to Concubine Dong's advice. She said in a wronged tone, "Yes, I got it! Mother, be quick with your actions!" A trace of hatred flashed through her eyes. In order to trample Wei Yuewu under her feet in the future, she had to be patient.

"Did you send that sachet over?" Concubine Dong was very pleased with Wei Yuejiao's obedience. She stood up and stroked her hair, her expression calming down.

"It was sent long ago. On the day we entered the mansion, I mixed the sachet in a pile of gifts sent to her. Wei Yuewu would definitely not find anything unusual. Concubine, you really had the foresight to send the sachet to her back then. If it was sent to her now, she would definitely become suspicious." Wei Yuejiao proudly raised her neck. "That bitch definitely won't find out about this."

"That's good. Go back first. Remember not to cause any more trouble. You are not allowed to cause any trouble with the Fourth Young Lady. If the Fourth Young Lady enters the Crown Prince Mansion in the future, her status would be far more superior to ours!" Concubine Dong was afraid that Wei Yuejiao would still remember the grudge with Wei Qiufu, so she reminded her again.

"Concubine, don't worry. I won't have any dispute with her. However, who knows what kind of identity she will have when she enters the Crown Prince Mansion. It is still early for her to put on airs now!" Wei Yuejiao snorted coldly. She was very dissatisfied with the Madam Dowager helping Wei Qiufu. She reached out and grabbed Concubine Dong's hand. She pouted and said, "Concubine, don't worry. I will have a better marriage than Wei Qiufu in the future!"

Wei Yuejiao inexplicably thought of that peerlessly handsome man and her face turned red. If she could marry him, it was definitely her dream coming true. Not only was he handsome, but he was also extremely powerful.

So what if Wei Qiufu married the Crown Prince? Even the Crown Prince couldn't interfere in the matters of the State of Yan!

Concubine Dong did not notice Wei Yuejiao's abnormality and thought that she was just saying it casually. "Alright, alright. In the future, I will pick a nice young man for you. You go back first. Remember what I said. Don't bother about the Sixth Young Lady. I have a plan to deal with her!"

At this time, Wei Yuejiao naturally wouldn't tell Concubine Dong about her "dream". She shyly left Concubine Dong's courtyard.

"Have you found a suitable fengshui master?" Concubine Dong asked in a low voice.

"I am looking for one. There should be news soon." Nanny Dong knew that Concubine Dong was asking about the news that Nanny Hong had come to deliver. She lowered her voice and said, "We must find a fengshui master who is both well-known and prestigious so that the Madam Dowager and Lord Marquis would believe in him."

"Nanny Dong, hurry up and get this done as soon as possible. Now, go and ask around to find out if something happened to the Second Lady." After Wei Yuejiao left, Concubine Dong sat down again. When she heard that the matter had yet to be settled, her expression became even colder.

"Do you want me to see the Second Lady now?" Nanny Dong's heart skipped a beat as she asked in a low voice.

"Yes, just say that you are sending a gift to the old lady of Li Mansion on behalf of me." Concubine Dong nodded. In fact, she had thought of this reason before Wei Yuewu went to Li Mansion. With this as an excuse, she could send Nanny Dong to Li Mansion and inquire whether Lady Li's plan succeeded or not.

She was really satisfied with her foresight.

"Yes, I know. If the Second Lady gets angry..." Nanny Dong hesitated for a moment. Last time, the Second Lady was quite angry and spoke harsh words.

"It's fine. Just say hello to her for me!" Concubine Dong said in a low voice. Something must have happened in Li Mansion. Otherwise, Wei Yuewu would not have the guts to provoke her.

This time, Nanny Dong didn't dare to say anything and she hurried to the back door.

She came back quickly. Not long after, she was back with a piece of news that shocked Concubine Dong. Lady Li had broken her leg and would probably not be able to stand up for the rest of her life. In order to



prevent Lady Li's leg injury from worsening, she must rest quietly to recuperate. Therefore, she would stay in Li Mansion to recover.

When Concubine Dong heard this news, she walked around her room a few rounds before sending Nanny Dong out on another mission. This time, Nanny Dong did not go anywhere else. She just stayed at the intersection near the courtyard where Wei Yuewu lived...

Doctor Ming had already arrived at the mansion. It was not just because Huamo had gone to invite him, but because the Madam Dowager sent for him after hearing that Wei Yuewu's foot was injured. Just as Doctor Ming was on his way, he met Huamo, who then led him to Lotus Courtyard.

Wei Yuewu's foot had been treated before, but the Madam Dowager said that she was worried and asked Doctor Ming to come over again. Wei Yuewu naturally understood what the Madam Dowager meant: she did not trust her.

Fortunately, she had thought about this and taken the pain to twist her foot. Therefore, she didn't care about the Madam Dowager's suspicion.

Previously, Wei Luowu had also suspected her. Now, the Madam Dowager also suspected her. It was all because it was too much of a coincidence that she appeared in that courtyard and at that time. Fortunately, she had a plan to convince them.

Wei Yuewu called in Doctor Ming, who was waiting outside after applying medicine to her foot, and asked softly, "Doctor Ming, is my injury very serious?"

"Sixth Young Lady, although your injury is not too serious, you were injured in a critical position. I'm afraid that you can't get up for a while and need to rest quietly to recuperate!" After what happened last time, Doctor Ming was more frightened of Wei Yuewu. He was afraid that Wei Yuewu would report him to Marquis Hua Yang. Others had no evidence against him, but Wei Yuewu did. At this time, of course, he understood Wei Yuewu's intention and exaggerated her injury.

"Then I will have to trouble Doctor Ming to explain it to grandmother for me." Wei Yuewu nodded in satisfaction and smiled, "If there are others who also want to know about my injury, you can just say the same to them!"

“Others?” Doctor Ming did not understand whom Wei Yuewu was referring to.

Wei Yuewu smiled slightly but did not say anything. Jin Ling, who was at the side, stepped forward and said with a smile, “Doctor Ming, don’t care about who will ask. No matter who it is, you just need to tell the truth. Tell them that our young lady is not in good health right now and needs to rest for a period of time. Perhaps she can’t even go to the imperial palace!”

The Madam Dowager had said a few days before that she would bring the young ladies of the mansion to see the Empress Dowager in a couple of days. The Madam Dowager asked them to get prepared in advance.

“Yes, I know!” Although Doctor Ming did not understand what was going on, he still nodded his head. He did not dare to underestimate this shrewd Sixth Young Lady. Since this Sixth Young Lady had said so, someone would definitely come to ask him about her foot injury later.

Seeing that Doctor Ming understood Wei Yuewu’s intention, Jin Ling sent him to the gate of the courtyard. Then, she returned to the room and asked in surprise, “Miss, are you really not going to the imperial palace?”

The clothes and accessories that were need for the trip to the imperial palace had been prepared these past two days. Besides, Wei Yuewu also said that she wanted to go into the imperial palace to take a look. However, she had implicitly asked Doctor Ming to exaggerate her foot injury. Jin Ling could not understand the meaning behind it!

“Yes, I will go!” Wei Yuewu put down the teacup in her hand. Her eyes blinked and she smiled. The imperial palace? It seemed to be the place where her childhood memories froze...

Of course, she was going there!

## Chapter 275 – Junior Concubine, The Most Unexpected Person

Doctor Ming first went back to Tranquility Courtyard to report to the Madam Dowager about Wei Yuewu’s injury. After hearing that Wei Yuewu’s injury was not serious, but it was still not suitable for her

to move around, the Madam Dowager's face darkened. She waved her hand to motion Doctor Ming to leave.

"Madam Dowager, can't the Sixth Young Lady enter the imperial palace to see the Empress Dowager?" After Doctor Ming left, Nanny Hong could not help but ask. The Madam Dowager was going into the imperial palace to see the Empress Dowager mainly because it was too great an honor for all the four young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang to be the Third Princess' companions for ten days when she prayed for the prosperity of the country. Therefore, two of them must be removed from the list. Another reason was Wei Yuewu.

After entering the capital, Wei Yuewu hadn't been to the imperial palace to see the Empress Dowager yet.

However, in the current situation, it was extremely unsuitable for Wei Yuewu to enter the imperial palace. Therefore, the Madam Dowager was also in a difficult position. "Let's wait and see. In any case, there are still two more days. If Yuewu recovers well, I will bring her with me to the imperial palace!"

The Madam Dowager couldn't make up her mind at this time. She only hoped that Wei Yuewu's foot would be restored in a couple of days, which was the best result.

Doctor Ming came out from Tranquility Courtyard. He wiped the sweat from his forehead and left quickly. Ever since Sixth Miss Wei found that medicine bottle, Doctor Ming was always frightened every time he saw this youngest Sixth Miss Wei.

"Doctor Ming, please wait!" A voice came from the intersection. Doctor Ming looked back and saw a maid walking over with a smile. He probably had seen her before, but he could not remember which courtyard she came from.

"Doctor Ming, how is the Sixth Young Lady's injury?" The maid came over and asked with a face full of concern.

"You are..." Doctor Ming looked her up and down, but he really could not recognize who this maid was.

The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang had many maids and Doctor Ming had seen many of them, but other than a few special maids, Doctor Ming could not remember who this pretty maid in front of him was.

“Our Fourth Young Lady and Fifth Young Lady were worried about the Sixth Young Lady’s injury, so they specially asked me to come and ask. I didn’t expect to meet Doctor Ming here.” Ming Yan said with a face full of sincerity, as if she really just happened to pass by here.

Doctor Ming suddenly remembered Wei Yuewu’s words. His heart skipped a beat and he hurriedly replied, “The Sixth Young Lady’s foot injury doesn’t look serious, but the injury is at the critical part of her foot. She might need a good rest for some time!”

“Is it really serious? Didn’t she seem not to be seriously injured when she came back?” Ming Yan asked in surprise.

“Didn’t I tell you just now? The injury doesn’t look serious, but she was injured in the critical part of her foot. Therefore, it is extremely improper for her to walk. Besides, the Sixth Young Lady moved around with the help of others, and as a result, her foot was injured more seriously. So she had better not get out of bed, lest the injury becomes more serious. Do you doubt my medical skills?”

Doctor Ming shook his head and said seriously.

Ming Yan hurriedly said with a smile, “How could I doubt Doctor Ming’s medical skills? It’s just that the two young ladies are worried about the Sixth Young Lady’s injury. Doctor Ming, please forgive me for disturbing you!”

Having obtained the information she needed, Ming Yan retreated to the side and politely made way for Doctor Ming. After Doctor left, she hurriedly went back to report.

It turned out that it was the Fourth Young Lady who wanted to inquire about the Sixth Young Lady’s injury. At this time, Doctor Ming recognized Ming Yan and knew that she was Wei Qiufu’s maid.

It was no wonder that the Sixth Young Lady said that when someone asked him about her injury, he just needed to “tell the truth”. It seemed that this “someone” was the Fourth Young Lady. He couldn’t help but wonder what this Fourth Young Lady wanted to do by sending a maid to block him at the

intersection and asked him about Wei Yuewu's injury. Doctor Ming, who was old and experienced, certainly did not believe that this was really a coincidence.

However, what Doctor Ming did not expect was that at the next intersection, he met another old maidservant who served Concubine Dong. The words she said were actually the same as what the maid Ming Yan said just now. After the old maidservant left, Doctor Ming did not dare to stay any longer.

Although this Sixth Young Lady was still quite young, her intelligence was beyond the imagination of ordinary people, which was truly both shocking and frightening. He increasingly felt that he could not become enemies with this Sixth Young Lady. Otherwise, he would really die a mysterious death.

Rumors were soon spread about the birthday party for the old lady of Li Mansion. According to the story, the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's Second Lady, Lady Li, who had been recuperating in Li Mansion, broke her leg that day. Her injury was so serious that she could not be moved at all. Therefore, she continued to live in Li Mansion to recuperate.

According to some rumors, this Second Lady would probably not be able to get out of bed in the future.

It was really unlucky that such a thing actually happened at a birthday party, which was supposed to be a happy event. Everyone secretly said that Lady Li might have run been possessed by some evil thing. Otherwise, how could she be so unlucky?

Now that she was paralyzed and the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang had a lukewarm attitude towards her, it was really not a good sign. Although she was still the Second Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang in name, what difference could she make? She was no more than an abandoned wife who was paralyzed and lived in her parents' home.

However, another piece of breaking news was soon released, which caused everyone to completely lose their interest in Lady Li!

The Crown Prince actually selected the eldest daughter of Assistant Minister Yang of the Ministry of Works as his junior concubine, and it was the Empress who issued the decree.

Previously, there were rumors outside the imperial palace that the Crown Prince was looking for a woman who had an affinity with him. The Crown Prince had even started a nation-wide selection for her with the consent and support of the Empress Dowager, the Empress, and the Emperor.

Everyone was speculating about this woman. At the same time, they also believed that before finding this woman, the Crown Prince would not really decide who would become the Crown Princess. After all, that woman's status was not certain. If her background was ordinary, even if she had the support of the Crown Prince, she would at most become a junior concubine. However, if she was a young lady from a big aristocratic family, the position of Crown Princess would definitely belong to her.

Therefore, before this woman was found, the statuses of the shortlisted candidates who would enter the Crown Prince Mansion could not be decided.

However, just as everyone was certain of this matter, the Empress had actually directly issued a decree to Yang Mansion, appointing Yang Yuyan as the Crown Prince's junior concubine. Such news was like a stone thrown into the seemingly calm lake, immediately causing a great uproar.

Did this mean the selection of the Crown Princess had officially started?

But why was Assistant Minister Yang's daughter so lucky? When this eldest young lady was in Plum Blossom Nunnery, she was loathed by the Crown Prince, who directly ordered someone to pull her out. After that, she was said to have falsely accused the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's Sixth Young Lady. Although the Sixth Young Lady did not pursue the matter afterwards, people wouldn't make groundless accusations against her. Moreover, there were many young ladies present at that time.

It was said that this Eldest Miss Yang was not only stupid, but her temperament wasn't good either. Many young masters of aristocratic families simply excluded her from their lists when selecting a legitimate wife.

No man from an aristocratic family would like a woman with such a disposition.

Everyone believed that this Eldest Miss Yang could at most only rely on her father's power to marry a low-ranking official. But who would have thought that the Empress' decree would be released at this time? This was something no one had expected.

“What? Yang Yuyan became Crown Prince’s junior concubine?” It was not too late when Wei Qiufu received the news. Actually, she knew about it almost as soon as the rumors started outside. She was so shocked that she stood up and exclaimed.

“Fourth Young Lady, you have to think about it clearly. If you really can’t enter Crown Prince Mansion...” The speaker was an old maidservant who looked like an ordinary old maidservant with her head down. She didn’t look eye-catching, but her words were obviously threatening.

Although Wei Qiufu was anxious in her heart, she did not dare to show it on her face and said with a smile, “Don’t worry, Nurse Qi. Go back and report to your master that I will definitely enter Crown Prince Mansion. Ask him to take it easy!”

“Then you had better hurry up!” Nurse Qi raised her face and said bluntly, “If Fourth Young Lady really doesn’t have the ability, our master can still find a capable young lady.”

“Okay, I will be quick!” Wei Qiufu nodded.

“Then I will take my leave!” Nurse Qi lowered her head and resumed the look of an ordinary servant. She respectfully bid farewell to Wei Qiufu. She had come today to give Wei Qiufu a warning.

At this time, Wei Qiufu was not in the mood to speak to her. She waved her hand, motioning Nurse Qi to leave.

“Miss, what should we do? Why did the Crown Prince choose Eldest Miss Yang?” After the old maidservant left, Ming Yan couldn’t help but ask. In her opinion, her young lady was much better than the stupid Eldest Miss Yang.

Wei Qiufu was also very anxious. No one anticipated that the Crown Prince would make this move. She had previously been quite confident because the Crown Prince specially kept her token. Although the Crown Prince hadn’t decided on the Crown Princess yet, she believed she definitely had a greater chance than others.

But judging from the current situation, she had apparently been too optimistic.

“Ming Yan, go to Prince Nan’an Mansion in a while and ask my Eldest Sister about her progress. If she has not taken action yet, ask her to act as soon as possible. Otherwise, Second Aunt will really not have the chance to return to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang for the rest of her life.”

Since others had threatened her, she had to make a suitable threat to Wei Fengyao.

“Yes, I will go immediately. When you enter the imperial palace, are you going to use...” Ming Yan also understood that Wei Qiufu was anxious and she hurriedly agreed, but after taking two steps, she turned around and asked hesitantly.

Wei Qiufu, of course, understood the meaning of Ming Yan’s words and said with a bit of impatience, “Yes, I will. Isn’t Wei Yuwu unable to enter the imperial palace? That would be best, lest she should ruin my plan!”

“But, Miss...” Ming Yan hesitated.

“Cut the crap, go now!” Wei Qiufu said impatiently. Originally, she was still very calm. She thought that even if she could not achieve her goal after entering the imperial palace this time, she could also ask Wei Fengyao for help when she went to Prince Nan’an Mansion the next time. But now, she had no choice but to quicken her pace.

Now that the junior concubine of the Crown Prince Mansion had been officially announced, the meaning of this news was enough to make Wei Qiufu anxious. Her goal had always been the position of Crown Princess. Even if she failed to enter the Crown Prince Mansion as the Crown Princess, she would rise to the position of Empress in the future. She actually had a trump card in her hand. However, since she was not sure whether her judgment of the current situation was correct or not, she did not dare to take it out...

“What? The eldest daughter of Assistant Minister Yang has become the Crown Prince’s junior concubine?” At the same time, the Madam Dowager was also shocked. She heavily placed the teacup in her hand on the table, and her face was extremely gloomy. “What is Yang Mansion trying to do?”

Eldest Miss Yang, the most unlikely candidate, had suddenly become a side concubine of the Crown Prince Mansion. While the Madam Dowager was shocked, she suddenly thought of a possibility, and her face became stern.



“Go, take out the bottle of medicine I have kept and send it to the Sixth Young Lady. Tell her to apply the medicine and have a good rest these few days. Ask her not to move around. In a few days, when she gets better, I will take her with me to the imperial palace to have an audience with the Empress Dowager!” The Madam Dowager said in a low voice.

“There isn’t much of the medicine left!” Nanny Hong hesitated for a moment. This medicine was extremely effective. It was granted by the late Emperor in the past. The Madam Dowager had always been reluctant to use it. Now, she actually took it out and gave it to the Sixth Young Lady.

“One must give before being able to get!” The Madam Dowager said, frowning. The Crown Prince was the heir-apparent to the throne. This meant that the Crown Princess was highly likely to become the Empress in the future. “Let Qiuju go too!”

It seemed that she had to bring all the granddaughters with her to the imperial palace! She did not believe that none of her outstanding granddaughters could enter the Crown Prince Mansion. Moreover, besides the Crown Prince, other princes might also be considered. The closer the relationship between the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang and the royal family, the more likely it was for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang to enjoy lasting honor and glory...

## Chapter 276 – An Audience With The Empress Dowager

Behind the news that the Crown Prince had selected Yang Yuyan as his junior concubine, there was much more that most people didn’t know, and it had shocked all the aristocratic families in the capital...

Empress Tu sat on a high seat in Feng Yi Palace. She gracefully picked up the teacup beside her hand and took a sip. Then, she gently put it down and asked softly, “Princess Nan’an, what do you think of the young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang you met last time?”

“Your Majesty, of the four unmarried young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, I think the two legitimate daughters, namely the Fourth Young Lady and Sixth Young Lady, each have their own merits. By comparison, the Third Young Lady and Fifth Young Lady are much inferior.” Princess Nan’an thought for a moment. She had already sent her subordinates to take a look before, after which she had also personally taken a look at them.

"The Fourth Young Lady has already been shortlisted by the Crown Prince. Now, there is only the Sixth Young Lady left. She looks pretty good..." Empress Tu paused for a moment and seemed to feel a bit regretful.

After carefully observing the expression on the face of Empress Tu, Princess Nan'an smiled and said, "Your Majesty, it actually doesn't matter if you want the Sixth Miss Wei to enter the Crown Prince Mansion. After all, something happened to the Fourth Miss Wei, and she is just a legitimate daughter from the third branch of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. It doesn't matter if she's only given an ordinary title."

"That's not what I meant!" Empress Tu shook her head and frowned. "The Empress Dowager is going to meet a few old ladies later. The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's Madam Dowager is also among them. I heard that she would bring all the unmarried young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang with her. If... the Empress Dowager likes the Sixth Miss Wei and wants to marry her to the Crown Prince, you have to tell the Empress Dowager that I want to marry her to the Fourth Prince."

"Your Majesty, you don't want the Sixth Miss Wei to enter the Crown Prince Mansion?" Princess Nan'an blinked twice and immediately understood.

"The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang already has a young lady who is going to enter the Crown Prince Mansion. It is unreasonable if the Sixth Miss Wei is also selected!" The Empress nodded. "The Fourth Prince is about the same age as her. The two of them make the best couple."

"Your Majesty, the Crown Princess has not been selected yet, and the Second Prince and the Third Prince don't have legitimate wives either. If the Fourth Prince is engaged before his three brothers, I am afraid..." Princess Nan'an was surprised and suggested. This was the most unreasonable thing. She didn't know why the Empress cared so much about the Fourth Prince.

Fourth Prince's birth mother was Zhaoyi Tu, who was also a daughter from the Tu clan. However, the Fourth Prince wasn't the Empress' own son. While her own son and the other two elder princes hadn't been married yet, she was focused on the marriage of the youngest Four Prince. This was too suspicious.

"Well, just say to the Empress Dowager as I told you first. After the Crown Princess has been selected, I will choose wives for the Second Prince and Third Prince. I am just afraid that the Empress Dowager will take a fancy to the Sixth Miss Wei and betroth her to the Crown Prince. That's why I asked you to remind the Empress Dowager later." Empress Tu said with a smile.

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Although Princess Nan'an didn't understand the meaning of the Empress, she still answered respectfully.

In any case, this matter had nothing to do with her. All she needed to do was passing the Empress' words to the Empress Dowager. Maybe the Empress was doing this at the request of Zhaoyi Tu or the Fourth Prince.

Princess Nan'an suddenly figured it out. She recalled last time in Prince Nan'an Mansion, she saw the Fourth Prince and Sixth Miss Wei secretly talking on the side. Could it be that the Fourth Prince was very fond of this Sixth Miss Wei?

"Alright then, when the Empress Dowager mentions it, I will advise her as instructed by Your Majesty?" Princess Nan'an asked tentatively.

"My thanks!" The Empress didn't give a positive answer. Instead, she stood up with a smile. "It's getting late. Let's go to the Empress Dowager's place!"

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Princess Nan'an also hurriedly stood up and replied, secretly calculating in her heart. It turned out that the Empress had intercepted her when she was halfway to the Empress Dowager's Jing Chen Palace because she wanted her to pass a message to the Empress Dowager.

Wei Yuewu rode on a sedan and arrived outside the Empress Dowager's Jing Chen Palace.

When she got out of the sedan, she stood to the side with Wei Qiufu and the others. The four unmarried young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang stood in line behind the Madam Dowager. The other old ladies also had young ladies standing behind them. The one with the least had two young ladies, and the one with the most had five young ladies.

Each and every one of the young ladies was charming and beautiful. It was obvious that this wasn't an ordinary trip to the imperial palace.

"Sixth Younger Sister, what... what am I supposed to do here?" Wei Qiuju said timidly, hiding behind Wei Yuewu.

"I don't know either!" Although she had a guess in her heart, Wei Yuewu would not reveal it at this time. Looking at the other gorgeously dressed young ladies, her long eyelashes fluttered and then drooped down, hiding the indifference in her eyes.

Sure enough, upon hearing the news of Yang Yuyan becoming the Crown Prince's junior concubine, many aristocratic families could not remain calm. Apparently, they were all planning to send their daughters into the imperial palace!

Originally, the Madam Dowager would not bring Wei Qiuju with her. Moreover, considering the Third Princess' fasting event, the Madam Dowager should only bring two young ladies with her. But now, she brought all the four unmarried young ladies with her. Of course, her target was not only the Third Princess' fasting event. Presumably, many people came here today with ulterior motives.

Therefore, Wei Yuewu didn't want to look eye-catching at all. She only washed up a little and didn't even put on any makeup.

A eunuch walked out and announced, "Here is the Empress Dowager's invitation for all the old ladies!"

"Yes!" One by one, the old ladies with heavy makeup bowed respectfully in the direction of the main palace. Then, they entered the palace with their granddaughters according to their respective ranks.

Wei Yuewu walked at the end of the team led by the Madam Dowager. She lowered her head and followed everyone in. Her ankle injury was not serious. Besides, the Madam Dowager sent her some extremely effective medicine. As long as she did not exert much strength with that foot, it would not be a big problem.

"Greetings, Your Majesty!" Wei Yuewu knelt down with the crowd.

"As you were. Her Majesty now grants the old ladies each a seat." A eunuch announced, and palace maids came over to help the old ladies up and be seated.

The young ladies they brought were still standing behind them.

The Madam Dowager was seated right behind the Empress Dowager. Wei Yuewu looked up and stole a glance. She guessed that the one who looked kind should be the Empress Dowager. On the other side of her were the Empress and Princess Nan'an. Palace maids kept coming and going without making any noise.

Wei Yuewu was the smallest. She also deliberately hid behind Wei Qiuju because she did not want to attract the attention of the Empress Dowager and the other two on this occasion. There were so many young ladies here, and it was not a real talent show. The Empress Dowager should be just taking a glimpse.

Sure enough, soon after the several old ladies sat down and said a few words, the Empress Dowager released the young ladies.

Wei Yuewu obediently followed behind the crowd.

After walking out of the sight of the Empress Dowager and their elders, the young ladies all looked relieved, and their expressions were much more relaxed than before.

"Young ladies, please take a stroll just around Jing Chen Palace. Don't go too far." A eunuch came out and ordered.

All the young ladies agreed and dispersed in twos and threes. Wei Qiuju knew a lot of people and was soon dragged away. Although Wei Yuejiao did not know anyone, she was not willing to walk with Wei Yuewu. She snorted coldly and with a flick of her handkerchief, she left alone.

After a short while, only Wei Qiuju and Wei Yuewu were left. "Sixth Younger Sister, let's have a walk together!" Wei Qiuju said to Wei Yuewu.

"Let's go!" Wei Yuewu nodded, her eyes flashing. Nothing here looked the same as what she remembered, which meant that this palace was not the one in her memory.

Jing Chen Palace was quite large. Although they did not leave the Empress Dowager's Jing Chen Palace, the dozen or so young ladies did not encounter others while walking around.

It began to snow. Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiuju did not bring an umbrella and could only hide in a corridor.

The two of them stood there and chatted.

“Young ladies, are you from the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang?” A palace maid appeared at one end of the corridor with two umbrellas and asked loudly when she saw the two of them.

“Yes!” Wei Yuewu answered with a light smile.

The palace maid came over and bowed. Then, she handed over the umbrellas in her hand to the two of them and said with a smile, “Young ladies, you two have walked a bit too far. The Empress Dowager is about to summon the young ladies from the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!”

Today, they went into the imperial palace to have an audience with the Empress Dowager. Their maids and old maidservants all stayed outside Jing Chen Palace. Therefore, there was no one to serve them.

“Did the Empress Dowager summon all the young ladies of our mansion?” Wei Yuewu was stunned for a moment. She did not think that she would be summoned by the Empress Dowager so soon. With Wei Qiufu in front of her, she was safe for the time being.

“Yes, please go quickly with me. The Empress Dowager has summoned you just now.” The palace maid said anxiously and handed over the umbrella in her hand to Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu’s heart skipped a beat. As she took the umbrella, she lowered her head and asked, “Has any prince come?”

“The Crown Prince is here!” The palace maid nodded.

The Crown Prince Wen Tianyao came, and the Empress Dowager summoned the young ladies in to have an audience with her. Wei Yuewu frowned and felt something was wrong.

Although she knew the matter of Yang Yuyan would shock the Madam Dowager to such an extent that she would inevitably bring the unmarried young ladies of the mansion with her to the imperial palace. In that case, she could also look for the palace in her memory. Moreover, Yan Huaijing also asked her to enter the palace.

But she didn't want to enter the Crown Prince Mansion. After accomplishing all the things she had to do in this life, she just wanted to marry an ordinary person and live a normal life free from conspiracies, schemes, and backstabbing, just like how she had lived in the past few years.

The Crown Prince Mansion was a place where all kinds of conspiracies were concentrated. She was in no way willing to be a part of it!

But now, she could not refuse. Looking at Wei Qiuju's beautiful face that was heavily powdered, Wei Yuewu quietly took a step back and let Wei Qiuju walk in front of her.

When they arrived in front of the main palace, Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuejiao were also arriving. Then, the four of them waited at the entrance of the palace. Not long after, a eunuch came out to announce the decree, "Here is Her Majesty's invitation for the four young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!"

The four of them answered together and entered in order. As the youngest, Wei Yuewu naturally walked in the end.

There was laughter in the hall, as well as the deep voice of the Crown Prince Wen Tianyao. The four of them approached together and respectfully kowtowed to the Empress Dowager who was sitting in the middle.

After the Empress Dowager asked them to spare the ceremonies, they got up and stood behind the Madam Dowager.

Although Wei Yuewu lowered her head, she could still feel someone staring at her for a long time, and she inexplicably became nervous. She clenched her hands slightly. This time, it seemed a little different...

“The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang’s young ladies are really all beauties. Madam Dowager, you are truly fortunate to have so excellent granddaughters!” The Empress Dowager’s gaze moved from Wei Yuejiao to Wei Qiufu before finally landing on Wei Yuewu’s face.

Although there was not any trace of makeup on her face, she possessed the kind of beauty that could be compared to a graceful hibiscus flower with drops of rain on its petals. There was no doubt that this Sixth Young Lady, who had reportedly been raised in her maternal grandparents’ family, was the most outstanding young lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

She was not only a legitimate daughter but was also born by Marquise Hua Yang. With such a noble identity, she surely deserved the position of Crown Princess. But the problem was that Master Fenghe’s words made the candidates for the position of Crown Princess quite a mysterious story. In face of such a dilemma, even the Empress Dowager could not make the decision on her own.

The Madam Dowager was extremely glad, but she maintained her composure and flattered the Empress Dowager, “Your Majesty, I am overwhelmed by your praise. They are just a few naughty girls. They usually make a lot of noise in the mansion. I didn’t expect that when they are in front of Your Majesty, they are all so gentle. You really know how to teach people!”

The smile on the Empress Dowager’s face became more and more amiable. She turned to look at her grandson, whom she was really proud of. “What do you think, Crown Prince?”

Wen Tianyao looked at Wei Yuewu and smiled gently as he answered, “All of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang’s young ladies have been taught well!”

“Madam Dowager, you are also good at teaching people. See how bright and beautiful your granddaughters look. In a month, the Fourth Princess will be praying for the prosperity of the country. She needs outstanding daughters from noble families to accompany her. How about letting all the four young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang be her companions?” Empress Tu teased from the side.

In fact, everyone knew that it was impossible. The Third Princess was also having a praying ceremony, and among her companions, there were daughters from the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Therefore, when the Fourth Princess prayed, her companions must come from other mansions. After all, the honor of serving the royal family had to be distributed among various aristocratic families.



However, after hearing the Empress' words, the other old ladies all felt a little embarrassed. Just now, a few young ladies from several families had already been summoned. Although the Empress Dowager and Empress also expressed their appreciation, they did not say anything about accompanying the Fourth Princess to pray for the prosperity of the country.

"Your Majesties, I am really overwhelmed by your kindness. It is a great honor for the entire mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!" Hearing the Empress mention the praying event, the Madam Dowager stood up and wanted to kneel down to express her thanks, but she was held up by an old nanny beside the Empress Dowager.

Wei Qiufu and the others all came out and knelt down together to thank the Empress Dowager and Empress for their kindness!

"Madam Dowager, you are old. You don't have to stand on ceremony!" The Empress Dowager smiled and gestured for the nanny to help the Madam Dowager sit down again.

The Madam Dowager sat down and said, "Your Majesty, I feel deeply guilty about receiving such a big honor from the royal family. I am afraid that not all the four young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang were eligible for this great honor!"

The Madam Dowager was euphemistically refusing to have the honor of letting all the four girls to participate in the praying event.

It was too great an honor that would arouse envy from other aristocratic families. Although the Madam Dowager attached great importance to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's reputation, she also knew that this kind of thing was like a double-edged sword. Looking at the displeased eyes of the old ladies over there, she knew that it was impossible for all her granddaughters to marry into the royal family.

"What do you mean, Madam Dowager?" The Empress Dowager asked with a smile, looking quite open-minded.

The Madam Dowager already had an answer in her heart. She replied respectfully, "It is an extremely great honor for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang to have two of its daughters to accompany the Third Princess to pray for the prosperity of the country. The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang dare not ask for more from the royal family!"

“Only two?” Empress Tu’s eyes fell on the girls who were kneeling in front of her again, and the look in her eyes slightly changed.

Wen Tianyao sat on the chair and did not say anything. He leaned back, switching his handsome eyes from Wei Qiufu to Wei Yuewu. Compared with the other two, it was obvious that the two of them had a higher status. Therefore, everyone understood what the Madam Dowager meant.

The Empress Dowager smiled and nodded, “Since the Madam Dowager has said so, then the Fourth Young Lady and Sixth Young Lady from your mansion shall be selected!”

Legitimate daughters were naturally the ones who were expected to attend such an event. Concubine-born daughters were not an option for their low status.

“Thank you, Your Majesty!” The Madam Dowager breathed a sigh of relief. Of course, she also wanted Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu to be selected.

“Now spare the ceremony. It’s better not to make the four of you feel restrained here. You may go down now!” Empress Tu said with a smile when she saw that the Empress Dowager had made up her mind.

Wei Yuewu and the others stood up and respectfully left.

As soon as they were outside the hall, they saw a few young ladies entering with their heads drooped. They should be the young ladies of another aristocratic family.

“Third Elder Sister, I didn’t expect grandmother to make such a request.” Wei Qiufu said in a low voice, as if she really regretted that Wei Yuejiao wasn’t selected.

Since the two of them had just argued and made a scene in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, she was apparent making a ridicule of Wei Qiuju with those words.

Wei Yuejiao wasn't someone to be trifled with. She coldly retorted, "Congratulations, Fourth Younger Sister, you are about to enter the Crown Prince Mansion!" However, she landed her gaze fiercely on Wei Yuewu.

Although it was Wei Qiufu who provoked her, the real reason was Wei Yuewu. If the bitch Wei Yuewu hadn't returned to the capital, she would definitely be selected this time. After all, she was the only daughter of her father.

However, the situation was different now with the existence of Wei Yuewu. When other people mentioned her father, they would always mention Wei Yuewu. This was really unbearable for Wei Yuejiao, who had always thought that she was Wei Luowen's only daughter.

As long as Wei Yuewu was alive, there was no chance for her to stand out!

Hearing Wei Yuejiao's words, Wei Qiufu's face turned cold and she scolded harshly, "Third Elder Sister, there are some things you can't say casually. This is the imperial palace, not the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!"

Wei Qiufu had always been dignified and generous in front of others. She was gentle and polite when speaking with people. Now that she scolded Wei Yuejiao with a cold face, Wei Yuejiao felt she looked awesome. Then, she realized that Wei Qiufu was highly likely to enter the Crown Prince Mansion. Besides, Concubine Dong had repeatedly reminded her not to provoke Wei Qiufu. As a result, despite casting a fierce glare at Wei Qiufu, she did not dare to provoke her again.

This was the imperial palace, and they were in the Empress Dowager's Jing Chen Palace. If she made a mistake here, no one would be able to save her. Wei Yuejiao was very clear about this.

A eunuch came over to pass a message, "Young ladies, please take a walk around here. The Empress Dowager still has other instructions later!"

As a result, they all rested in the corridor at the side of the main hall, and no one dared to go away.

Wei Qiufu always had a magnanimous and dignified appearance in public. Whoever saw her would have a nice impression of her. At this time, when the four of them gathered together, she smiled and said to

Wei Yuewu, "Sixth Younger Sister, after three days, we shall enter the imperial palace to accompany the Third Princess. Have you prepared your things?"

She appeared as if she really had nothing to do with those conspiracies against Wei Yuewu, nor had she ever secretly tried to hurt Wei Yuewu time and time again.

"I don't know what to prepare, so I just casually brought a few dresses with me." Wei Yuewu smiled slightly and replied softly. Since Wei Qiufu had started a play of sisterhood, she would naturally cooperate.

"A few dresses may not be enough. I don't know if grandmother has prepared some gorgeous dresses for you. On the last day, we are going to worship the mountains and rivers with the Third Princess. The dress you are wearing now may not be suitable." Wei Qiufu's gaze fell on the light lotus-colored dress that Wei Yuewu was wearing.

It was an eight-folded plain-colored dress, which actually fitted well with Wei Yuewu's elegant and beautiful look. She had tender skin and exquisite facial features. At the sight of her, anyone would be deeply impressed and admit that she was an unadorned but stunning beauty.

However, this also made people jealous of her.

"Thank you, Fourth Elder Sister. I will ask grandmother after going back!" Wei Yuewu smiled at Wei Qiufu and said calmly.

"Third Elder Sister, I wonder if you have such a suitable dress. If you have..." Wei Yuewu suddenly turned to look at Wei Yuejiao, who was stunned at first. But after seeing the faint smile on Wei Yuewu's face, Wei Yuejiao immediately became angry.

"What do you mean?" Wei Yuejiao asked angrily.

"Third Elder Sister, I don't mean anything else. I just want to ask if you have it or not. If you have, then there is no need for me to bother grandmother!" Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Yuejiao in surprise, looking innocent as if she did not understand why Wei Yuejiao was angry.

However, this expression made Wei Yuejiao even angrier. Wei Yuewu was showing off! How could the proud Wei Yuejiao endure this?

She had always believed that she would marry better than Wei Yuewu.

She never thought that she would be suppressed by Wei Yuewu one day. At this moment, her face turned red with anger. She pointed at Wei Yuewu and shouted angrily, "Wei Yuewu, don't be proud because you can accompany the Third Princess to pray..."

"Third Elder Sister, please be careful with your words!" Wei Qiufu suddenly raised her voice and shouted.

At this time, the four of them were facing each other in two pairs. Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiufu stood side by side, while Wei Yuejiao and Wei Qiuju were together. At this time, a eunuch came out. Seeing them in the corridor, he hurried over. It seemed that the masters in the hall had some instructions.

After what happened yesterday, Wei Qiufu deeply looked down upon Wei Yuejiao. However, Wei Yuejiao was still useful to her, and she did not want Wei Yuejiao to really run into trouble here. That was why she reminded her.

Normally, Wei Yuejiao would listen to her. However, the two of them just quarreled yesterday. In addition, Wei Qiufu also provoked her just now. Therefore, Wei Yuejiao didn't pay any attention to Wei Qiufu.

"Fourth Younger Sister, you haven't even entered the Crown Prince Mansion yet and you're already acting as if you are the Crown Princess? You'll have to wait until you become the real Crown Princess!" Wei Yuejiao exploded and vented all her anger on Wei Qiufu with a sneer.

Wei Qiufu did not expect Wei Yuejiao to be so outspoken. When she saw the shock in the eunuch's eyes, her face turned green and white. She almost flew into a rage out of humiliation. However, she had always been very scheming. At this time, she suppressed the anger in her heart and lowered her head. The corners of her eyes immediately turned red.

“Third Elder Sister, you... How can you say those words? I... I was just reminding you that this is the Empress Dowager’s Jing Chen Palace. We can’t speak casually!”

At this time, Wei Qiufu put on a nice play and acted as a younger sister who had been wronged. Needless to say, Wei Yuejiao was the arrogant and domineering evil sister who acted against the etiquette.

Although Wei Qiufu wanted to help save Wei Yuejiao’s reputation, she naturally cared more about her own reputation. At this time, she followed Wei Yuewu’s example and stepped on Wei Yuejiao.

Wei Yuewu saw Wei Qiufu’s performance and sneered in her heart. Wei Qiufu still wanted to gang up with Wei Yuejiao and Concubine Dong to deal with her. With today’s incident, even if Concubine Dong would try her best to improve the relationship between Wei Yuejiao and Wei Qiufu, it would be difficult for the two of them to be as intimate as before.

She must deal with Concubine Dong and Wei Qiufu separately...

“Young ladies, please come to the side hall for an inquiry procedure!” After the initial shock upon hearing what Wei Yuejiao said, the eunuch announced.

## Chapter 278 – One After Another, The Monk In The Side Hall

Wei Yuewu was very surprised upon hearing the instruction for them to go to the side hall at this time. If the Empress Dowager, the Empress, or even the Crown Prince Wen Tianyao summoned them, they could all choose the main hall. Why would they have to go to the side hall?

What surprised Wei Yuewu even more was that there was actually a monk in the side hall.

“Benefactresses, the Empress Dowager asked me to take a look at your palms!” The monk had a kind and amiable smile on his face. He looked at the young ladies who had just entered. The kasaya he wore was sparkling and dazzling.

Master Fenghe? Wei Yuewu frowned. That day, she went with Yan Huaijing to see this highly respected Master Fenghe. Later, she also knew that this Master Fenghe was the former heir-apparent of Prefectural Prince Huai and was of the royal bloodline. But since he kept a low profile and hid in the Plum Blossom Nunnery, why did he appear in the imperial palace this time?

Moreover, it was impossible for him to do such a thing as palm reading for the sake of the few of them for no reason!

However, Master Fenghe was sitting right in front of her, preparing to take a look at the hands of the young ladies of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

Wei Yuewu was surprised when she saw another eunuch coming in with a few other ladies, who stood right behind her in a queue. Apparently, Master Fenghe was also going to read their palms.

Palm reading was actually very simple. The person just needed to walk to the front of Master Fenghe, reach out her right hand, and quietly put it in front of him. Master Fenghe would occasionally ask a few questions.

After Wei Yuewu placed her hand in front of Master Fenghe, Master Fenghe quietly cast a look at it. Suddenly, he raised his head and looked at Wei Yuewu thoughtfully. "Benefactress, have you seen me before?"

Wei Yuewu's heart skipped a beat, but she did not show any sign of shock on her face. Instead, she looked a little confused. "Who are you, master? I have only just arrived in the capital and have never met you before!"

Master Fenghe looked up at the young girl in front of him. Human words were simply hard to describe her beauty. If he had really seen such a young girl, he would definitely not forget her. However, he just felt that her palm print was somewhat familiar, but he could not remember where he had seen such an outstanding young girl.

"Benefactress, which mansion are you from?" A smile appeared on Master Fenghe's slightly plump face as he looked at Wei Yuewu kindly.

“The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.” Wei Yuewu said with clear eyes.

She looked at Master Fenghe without avoiding his gaze. She only appeared a little curious, just like a thirteen-year-old girl who still had a bit of childishness.

“I heard that the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang has a Sixth Young Lady who just entered the capital. Could it be that you are the Sixth Young Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang?” Master Fenghe pondered for a moment and looked at Wei Yuewu. After quite a while, he said, “The only daughter of Marquis Hua Yang, the true legitimate daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!”

These words were uttered very slowly, almost word by word. For some reason, Wei Yuewu felt a sense of familiarity from Master Fenghe’s words. Her heart skipped a beat. Could it be that this Master Fenghe knew her mother?

Hearing Master Fenghe said that Wei Yuewu was the true legitimate daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuejiao’s expressions changed slightly, and they looked at Wei Yuewu with a bit of jealousy.

If Wei Yuewu was the true legitimate daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, then what were the two of them?

“Master, have you seen my mother?” Wei Yuewu asked very naturally, looking at Master Fenghe with her bright and watery eyes.

Master Fenghe’s expression suddenly changed as he observed the expression on Wei Yuewu’s face in shock.

“Master, master!” The eunuch who was standing beside Master Fenghe also saw his surprise and called out in a low voice.

“You were born by Marquise Hua Yang?” Master Fenghe came back to his senses and asked Wei Yuewu again, despite the fact that he himself had given an affirmative comment on Wei Yuewu before.



“Yes, master. Do you know my mother?” Wei Yuewu asked in surprise.

“I don’t know her!” Master Fenghe shook his head. He lowered his head and looked at Wei Yuewu’s palm print again. Then, he shook his hand.

“Next one!” The eunuch received Master Fenghe’s signal and announced.

Wei Yuewu obediently stood to the side and made room for the next young lady. Another young lady walked over. She followed the eunuch’s instruction and placed her right hand palm up for Master Fenghe to have a look.

“Sixth Younger Sister, what does this master want to do?” Wei Qiufu suddenly squeezed to Wei Yuewu’s side and asked.

She couldn’t help but be puzzled. This master’s behavior was too strange. No matter what, it was unimaginable to invite a monk to the imperial palace to take read the palms of aristocratic young ladies.

Wei Yuewu shook her head. “I don’t know either!”

In her heart, she also felt that this mysterious Master Fenghe’s behavior was quite strange. She did not understand why this mysterious Master Fenghe kept asking her the same question. After personally saying that she was the true legitimate daughter of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, he asked her again whether she was Marquis Hua Yang’s legitimate daughter. From whichever perspective, people would feel that there was something wrong.

“Could it be that palm reading is one of the criteria for selecting the Crown Princess?” Wei Qiufu asked.

Palm reading was one of the criteria for selecting the Crown Princess? Wei Yuewu also had the same doubt. Judging from the current situation, it seemed to be a reasonable guess, but she couldn’t tell how exactly it was strange. She simply remained silent and stood there watching.

Wei Qiufu did not ask any more question. She only frowned as she watched the scene in front of her. Compared to Wei Yuewu, she was more concerned about what was happening. Was palm reading really related to the selection of the Crown Princess?

Fortunately, the next few young ladies were all waved away after their palms were read. In other words, no one was different from others. Wei Qiufu heaved a sigh of relief.

After reading the palms of all the young ladies, Master Fenghe left, and Wei Yuewu and the others were brought out of the side hall. Not long after, several old ladies came out and boarded their sedans that had been placed on the side. Then, the sedans headed straight out of the palace.

At the palace gate, the carriages of various families had also been waiting. When they saw their masters coming out, the coachmen hurriedly drove the carriages over.

The mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's carriages drove straight back to the mansion.

After the Madam Dowager took a few steps in the front, she turned to Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu and said, "Qiufu and Yuewu, come with me to Tranquility Courtyard."

"Yes, grandmother!" Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu answered in unison. Wei Yuejiao, who was standing at the side, rubbed her handkerchief in jealousy.

Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu were chosen to enter the palace to accompany the Third Princess to pray for the prosperity of the country. How could she be willing to accept the result? She, Wei Yuejiao, was clearly the most favored daughter of this mansion. Why were Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu selected in the end?

By comparison, Wei Qiuju was very calm. She had figured it out now, knowing that she was no match for any of the other sisters. Now, she did not dare to have any improper thought of confronting with any of them, especially Wei Yuewu, a towering and insurmountable existence in her heart.

Wei Yuejiao was truly unwilling to be eliminated just like this. She couldn't help but ask, "Grandmother... I... I also want to go to your courtyard!"

“Grandmother, I...” Wei Qiuju had something on her mind. When she heard Wei Yuejiao speak, she also quickly followed suit. Wei Fengyao had spread rumors about her. Who knew what would happen next? At this time, she also wanted to ask the Madam Dowager for help.

“You two go back to your own courtyards first. I have something important to talk about with Qiufu and Yuewu. If you have anything important, come to see me tomorrow!” The Madam Dowager frowned and said impatiently.

The Madam Dowager did have some things to tell Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu, so she had no time for Wei Yuejiao and Wei Qiuju.

“Yes, grandmother!” Upon hearing the Madam Dowager’s rebuke, Wei Qiuju did not dare to say anything and quickly lowered her head.

Although Wei Yuejiao was unwilling, she could only grit her teeth and watch as Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu followed the Madam Dowager. Then, she snorted angrily. With a flash of her sleeve, she headed straight for Concubine Dong’s courtyard.

In the courtyard, Concubine Dong was looking at the accounting books. Ever since she entered the mansion, a part of the matters in the mansion had been handled by her. She had always done a better job than Lady Zhang. In the past, she and Lady Li were on par with each other. Now that she was facing Lady Zhang, she was naturally even more at ease. On the surface, everything in the mansion seemed to be handled by Lady Zhang, but in reality, more than half of the decisions were made by her.

Wei Yuejiao walked in angrily. She threw the handkerchief in her hand on the table and said angrily, “Concubine, grandmother actually only let two people enter the palace to accompany the Third Princess. This is too much. I am clearly father’s only daughter!”

Concubine Dong carefully looked at Wei Yuejiao’s expression and smiled, “Yuejiao, don’t worry. Isn’t the Fourth Princess also going to hold a praying ceremony? Compared with the Fourth Princess, what is the Third Princess?”

These words reminded Wei Yuejiao. Her face lit up. She reached out to pull Concubine Dong’s sleeve and asked anxiously, “Concubine, are you saying that when the Fourth Princess reaches the

marriageable age, the Empress will also invite our mansion's young ladies? The two of them have been invited this time, so it is impossible for them to go there again?"

The Fourth Princess was the legitimate daughter of the Empress. By comparison, the Third Princess was a lot more inferior in terms of status.

Of course, accompanying the Fourth Princess to pray was a much greater honor!

"That might not be the case. Yuejiao, your status is destined to be a bit low!" The meaning of Concubine Dong's words was very profound, and Wei Yuejiao almost jumped up uncontrollably.

"Concubine, before we entered the capital, you promised me that you would immediately become the Marquise and I would become a legitimate daughter. But how come Wei Yuewu is still the only legitimate daughter now? She has the upper hand against me in all aspects."

Wei Yuejiao was really anxious now.

"Yuejiao, don't worry. In a few days, your uncle will come to visit us!" Concubine Dong's smile became more and more meaningful.

"Uncle? Where did I get such an uncle? Didn't you say that you were the only one who ran out of your mansion at that time? You said you had no other brothers or sisters. When did I have an uncle?"

Wei Yuejiao had heard Concubine Dong talk about this before. She could not help but ask in shock. She had never known that she had an uncle.

"Well, you will have one soon, and he is also your biological uncle!" A trace of pride appeared on the corners of Concubine Dong's lips. She wasn't completely without a backer. If this 'elder brother' accepted her as his sister, she would definitely become Marquise Hua Yang.

A powerful brother? That was actually something she could make for herself. When she put her cards on the table, her status would not be inferior to that of Lady Li. It was just a matter of time before she became Marquise Hua Yang.

“Yuejiao, let Jinzhu go to the back door later to receive something. Someone will send it over!”  
Concubine Dong slowly said. With this thing, what she said would be more convincing...

## Chapter 279 – Preparation, An Audience With Wei Luowen

“Concubine, what is it?” Wei Yuejiao widened her eyes and asked in confusion.

“You don’t need to know too much. You just need to know that this thing is very important to me!”  
Concubine Dong smiled, but there was a hint of coldness in her eyes.

So what if that wretched girl Wei Yuewu had the upper hand? She had made preparations long before.

In the Tranquility Courtyard, the Madam Dowager said, “The two of you will be entering the palace soon and accompany the Third Princess to pray. The Third Princess is going to choose a husband. Neither of you is allowed to get involved!” The Madam Dowager sat on the high seat and looked at Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu as she warned them.

“Yes, grandmother!” Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu certainly understood the meaning of the words of the Madam Dowager. Those heirs-apparent had been in the capital for a long time.

“Grandmother, I won’t run to trouble, but Sixth Younger Sister...” Wei Qiufu’s face was full of concern as if she was really worried about Wei Yuewu. Although the Crown Prince did not make his final decision clear, he had at least kept her token, which meant that she was selected by the Crown Prince. Therefore, the Third Princess could not have any thought about her.

Nevertheless, Wei Yuewu was not engaged!

Wei Qiufu’s words reminded the Madam Dowager. She looked at Wei Yuewu and her eyes flashed. After a while, she slowly said, “Yuewu, you and Marquis Jing Yuan have broken off your marriage engagement. Now you really don’t have an engagement. If the Third Princess really asks you to...”

Her gaze fell on Wei Yuewu. It was so sharp that it almost pierced through Wei Yuewu. Wei Yuewu raised her head and looked at the Madam Dowager in a frank and forthright manner.

“Actually, it’s not a big deal. You just need to be careful. You are the daughter of Marquis Hua Yang, and your status is very noble. Just don’t do anything that will damage the reputation of the mansion!” The Madam Dowager suddenly changed the topic.

However, these words were extremely unpleasant to hear. They should not be said to a young lady like Wei Yuewu who had not yet married. Wei Yuewu’s face turned cold. The Madam Dowager was warning her!

“Madam Dowager, our Sixth Young Lady is the most dignified. Nothing will happen to her. Madam Dowager, you really care about the Sixth Young Lady!” Nanny Hong joked with a smile on the side, trying to make the atmosphere less serious.

“Yes, grandmother!” Wei Yuewu lowered her head and answered, flickering her long eyelashes to hide the coldness in her watery eyes.

“Yuewu, don’t blame me for being so worried about you. Qiufu is set to enter the Crown Prince Mansion, but your identity is currently unknown. Even though your status is noble, the imperial palace is not a place that our mansion can compare with. Remember, don’t trouble the Empress unless necessary.”

Seeing that Wei Yuewu was obedient, the Madam Dowager’s expression became gentle. After thinking for a while, she uttered those words as a reminder to Wei Yuewu.

“The Empress?” Wei Yuewu looked quite surprised. “When I am with the Third Princess in the palace, will I meet the Empress?”

“Sixth Young Lady, the Madam Dowager just said those words as a reminder. The Empress is in charge of the harem. She doesn’t have so much time to care about the young ladies. If you encounter any trouble, just bear with it. After a few days, you will return to the mansion!” Nanny Hong explained for the Madam Dowager with a smile.

“Yes, grandmother, I understand!” Wei Yuewu said softly.

The Madam Dowager was very satisfied with her attitude. She said to Nanny Hong, "Go and bring the clothes I prepared for the two of them."

"Yes, Madam Dowager!" Nanny Hong answered with a smile and entered the inner room. A while later, she came out holding a large tray, on which there were two sets of clothes.

"Fourth Young Lady, Sixth Young Lady, the Madam Dowager has already decided to let the two of you enter the palace to accompany the Third Princess. These clothes have already been prepared for you two. You will be wearing them on the last day when you accompany the Third Princess to pray."

The two sets of clothes were placed in front of the two of them. They were indeed incomparably beautiful. The surfaces of the clothes were decorated with many gold threads that shone brightly with dazzling light. At the sight of them, people would feel that these clothes were incomparably gorgeous and were worthy of wearing on a grand occasion such as accompanying the princess to pray.

Of course, these clothes were not made of ordinary brocade.

Apparently, the Madam Dowager had indeed been making preparations for a period of time.

"Thank you, grandmother!" The two of them bowed together.

"No need. No matter what, you two are legitimate daughters of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. You have higher statuses than others and must learn to care about each other as sisters do!" The Madam Dowager smiled kindly. At this time, it seemed that she was really just a loving grandmother.

"I'm tired too. You two can go back now!" The Madam Dowager waved her hand, and Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuewu left together. Both of them had doubts in their hearts, so they did not have the mood to say anything to each other. They separated at the gate of Tranquility Courtyard and went to their respective courtyard.

Wei Yuewu had only taken a few steps when she saw an old maidservant hurriedly walking over. She was delighted when she saw Wei Yuewu and hurriedly bowed. "Sixth Young Lady, Lord Marquis invites you to his study!"

“Father?” Wei Yuewu was stunned.

“Yes, Sixth Young Lady, hurry over. Lord Marquis has been waiting for you for a while!” The Old maidservant said with a smile.

“Alright, let’s go!” Wei Yuewu was a little surprised to learn that her father had actually been waiting for her for a while. Her eyes flashed, but she did not show anything on her face. She turned and walked towards the flower gate. Wei Luowen’s study was also close to the flower gate, but it was in the opposite direction to Wei Luowu’s study.

“Greetings, Sixth Young Lady.” Wei Yuewu did not expect to see Concubine Dong at the entrance of Wei Luowu’s courtyard, who greeted her with a happy look on her face.

“Concubine, you are here to...” Wei Yuewu’s eyes fell on the food basket that the maid behind Concubine Dong was carrying.

“I made some sweet soup for Lord Marquis. When we were at the border, Lord Marquis always had sweet soup at this time!” Concubine Dong said with a smile on her face.

“Has my father had the soup?” Wei Yuewu asked softly.

“Not yet. He asked me to put it down and said he would have it later!” Concubine Dong’s looked not bad, and she appeared gentle and amiable, as if she was not affected at all after being punished with protracted kneeling by the Madam Dowager.

“Then why didn’t you wait for father to finish the soup before leaving?” Wei Yuewu’s eyes flashed.

“Lord Marquis said that Sixth Young Lady was coming soon. He was afraid that my presence would make it inconvenient for you to speak, so he asked me to go back first!” Concubine Dong didn’t look the slightest bit annoyed at being driven away. She spoke more and more gently, but she had no intention of making way for Wei Yuewu.



"Sixth Young Lady, for so many years, Lord Marquis has been missing you. Originally, Lord Marquis wanted to bring you with him, but he was afraid that your health conditions were poor and you could not adapt to the life at the border. That was why he sent you to your maternal grandparents' home. Sixth Young Lady, please show understanding for what Lord Marquis has done for you!"

Concubine Dong sounded more and more sincere. However, she was hinting that Wei Yuewu definitely hated Wei Luowen because of what he had done to her. And now, they happened to be standing and speaking at the entrance of the courtyard where Wei Luowen's study was located. Apparently, she intended to let Wei Luowen know Wei Yuewu's resentment. What a truly vicious woman she was!

Staring at the sincere expression on Concubine Dong's face, Wei Yuewu smiled and suppressed the trace of impatience in her heart. "Concubine Dong, you must be joking. Father is my flesh and blood, so how could I hate him? Moreover, I was still young at that time. Father had sent me to my maternal grandparents' home for my own good. Why did you say those words?"

When she spoke, she appeared both natural and graceful, and her expression was calm and composed. There wasn't the slightest trace of fluctuation in her expression, as if she really could sense Wei Luowen's feelings for her.

Concubine Dong was stunned. Although she knew Wei Yuewu was clever, she did not expect her to be so calm and composed. She had been abandoned by her father for so many years and her father didn't show any trace of care for her in those years. However, as a girl who was only thirteen years old, she was actually unperturbed by the unfair treatment she had received. This really wasn't what a thirteen-year-old girl could do.

"It's best if Sixth Young Lady thinks this way. Lord Marquis is your father. If you have any thought, you can also tell Lord Marquis. Don't feel estranged with him!" Concubine Dong said as she stepped to the side to make way.

This Concubine Dong was really tricky. Her words were full of traps, and she was determined to make people believe she harboured resentment against her father over the unfair treatment she had received over the years.

"How can there be estrangement between a father and his daughter? They are a family and have the same blood running on them. How can they become estranged because of time? In the past, when I was at my maternal grandparents' home, my grandmother often talked about my father. She said that my

father was a hero and my mother had a worthy marriage!” Wei Yuewu’s face was filled with sorrow as she lowered her head and said indifferently.

Since Concubine Dong stopped her from going to the study, she wasn’t going to let her leave at this time. Concubine Dong wanted to talk about some past events, right? She wanted her father to think that she was unfilial. That was fine. She would like to deal with Concubine Dong as she dealt with her.

“Concubine Dong, do you still remember my mother?” Wei Yuewu tilted her foot and coincidentally blocked Concubine Dong’s path. At this moment, there was no way for Concubine Dong to leave.

Qin Xinrui was the eternal pain in Wei Luowen’s heart. Concubine Dong had served Wei Luowen for so many years, how could she not know this? So she tried her best not to mention her, as if this person had never existed.

After hearing Wei Yuewu mention the name, her heart skipped a beat. She knew Lord Marquis was in the yard. He must have heard what she said with this bitch. Qin Xinrui was the last person she wanted Lord Marquis to think about.

“Sixth Young Lady, let bygones be bygones. Now you have to care more about Lord Marquis. Lord Marquis’ health is not good, you need to be considerate of him.”

Concubine Dong avoided Wei Yuewu’s topic and seemed to be reminding Wei Yuewu.

“Concubine Dong, do you still remember my mother? Did my mother treat my father well at that time?” However, Wei Yuewu did not intend to let her go. She continued to ask softly, “My mother passed away early, leaving me and father behind. However, I was too young at that time and could not live with my father and be filial to him. I felt deeply guilty.”

These words sounded extremely sorrowful, and there was a faint trace of a sad smile on her pale face, which made people involuntarily feel pity for her.

She had lost her birth mother and was sent away at a young age. Such a life was indeed miserable!

Wei Luowen, who was standing in the courtyard, could no longer bear it. He strode over and waved at Concubine Dong. Then, he softly said to Wei Yuewu, "Your mother treated me very well. Your mother is the best woman in the world. Father has let your mother down!"

"Father, why... why are you here?" Wei Yuewu seemed to have just realized that Wei Luowen was not far away, and her face was full of surprise.

"Come in first. I have something to tell you!" Wei Luowen's expression became gentler, and the deep scar on his face seemed to have faded a lot.

"Yes, father!" Wei Yuewu nodded and stepped aside to make way for Concubine Dong. She saw a trace of hatred in Concubine Dong's eyes. Her long eyelashes flashed to hide the coldness in her eyes. Then, she turned around and followed Wei Luowen to the study.

However, she couldn't help but wonder why her father had specially asked her to come over at this time. Was it because she was about to enter the imperial palace? What exactly happened in the imperial palace when she was a little girl?

## Chapter 280 – Rare And Exquisite Pastry

In the study, Wei Luowen's eyes fell on Wei Yuewu. His expression was complicated. This was the daughter she had risked her life to give birth to for him. How could he not cherish her! Nevertheless, he had no choice but to do so. He had no choice but to ignore her existence...

"Father!" Seeing that Wei Luowen did not speak for a long time, Wei Yuewu called out softly.

Wei Luowen suddenly woke up and coughed softly. "I heard that you are going to the imperial palace accompany the Third Princess to pray?"

"Yes, a decree has already been issued before. Originally, Third Elder Sister was also going. But today, when we entered the palace, grandmother said that if the four of us were all selected, the honor would be too great for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. Therefore, she asked the Empress Dowager to keep only two." Wei Yuewu specifically mentioned Wei Yuejiao.

"It has nothing to do with your Third Elder Sister." Looking at Wei Yuewu's slightly cautious gaze, Wei Luowen felt a wave of sorrow in his heart. He clenched the hand that had been placed on the side, and only after a long while did he slowly loosen it. "When you are in the palace, be careful. The palace is not the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, and there are many things that are out of your reach. Also..."

Wei Luowen paused for a moment. "As for the Empress, don't disturb her for no reason. In the past, when your mother was alive, the Empress didn't like her!"

His words of concern were more direct than what the Madam Dowager had said in her courtyard just now. Wei Yuewu was shocked.

Could it be that Empress Tu, the birth mother of the Crown Prince, was related to mother in some way? Then what about the Crown Prince?

After the matter of her entering the palace was settled, not only did the Madam Dowager implicitly ask her not to get too close to the Empress, but even her father had specially called her over to give her the same suggestions. Wei Yuewu would never believe it was merely a coincidence.

"Father, did the Empress and my mother know each other?" Wei Yuewu's face was full of surprise. Her long eyelashes fluttered twice, and her clear eyes carried the curiosity of an innocent young daughter. However, this kind of gaze made Wei Luowen feel even more uncomfortable.

Suppressing the sorrow in his heart, Wei Luowen answered, "They don't know each other, but your mother went into the palace to see the Empress a few times."

"Then why did the Empress dislike my mother if they were not familiar with each other at all?" Wei Yuewu continued to ask. She had seen Empress Tu several times and did not find anything unusual.

Moreover, when the wives of high-ranking officials had an audience with the Empress, they only greeted and spoke to her as per the etiquette. There were so many ladies, and Empress Tu might not have time to speak with Marquise Hua Yang. How come the Empress disliked her? Moreover, judging from what the Madam Dowager and her father had said, this kind of dislike was likely to continue and target her.

Although Wei Yuewu was not clear about Empress Tu's character, as the Empress of a country, she didn't lack the necessary magnanimity. It was impossible for her to dislike the daughter of an official simply because she disliked his wife. There must be something that she did not know about.

Moreover, it was impossible for a person like her father to seriously mention the Empress.

"What if the Empress wants me to go over and see her?" Wei Yuewu asked tentatively.

"She won't!" Wei Luowen shook his head and said.

"But..." Wei Yuewu refused to give up and wanted to ask more, but she was interrupted by Wei Luowen. "Yuewu, you just need to do your best to accompany the Third Princess. Don't cause any trouble. The Empress is the noblest woman in the country. Even if she doesn't like your mother, she won't do anything to you!" Wei Luowen's words became increasingly vaguer, and even slightly contradicted what he had said before, which made Wei Yuewu more confused.

But this also showed that Wei Luowen had become cautious!

"Yes, father!" Wei Yuewu knew that it was impossible to obtain any useful information from Wei Luowen at this time. She changed the topic and her eyes fell on a bowl of sweet soup and a few pieces of delicate pastry in front of Wei Luowen. "Father, is this pastry made by Concubine Dong? Concubine Dong is really clever and can make such delicate and beautiful pastry."

"The pastry made by Concubine Dong is really nice. Yuewu, try it!" Wei Luowen saw that Wei Yuewu's eyes were happily landed on the pastry. He smiled and pushed the plate of pastry to Wei Yuewu. "But this is the first time I have seen Concubine Dong make such exquisite pastry."

"Hasn't Concubine Dong made such exquisite pastry before?" Wei Yuewu's heart skipped a beat. She reached out to take a piece of pastry and asked as if casually.

Such exquisite pastry was indeed hard to see. When Wei Yuewu was in the imperial palace, she noticed the pastry in Empress Dowager's palace. However, it was still a little inferior compared with the pastry in front of her. In other words, the pastry that Concubine Dong made was actually better than the pastry made by the cooks in Empress Dowager's palace?

This was really hard for Wei Yuewu to believe.

She picked up the pastry and took a bite. It was extremely fragrant. Apparently, the pastry was not inferior to the ones made in the palace in terms of both appearance and taste.

Concubine Dong's cooking skills were actually so good?

"Concubine Dong has been living with me at the border. How can there be any exquisite pastry at the border? This should be what she learned to make after returning to the capital!" Seeing Wei Yuewu was so impressed by the pastry, Wei Luowen couldn't help but take a few more glances at it. Although he had seen it before, he didn't take it seriously.

"This seems to be made with the help of a mold. There's actually such a delicate mold!" Seeing the several pieces of pastry that were exactly the same, Wei Yuewu could not hide the joy in her eyes. It was obvious that she really liked the pastry.

"Ask Concubine Dong later where her mold is. If you like it, you can borrow it from her!" Wei Luowen said casually. He didn't care about the pastry at all.

"Then I'll go find Concubine Dong in a while!" Wei Yuewu covered her mouth and smiled.

Seeing that Wei Yuewu really liked the pastry, Wei Luowen could not help but reveal a smile and suggest, "Well, how about letting my lad servant go and get it for you now?"

"That's good. Thank you so much, father!" Wei Yuewu put down the pastry in her hand, stood up, bowed towards Wei Luowen, and said with a smile.

Seeing his innocent and lovely daughter's carefree expression, Wei Luowen felt inexplicably sour. He waved his hand and ordered the lad servant beside him, "Go to Concubine Dong's place and bring the pastry mold over. Tell her that the Sixth Young Lady likes it! Take the mold here and then send it to the Sixth Young Lady's courtyard."

"Yes!" The lad servant answered and retreated.

"Father, how many times has Concubine Dong made this kind of pastry?" Wei Yuewu sat down again. She took another bite of the pastry and praised, "It's really delicious!"

"If you like it, then take it with you!" Wei Luowen laughed.

"Oh, father, then I really won't be polite." There was some crumbs hanging on the corner of Wei Yuewu's mouth, but she seemed to be eating happily. Seeing his little daughter was so happy, Wei Luowen's gloomy mood also improved a little, and his eyes were filled with unconcealable tenderness.

"There's no need to be polite with your father. But you have to go to the kitchen in a while and take a few plates of pastry for me to treat my guest." Wei Luowen laughed.

"Father, is there a guest coming?" Wei Yuewu put down the pastry in her hand, wiped her hands with a handkerchief, and asked curiously.

Ever since Wei Luowen returned to the mansion, he hadn't received any guest. It was said that he was scheduled to have an audience with the Emperor. He had been staying in the mansion to recuperate. Everyone in the mansion knew that no matter who came, he would not see them.

He was supposed to receive guests only after meeting the Emperor.

"Yes, a special guest is coming." Wei Luowen smiled and nodded.

"What kind of guest is so special?" Wei Yuewu looked puzzled. "Father, how about I accompanying you to meet the guest in a while? I want to see what kind of special guest he is that even you treat him differently."

Seeing that Wei Yuewu had completely abandoned her usual cold image, Wei Luowen felt much better. He reached out and caressed Wei Yuewu in the head. "It's not a different treatment. He has been father's friend for many years. He happens to be in the capital and therefore we meet today!"

Well, the relationship between this guest and father must be very unusual. Otherwise, father would not see him at this time. And Concubine Dong's pastry happened to appear on father's desk. Whoever saw the pastry would be attracted.

Plus the complacent look on Concubine Dong's face just now, from whichever perspective, this matter was not as simple as it seemed on the surface.

Fortunately, this pastry now belonged to her!

"What kind of good friend is he, father?" Wei Yuewu looked like she was really interested in this guest.

"He was born in an aristocratic family and went through a lot of hardships. But now, things have changed!" Wei Luowen sighed. He thought of his good friend and sighed about his fate.

"What's wrong, father? Did something happen to this person?" Wei Yue became even more curious.

"There are indeed some things, but they are all bygones. Whichever aristocratic family doesn't experience some difficulties?" Wei Luowen did not want Wei Yuewu to get involved in such a political battle, so he only said half of the sentence.

Wei Yuewu knew that was as much as Wei Luowen would like to say, so she smiled and asked for leave.

Since the guest was coming soon, Wei Luowen did not keep Wei Yuewu. He let Shufei take the pastry for her.

Wei Yuewu came out of the study with Shufei but did not go away. Instead, she rested at an artificial hill outside the courtyard. The artificial hill was not big, but it was big enough for the two of them to stand there without being found.

When Shufei noticed that Wei Yuewu kept saying that she liked the pastry in the study, she had already found out something unusual. She looked at the pastry in her hand and asked, "Miss, is there something wrong with the pastry?"



“No problem, it’s very delicate. Have you seen it at grandmother’s place?” Wei Yuewu smiled slightly, the corners of her lips curving up.

“No. The Madam Dowager likes this kind of delicate pastry the most, but I definitely have not seen it at the Madam Dowager’s place!” Shufei carefully looked at the pastry in her hand and shook her head with certainty.

The Madam Dowager was getting old. She didn’t eat much, but she liked eating pastry. In order to please her, everyone in the mansion tried to make nice pastry for her. Last time, Wei Yuejiao also made some new pastry. After that, she took the pastry to please the Madam Dowager and set up Wei Yuewu.

How could Concubine Dong, who had always been very good at pleasing the Madam Dowager, forget this? Instead of sending the pastry to the Madam Dowager, how come she sent it to Wei Luowen, who was not very interested in pastry?

“Just wait. It seems that this person should be a very important person, or someone very important to Concubine Dong!” Wei Yuewu looked thoughtfully at the entrance of Wei Luowen’s courtyard and blinked her eyes calmly.

A lad servant was leading a person over, and it was impossible to see clearly from afar...