

## Young Lady 381

### Chapter 381 Powerful and Nonchalant

Wei Qiufu had never expected that Wei Yuewu would put her hands on her. She almost fell off the bridge when she caught the fence aside just in time. She was so surprised that blood drained from her face.

“Enter the Crown Prince Mansion? So what?” Wei Yuewu calmly retracted her hand.

“Wei Yuewu, what do you want?” Wei Qiufu never thought that Wei Yuewu would not only refuse to curry favor with her but also push her down from the bridge. Ashamed and exasperated, she dropped her act, stood up straight, and snapped indignantly.

“I don’t want anything. However, Fourth Elder Sister, did you really not know that someone tried to frame me? Do you want me to go to my father right now and tell him that you were the one who sent those clothes to me? How about the Third Princess’ clothes? As for how the clothes were found in your room, maybe someone was frustrated to witness your sinister plan. There are other Masters in the palace!”

Wei Yuewu walked over and suddenly smiled gently while quipping in a soft tone.

Despite that, her eyes were as clear and cold as ice. Wei Qiufu looked away sheepishly, and her heart skipped a beat. When she interpreted Wei Yuewu’s words, her expression changed.

Indeed, there were other Masters in the palace, including the Third Princess and Fourth Princess. She couldn’t think of anyone except the Fourth Princess who resented the Third Princess and had such abilities and means to do something like this.

The Fourth Princess was the Empress’ biological daughter and the Crown Prince’s sister. If she helped the Third Princess, she would be going up against the Fourth Princess.

“A-Actually, the Third Princess sent someone to bring the clothes over and asked me to give them to you, but she didn’t tell me that the clothes were two of the seven-colored clothes for the Third Princess’ prayer ceremony.” Wei Qiufu gritted her teeth and let out a sigh of relief after she finished speaking.

Did the Third Princess send someone to deliver the clothes? Wei Yuewu smiled coldly. In fact, she had already expected this. She wouldn't have made the move had she not known anything. Besides, there were only a few people in the palace who would do something like this.

However, she didn't know why the Third Princess, who seemed to be kind to her on the surface, was so insidious to harm her, especially on such a special occasion. In the end, Wei Qiufu took the blame for it, and the Third Princess had no choice but to minimize the impact of the matter.

Otherwise, as the person involved, she didn't know what kind of ending would be bestowed upon her if the matter got out of hand. Even if they wouldn't execute her for the sake of her father, she would be punished severely.

The punishment was up to the Third Princess, the victim, to decide.

On the surface, the Third Princess was as gentle as a lamb, but in fact, she was the most ruthless. Her ruthlessness was first shown when Yan Huaijing came to the capital to offer the prisoners, and now in this incident. It seemed that this Third Princess was plotting something against her. Since that was the case, she would have to be even more careful when she entered the palace in the future.

"Fourth Elder Sister, you see, Grandmother wants us sisters to get along with each other and even specially blocked my father outside, but I don't want this matter to die down just like that. What should I do?" Wei Yuewu smiled slightly. Her gaze fell on the Mid-Lake Pavilion, which was far away, and the corners of her lips curled up.

Wei Qiufu was taken aback. She was enraged but didn't dare to flare up. She had come to her senses after the incident in the Madam Dowager's room, and she knew that the Madam Dowager was helping her.

"Sixth Younger Sister, what do you want? Just tell me!" Wei Qiufu gritted her teeth and snapped.

"Fourth Elder Sister, what do you think is the reason that the Third Princess ruined my other clothes except for those sent by Concubine Dong?" Wei Yuewu withdrew her gaze with a faint smile and glanced at Wei Qiufu.

“Well...” Wei Qiufu hesitated for a moment.

“If you don’t want to tell me, forget it!” Wei Yuewu turned around with a determined look.

“Wait! Sixth Younger Sister, you... wait a minute. Second Aunt told me about this,” Wei Qiufu muttered anxiously.

“Second Aunt?” Wei Yuewu was taken aback for a moment. How could Lady Li still have the strength to fight back? Did it mean that the devastating blow the other day was not enough to cripple her?

“Yes. When Concubine Dong entered the mansion, Second Aunt sent someone to tell me about the materials that Concubine Dong gave you. She told me to persuade you to wear clothes made of those materials when we entered the palace, but I don’t know the specific reason. I also told the Third Princess the same thing when she asked me.”

Wei Qiufu had no choice but to answer Wei Yuewu’s question truthfully.

In other words, this did not happen recently, but Lady Li had told her about it long ago, and Wei Qiufu remembered it and told the Third Princess the same thing. Therefore, the Third Princess took advantage of the matter and ruined her other clothes.

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Wei Yuewu smiled coldly. “Fourth Elder Sister, I wonder who is more important in Grandmother’s heart, you or Third Elder Sister?”

“W-What do you mean?” Wei Qiufu was shocked.

“Nothing. I just want to know who is more important between the two of you. Today, Third Elder Sister burned down Grandmother’s kitchen!” Wei Yuewu turned around and approached her. Suddenly, she chuckled softly.

“I-I will go and tell Grandmother in a while to make sure that she will punish Third Elder Sister severely!” Wei Qiufu bit the corner of her lips.

“In that case, you should look more pathetic, because I heard that Third Elder Sister is in a very miserable state right now!” Wei Yuewu said meaningfully. Then, she smiled faintly and left.

Judging from Wei Yuejiao’s personality, she knew that she must be venting her anger in the room! The things in the room were not only Concubine Dong’s, but also Mother’s. She turned around and walked towards the outer courtyard. If her father was around, it would be best...

“Miss... What does Sixth Young Lady mean?” Ming Yan had been following behind Wei Qiufu. She didn’t know what happened, but Wei Yuewu was too imposing just now that she didn’t dare to step forward. After Wei Yuewu left, she came over and asked curiously.

Wei Qiufu’s face flushed red. She was both angry and hateful. When she saw Ming Yan approaching, she became more indignant and slapped her in the face. Ming Yan shrieked in pain, and tears flooded her eyes. “Let’s go! We’ll go and visit Third Elder Sister!”

“M-Miss... A-Are you sure that you want to visit the Third Young Lady like this?” Ming Yan asked timidly as she covered her face.

“Yes, we need to go right now!” Wei Qiufu gritted her teeth.

Wei Yuewu’s meaning was too obvious. She clearly wanted her to go and deal with Wei Yuejiao, or she would not let the matters in the palace die down. After comparing the pros and cons, Wei Qiufu obviously knew that Wei Yuejiao was the easier target.

When she heard that Wei Yuejiao was scalded and burnt, she wanted to see what the usually arrogant Wei Yuejiao was like now.

“Yes!” Seeing that Wei Qiufu was clenching her teeth in dismay, Ming Yan did not dare to say anything and she hurriedly nodded.

The two of them went to Wei Yuejiao's courtyard.

Wei Yuejiao's room was a mess. All the precious porcelain items were smashed into pieces. She flared up after Doctor Ming applied his special ointment to her wounds.

When she heard that she was going to have scars on her body, Wei Yuejiao was furious. She smashed whatever she saw. Even the few maids in the room were more or less injured by her actions.

After Doctor Ming left, Concubine Dong was hurriedly called away by her maids because something had happened on the geomancer's side. Without anyone controlling her, Wei Yuejiao became angrier and angrier, and she smashed all the artifacts in the room.

"M-Miss... F-Fourth Young Lady is here," a maid timidly came over to report.

"What is she doing here?" Wei Yuejiao was enraged and rebuked in a bad mood.

"I don't know, but Fourth Young Lady looks very miserable, and her face is swollen," the maid replied in a low voice.

Wei Yuejiao pondered for a moment. Jinzhu hurried over and said in a low voice, "Third Miss, I'll have someone clean this place up, otherwise..."

Jinzhu clearly meant to say that they should not let Wei Qiufu see the mess in the room.

Wei Yuejiao's eyes turned cold. At this time, she regained her composure and coldly ordered the maid, "Hurry up and clean this place up!"

"Clean up all the broken porcelain in this room. What the hell were you doing just now?! How could you let a cat into Third Miss' room! It destroyed all the porcelain and even disturbed Miss! Do you all want to die?!"

Yuzhu, who was standing on the other side, darted her eyes around and immediately scolded the other maids.

Immediately, a few little maids came over and cleaned up the broken porcelain pieces in the room while trembling.

“Miss, I will go out and ask Fourth Young Lady what the matter is. You should take a rest!” Since Yuzhu had already taken the cleaning task, the clever Jinzhu offered herself to stop Wei Qiufu from entering. This room had to be cleaned up before anyone got in.

Wei Yuejiao nodded and sat down with a sullen face. She endured the pain in her hands and secretly pondered about the purpose of Wei Qiufu’s visit. The relationship between the two of them was no longer the same as before!

“Greetings, Fourth Young Lady!” Jinzhu bowed and stopped Wei Qiufu. After observing her condition carefully, Jinzhu found out that there was a swollen palm print on both Wei Qiufu’s and Ming Yan’s faces. It was as if both of them had been slapped. She couldn’t help but be surprised.

“How are Third Elder Sister’s injuries?” Wei Qiufu asked calmly.

“She’s getting better, and she’s sleeping now,” Jinzhu replied with an awkward expression, hoping that Wei Qiufu would go back on her own. After all, Wei Yuejiao was not in the mood to entertain guests.

“It’s okay. I’m just visiting Third Elder Sister!” Unexpectedly, Wei Qiufu, who was usually the best at judging people, seemed to not understand anything today. She waved her hand, turned her feet, and was about to go in.

They hadn’t finished cleaning up the room yet!

Jinzhu felt a chill down her spine. She quickly turned around, stood in front of Wei Qiufu, and forced a smile while saying, “Fourth Young Lady, allow me to wake our Miss up.”

“Third Elder Sister and I are sisters. I don’t mind it!” Wei Qiufu glared at Jinzhu with displeasure after being stopped once again and pulled a long face. “Are you trying to stop me from seeing Third Elder Sister?”

At this point, Jinzhu dared not stop her. She hurriedly stepped back and gave way. Then, she said with a smile, “What are you talking about, Fourth Young Lady? I won’t dare to stop you!”

“Let’s go!” Wei Qiufu grunted with a cold face.

She brought Ming Yan inside with an unkind expression. Wei Yuejiao, who was in the room, heard it and showed anger on her face. In the past, Wei Qiufu would always be polite and judge people’s expressions keenly, but she insisted on coming in to see her this time. Was she here to mock her?

At the thought of this, Wei Yuejiao was dismayed. She felt that she was extremely respected in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. In terms of status, she was the daughter of Marquis Hua Yang. She was completely different from Wei Qiufu, who came from a weak third branch. Did Wei Qiufu think that she was an easy target and came here to bully her?

Dream on! No matter what Wei Qiufu wanted to do today, she would retaliate!

She sat up straight and glared at the door angrily. Just as she was waiting for Wei Qiufu to come in, the curtain at the door was lifted, and Wei Qiufu, who was also in a somewhat miserable state, walked in.

Just as she stepped in, she cried out in alarm...

## Chapter 382 Dogfight

Wei Qiufu had just stepped into the door when she cried out in alarm. Her body quickly fell backward, and Ming Yan, who was following behind her, hurriedly reached out to support her, preventing her from falling. However, Ming Yan was standing outside the threshold at this moment and was about to lift her leg to walk in. Everything happened so fast that she didn’t have time to react. Thus, she fell to the side with Wei Qiufu in her arms.

“T-Third Elder Sister, what are you doing?” This was the only thing the people outside heard Wei Qiufu exclaiming other than the abrupt shriek. Then, they saw her fall down and press against Ming Yan’s body. No one knew what was going on.

However, the maids shuddered in fear when they recalled how Wei Yuejiao had lost her temper and smashed things randomly. Therefore, no one dared to approach Wei Qiufu at this moment, because whoever went to her would experience her wrath directly.

See, even the always gentle Fourth Young Lady had suffered.

The maids and the old maidservants continued to carry on with their own duties. They didn’t even greet Wei Qiufu and they tried their best to stay away from the main apartment.

Jinzhu was also startled. She walked way behind them, so she did not know what had happened in front of her. When she heard Wei Qiufu exclaim, she was shocked and quickly looked up. Only then did she see that Wei Qiufu and Ming Yan had fallen out together.

“Fourth Young Lady...” Jinzhu cried out in surprise.

Wei Yuejiao was equally shocked. She and Yuzhu, who was beside her, also looked at Wei Qiufu with shock and confusion.

“T-Third Young Lady, why did you hit Fourth Young Lady?” Ming Yan had already understood Wei Qiufu’s intention and she shouted in dismay.

“Me? I didn’t do anything!” Wei Yuejiao was enraged. She walked over and rebuked.

“You threw something and almost hit Fourth Young Lady. That’s why she fell!” Ming Yan snapped angrily while helping Wei Qiufu to get up.

Suddenly, Wei Yuejiao, who was so angry that her whole body trembled, swung her uninjured hand toward Ming Yan and slapped her hard in the face.

Wei Yuejiao was so frustrated today after being wronged, so when a lowly maid accused her of something she didn't do, she couldn't stand it any longer.

Ming Yan was caught off guard. After she was slapped, she fell down again and dragged Wei Qiufu, who had just gotten up, down with her too. Because all of this happened at the door, the maids and the old maidservants, who happened to look over, saw the entire incident clearly. As expected, Third Young Lady was up in arms and vented her anger at the maid, and Fourth Young Lady had to suffer the consequences too.

Did Third Young Lady really slap Fourth Young Lady's maid? Everyone was trembling in fear...

"T-Third Elder Sister, what are you doing?!" Seeing that Wei Yuejiao had slapped Ming Yan, Wei Qiufu helped Ming Yan up and asked angrily.

"I'm teaching your maid a lesson!" Wei Yuejiao raised her head and barked.

"She's my maid! I'll discipline her myself! Stay out of it!" Wei Qiufu's face turned pale, and her lips trembled. She snapped indignantly.

"Stay out of it?! Your maid raised her voice at me and framed me! She's too bold!" Wei Yuejiao was getting angrier and angrier. She was sure that Wei Qiufu had heard what Ming Yan had said, but Wei Qiufu still insisted that she had gone too far.

"H-How can you say that! You've gone too far!" Wei Qiufu shouted angrily.

"I've gone too far? It was clearly you who went too far. What are you doing here at this time? Are you here to mock me? Are you here to see if I'm injured or disabled? You're obviously here for some nasty reasons. You're up to no good! Also, drop your act. Stop looking so pretentious and pitiful, hypocrite. You fell down yourself, but you blame me for it. I'm not a pushover!"

Wei Yuejiao was full of rage because of Wei Qiufu, so now, she burst out her irritation furiously.

“W-What did you say? Okay... I’ll go to Grandmother’s place and tell her about this. I came here to visit you, but it seems that I’ve made a mistake!” Wei Qiufu grunted sadly, tugging her handkerchief and forcing her tears back. After that, she turned around and left with Ming Yan.

“Miss... Let’s go and have a look!” Upon hearing Wei Qiufu’s remarks, Jinzhu and Yuzhu knew that something bad would happen, so they hurriedly persuaded Wei Yuejiao.

“Alright, let’s go. I’m not scared of her. Her maid started it first!” Wei Yuejiao shouted in exasperation, feeling that Wei Qiufu’s maid had humiliated her.

Therefore, the two teams returned to Madam Dowager’s Tranquility Courtyard one after another.

Madam Dowager was resting. When she heard that Wei Yuejiao and Wei Qiufu were fighting again, she angrily patted the edge of the bed and asked Nanny Hong to lead them in.

Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuejiao walked in one after another with their maids. Wei Qiufu and Ming Yan looked haggard and miserable. When she saw Wei Yuejiao coming in with a face full of indignation, Madam Dowager was furious. She had planned to dismiss the matter of the fire in the small kitchen, assuming that it happened merely because of the girls fighting for her favor.

However, Wei Yuejiao looked like she was unconvinced and outrageous at this moment. All of a sudden, Madam Dowager felt that she had misjudged Wei Yuejiao all these years. Concubine Dong was unreliable and sly, and her daughter was hopeless too.

“Grandmother, I went to visit Third Elder Sister, but she said that I went there to mock her, and that I was a hypocrite and was up to no good. She also slapped Ming Yan, saying that she was disciplining my maid.” As soon as Wei Qiufu entered the door, she knelt down with a plop. She wiped away her tears with a handkerchief while secretly observing Madam Dowager’s expression.

When she spotted Madam Dowager’s dismayed frown as soon as Wei Yuejiao came in, She knew that her plan worked. Wei Yuejiao would not be able to get away with it no matter what.

Sure enough, before Wei Yuejiao could say anything after coming in, Madam Dowager shouted sternly, “Kneel!”

“Grandmother! I...” Wei Yuejiao tried to defend herself.

Madam Dowager slammed the edge of the bed and barked angrily, “Kneel down!”

Noticing Madam Dowager’s fury, Wei Yuejiao knelt down with a thud. “Grandmother, it was Fourth Younger Sister who failed to discipline her maid. This lowly maid accused me of hitting Fourth Younger Sister as soon as she entered my room. I was so angry that I slapped her!”

Wei Yuejiao felt that she was very reasonable, and the more she thought about it, the more she felt that she was right. She pointed at Wei Qiufu and confided loudly.

“Grandmother, it’s easy to tell the right from wrong in this matter. From my perspective, Third Elder Sister smashed something for no reason and scared me. Then, she slapped my maid. Please send someone to investigate this matter.” Wei Qiufu did not directly imply that Wei Yuejiao was lying. She just wiped her tears and let Madam Dowager check the truth.

Madam Dowager glanced at Nanny Hong, who then hurriedly ordered an old maidservant beside her. With a nod, the old maidservant turned and ran out.

“Yuejiao, did you smash things?” Madam Dowager asked coldly. She did not directly ask if Wei Yuejiao hit her maids or threw something at Wei Qiufu.

Taken aback, Wei Yuejiao quickly shook her head. “No, Grandmother. I didn’t smash anything.”

“If you didn’t smash anything, why did all the porcelain in the room break?” Wei Qiufu asked angrily.

“All?!” Madam Dowager felt heartache when she heard this. The things inside Wei Yuejiao’s were not entirely Concubine Dong’s. Madam Dowager put a lot of her personal precious belongings in that room in order to make the first branch satisfied with the room decoration. When she heard that all of them were smashed and broken, she felt extreme pain and sadness.

“N-No! I didn’t do it. Grandmother, please believe me. It’s not me. It’s... I-It’s the cat! A wild cat came in and accidentally knocked them down.” Seeing that Madam Dowager was so angry that she couldn’t even speak, Wei Yuejiao hurriedly shook her hands and quavered.

“Wild cat?” Madam Dowager didn’t believe it at all. With a burst of cold laughter, she snapped, “Wonderful! Someone, drag the two maids outside and flog them 100 times! Why should I keep you when you can’t even keep the cat out of the room!”

Madam Dowager was up in arms. She was already angry with Wei Yuejiao. Seeing that she was still making trouble now, she was like a bear with a sore head.

“Third Young Lady, please save us. Third Young Lady, please!” The two maids knelt behind Wei Yuejiao and pulled her skirts, crying in despair. They knew that they wouldn’t be able to survive after being flogged 100 times.

The two maids never thought that Madam Dowager would punish them for this.

Wei Yuejiao pondered for a moment as the maids pleaded. These two maids were not only her most trusted servants, but also Concubine Dong’s most trusted servants. They knew some secrets about Concubine Dong and her, and they probably would have a slip of the tongue if they were forced into a dead end. Wei Yuejiao became nervous and finally made up her mind. She gave the two maids a comforting look before turning to Madam Dowager and lamented, “Grandmother, i-it was me who accidentally knocked over the porcelain. Because of my injury, I was in so much pain that I couldn’t stand steadily, so I tripped myself as I got into the room and knocked them over the cabinet. I lied because I was afraid that you would punish me if I said the truth.”

She had no choice but to say these words, or Madam Dowager would definitely not spare the two maids.

“You’re in pain?” Although Madam Dowager did not insist on taking the two maids out of her room, she glared at Wei Yuejiao fiercely. It was obvious that she did not believe Wei Yuejiao’s words at all. She snapped coldly, “You did this to yourself. You burned down my small kitchen, and after you returned to your room, you smashed all the porcelain in your room. It seems that after so many years, Concubine Dong did not teach you well. You failed to handle even such a small matter!”

“I...” Wei Yuejiao blushed.

“Ask Concubine Dong to compensate for the broken porcelain. Some of that porcelain is not your father’s. They are your mother’s, and they had nothing to do with you! You can’t ruin your mother’s stuff just because of your unruly willfulness,” Madam Dowager grunted in frustration because she found Wei Yuejiao so displeasing.

Actually, some of the things were Qin Xinrui’s, but of course, they had become hers naturally.

Madam Dowager was only saying this in the spur of the moment and did not intend to get back the things for Wei Yuewu that were rightfully hers. As for Qin Xinrui, the so-called “mother”, Madam Dowager hadn’t mentioned her for many years.

“M-Mother?” Wei Yuejiao was dumbstruck for a moment. It was because she hadn’t addressed Qin Xinrui as “mother” for ages. In her memory, Concubine Dong was her mother, and she didn’t have any other mother that she knew of. “W-Who...”

“Huh! You only know about Concubine Dong, but you forget about your mother!” Madam Dowager was enraged again. The more she looked at Wei Yuejiao, the angrier she got. In fact, she was angry with Wei Yuejiao no matter what she said.

“Grandmother, I do not...” Wei Yuejiao came to her senses at this time and hurriedly tried to explain herself.

The curtain was suddenly lifted. The furious Wei Luowen stood at the door. The scar on his face was twitching. He was so angry that he trembled slightly, and his hand clenched the curtain tight.

Anyone could see that Wei Luowen was extremely furious, so much so that he almost couldn’t control himself! Behind him, Wei Yuewu stood with a pale face. She held Jin Ling’s shoulder, and she looked extremely shocked and bewildered.

“Luowen...” At this time, Madam Dowager shivered in befuddlement. Her lips trembled twice, and then she heard her own voice...

## Chapter 383 The Rightful Owner

“F-Father...” Wei Yuejiao was so frightened by the ferocious expression on Wei Luowen’s face that she stuttered.

“Since you don’t know that you have a mother, why do you need a father?” Wei Luowen cursed.

“Father! I-I wasn’t thinking straight. I was in too much pain that I blabbered nonsense...” Wei Yuejiao knew that the situation had turned for the worse. Seeing how furious Wei Luowen was, she was so anxious that her tears fell, and she began to cry.

She was no longer arrogant. She looked pitiful, especially with her bandaged arm that was hung listlessly by her side. Although she had cleaned her face, there were still a few scratches. She looked extremely pitiful and pathetic.

“Your mother is Yuewu’s biological mother! She is your only mother! Concubine Dong is just a lowly concubine, and she’s not qualified to be your mother!” Wei Luowen was extremely disappointed. He had always been full of expectations for Wei Yuejiao. After all, he only had two daughters, and Wei Yuejiao grew up by his side. Of course, he doted on Wei Yuejiao very much.

However, no matter how much he doted on her, he could not allow her to be disrespectful to the woman in his heart. She was his dearest, and he planned to keep her in his heart forever. No one could compare themselves with her.

“F-Father, I-I know that Sixth Younger Sister’s mother is my mother!” Wei Yuejiao stammered timidly, “F-Father, please don’t be angry. I was injured today. It was so painful that I couldn’t even stand up steadily, and because of this, I broke the porcelain in my room. Grandmother is scolding me now!”

She sounded as if she was complaining that Madam Dowager disregarded her injury and scolded her heartlessly. When Madam Dowager heard this, she was so angry that she gritted her teeth indignantly.

Wei Yuewu stood at the door but didn't come in. Although she looked shocked and bewildered, her heart was as calm and cold as the lake, and she looked at Wei Luowen without batting an eyelid.

"Father, did Third Elder Sister break Mother's things too?" Wei Yuewu asked softly. She didn't speak loudly, but it was audible enough for Wei Luowen, who was standing by her side, to hear her clearly.

It finally dawned upon Wei Luowen, who strode into the door and walked to Madam Dowager's bed. "Mother, did you give some of Rui'er's porcelain to Jiao'er?"

"T-The things belong to the first branch, no matter what. I thought that it was rare for you to be back, so I decorated the room with more things, so there might be some of her things inside!" Madam Dowager stuttered. "That's enough. They were broken, so there's nothing we can do about it. Thankfully, no one was injured. Qiufu went to visit Yuejiao, but Yuejiao condemned her for being up to no good!"

Madam Dowager looked like she was trying to play down the situation.

"Were all of Mother's things placed in Third Elder Sister's room?" Wei Yuewu walked in with tears in her eyes. She looked at Madam Dowager in disbelief and then at Wei Yuejiao. Then, she mumbled sadly, "So, Third Elder Sister broke everything, just like how she broke Mother's screen in the past, am I right?"

She spoke in such a light and flat tone, and her words sounded almost like she was talking to herself, but the keen Wei Luowen heard her clearly. He suddenly recalled the screen that Wei Yuejiao had damaged. His heart ached, and he couldn't control his anger.

Those things belonged to Rui'er, and Rui'er wanted to pass on all of them to Yuewu. Now, Jiao'er not only kept everything for herself, but she also didn't cherish them. She damaged the screen and broke the porcelain...

"Mother, I remember that Rui'er had a list of her dowry items when she married into our family, and the list was with you. Please look for it and give it to me. I want to find all the things in this mansion that belong to Rui'er and give them to Yuewu. They were originally Rui'er's things. I can't let her things fall into the hands of others!"

Wei Luowen said to Madam Dowager.

Madam Dowager was taken aback, and so was Nanny Hong.

“Uh... It’s been so long. I can’t even remember where I kept it, and I wonder if it is still here,” Madam Dowager stammered and swallowed her saliva with difficulty while giving a look at Nanny Hong.

“Lord Marquis, the list of Marquise Hua Yang’s dowry may have been gone long ago. It’s been so many years. Who would care about this? Maybe, they have become public things of the entire mansion!” Nanny Hong took a step forward and said with a smile.

“Even if they have become public things, I must get them back! They’re Rui’er’s things, and she has her own daughter. Why would her things become public things of the mansion?! I haven’t heard of anyone who allowed his wife’s belongings to be public things but didn’t leave them for her own children!” Seeing Wei Yuewu’s sad look and thinking about Wei Yuejiao’s arrogant and rude words, Wei Luowen was determined to get back all of Qin Xinrui’s dowry.

Originally, he didn’t care about these things. He thought that no one would bully Wei Yuewu since he was still alive. Only now did he realize that he couldn’t control anything that happened in the backyard. Now, Concubine Dong’s daughter had unconsciously stepped on Qin Xinrui’s daughter and bullied her. Wei Yuejiao even destroyed her things on the spur of the moment. If Qin Xinrui knew about this, she would dump him and ignore him forever.

Thinking of their past conversations, Wei Luowen felt his heart tightening in anguish.

“Father!” Wei Yuewu reached out and tugged at Wei Luowen’s sleeve, “Let’s go back!” She behaved like she wanted to make concessions to avoid trouble.

However, her demeanor made Wei Luowen even more annoyed. His daughter, who was supposed to be the apple of his eyes, had now fallen to the point where she did not even dare to fight for her mother’s dowry. This was all his fault!

This time, he had to support Wei Yuewu no matter what. He wanted to show everyone in the mansion that Wei Yuewu had him as her backer although her mother had passed away. No one could bully her,

not even Madam Dowager. He wanted to fight for her, or she would be discriminated against even more in this mansion.

It was because others looked down on Yuewu that the series of unfortunate events happened in the palace. During this period of time, he had thought about many things. He had always wanted to pamper Yuewu, so he shouldn't hide his feelings for her. The current him was no longer the weak father who could not protect his daughter.

So, he should become more aggressive and domineering for her sake.

"Lord Marquis..." Nanny Hong did not expect Wei Luowen to be so nonchalant that he even targeted Madam Dowager. Her face turned pale, but she was rendered speechless.

"Mother, what do you think? If you can't find it, I will send someone to Yuewu's maternal grandparents' house and ask if they still keep a copy of the list. If they have it, I can just make a copy!" Wei Luowen avowed directly without batting an eye at Nanny Hong.

Madam Dowager opened her mouth, but no word came out of it. After a while, she sighed heavily and shook her head helplessly. "Since you've already made up your mind, I'll let Nanny Hong search for it in a while. Speaking of which, we should indeed return the things to Yuewu. It's just that this time, Yuejiao may have destroyed a lot of them."

"Let Concubine Dong compensate with her own things!" Wei Luowen informed decisively.

Concubine Dong had purchased many things during her time at the border for the past few years, so Wei Luowen was certain that she could afford the compensation for the broken things. This was the outcome of him turning a blind eye in the first place. Wei Yuejiao was his eldest daughter, so as a concubine's daughter, Wei Yuejiao was a bit lacking in terms of status, and he had to make up for her in terms of dowry. Therefore, he allowed Concubine Dong to open a few shops at the border to do business.

He didn't interfere with her business at all because he agreed that the earnings and revenue should be used for Wei Yuejiao's dowry.

“Father!” Wei Yuejiao became anxious when she heard that Wei Luowen wanted Concubine Dong to compensate for the broken things.

“Father, never mind! You don’t have to do that!” Wei Yuewu interjected and shook her head sadly. “I’m happy enough as long as I can get whatever they can find out. You don’t have to ask Concubine Dong to return them. She has to keep the things for Third Elder Sister.”

Wei Yuewu’s expression was calm, so much so that it felt as if none of these was her business, but it made people feel inexplicably sorry for her.

“Both Concubine Dong and your Third Elder Sister can afford the compensation!” Wei Luowen’s gaze fell on Wei Yuejiao. Dressed in gorgeous clothes, Wei Yuejiao did not look any worse than Wei Yuewu, the legitimate daughter. In fact, it made people feel as if her makeover was slightly better than Wei Yuewu’s. This made Wei Luowen feel sorry for Wei Yuewu even more.

Because he did not want to attract the attention of others, he did not care about Yuewu for so many years. If they got anything nice, he would let Concubine Dong give it to Wei Yuejiao. Initially, he thought that he had nothing else to ask for but hope that Wei Yuewu grew up healthy and happy, but the truth made him feel guilty.

“Thank you, Father!” This time, Wei Yuewu did not decline anymore. Instead, she respectfully bowed to Wei Luowen.

This bow made Wei Luowen even more resolute in his decision!

“Mother, please inform me as soon as the list is ready. I hope you can do it as soon as possible. If it can’t be completed by the end of the year, I’ll send someone to get it from Yuewu’s maternal grandparents.” Wei Luowen sounded firm and certain. Then, he turned to Wei Yuejiao and commanded, “Go back to your room and don’t come out before the New Year. Repent your sins and mistakes. You can’t behave so willfully like you used to back when you were at the border!”

Since he had already made up his mind, Wei Luowen naturally wanted to do it as soon as possible. His resolute attitude reminded Madam Dowager of the moment when he told her that he was determined to marry Qin Xinrui and break off the engagement with the daughter of Grand Preceptor Tu Mansion. He didn’t budge at all even after she mentioned those things.

At the thought of this resentful past, Madam Dowager became even more enraged. She had experienced this kind of hateful matter because of Qin Xinrui before, and now she had to suffer again because of Wei Yuewu!

Sure enough, this mother-daughter pair had done nothing but brought trouble to the family!

Facing Madam Dowager's cold and gloomy gaze, Wei Yuewu lowered her head as if she didn't sense anything. A trace of coldness flashed across her eyes that were hidden under the long eyelashes. Madam Dowager was really greedy. She clearly didn't like Mother, but she had embezzled all of her dowry. Even after she had been back to the capital for some time, Madam Dowager didn't mention anything about Mother's dowry.

Everything she had in her courtyard was actually prepared by Lady Li for Wei Yan, although Lady Li announced to everyone that she had prepared everything for Wei Yuewu. When Wei Yuewu moved in for real, Lady Li couldn't take away the things that she had placed before, so her real effort had gone wasted.

In fact, she had not seen her mother's things at all!

She couldn't be bothered by Madam Dowager's reaction.

She knew that Wei Yuejiao would make a fuss and smash things when she was injured. She also knew that Wei Qiufu would be forced to stir up trouble with Wei Yuejiao. Then, she brought her father here. She had gone through scheme after scheme mainly for Mother's dowry. She had asked Nurse Mei about this, and she knew that a lot of things in Wei Yuejiao's room were actually her mother's things...

"I will get things done as soon as possible!" Madam Dowager glared at Wei Yuewu, closed her eyes, and leaned back, intending to dismiss them.

Noticing Madam Dowager's unpleasant expression, Wei Luowen knew that she did not want to speak, so he led everyone out of the room.

Outside the main apartment's door, a lad servant anxiously paced around a few times, looking as if he wanted to enter the room. However, he didn't dare to because no one summoned him.

Suddenly seeing Wei Luowen come out, he wiped his sweat as his eyes lit up and rushed over...

## Chapter 384 Sly Tricks

"Lord Marquis, Prefectural Prince Huai requests a meeting! He... He said that Eldest Young Master..." The lad servant rushed over and reported anxiously.

"When did this happen?" Wei Luowen's expression changed, and he hurriedly reached out his hand to stop the lad servant.

"Just now. It was very urgent!" When the lad servant saw the young ladies who came out with Wei Luowen, he realized that he had misspoken and quickly muttered vaguely.

Wei Luowen nodded and turned to look at Wei Yuewu behind him. His expression eased a little. "Yuewu, you go back first. When your grandmother gives me the list of your mother's dowry, I'll get someone to find your mother's things and give them back to you."

"Thank you, Father!" Wei Yuewu nodded and retreated to the side, looking at the lad servant thoughtfully.

She had heard from Shufei about Wei Ziyang's stay at Prefectural Prince Huai Mansion. Did something happen? Judging from the lad servant's expression, she figured that the problem was quite serious.

"Father!" Wei Yuejiao cried out in grievance, but all she got was Wei Luowen's cold glare.

"Spend more time learning about the rules and manners. You're not a child anymore!" After the indifferent statement, Wei Luowen hurriedly left with the lad servant.

Only Wei Yuewu, Wei Yuejiao, and Wei Qiufu were left at the door.

“Wei Qiufu, what’s wrong with you today?!” Since there was no one around this time, Wei Yuejiao angrily turned around to Wei Qiufu.

“Third Elder Sister, you should be careful of your wound!” Wei Qiufu had done what she could regarding Wei Yuewu’s request. Then, she smiled at Wei Yuejiao, flung her sleeves, and left nonchalantly.

“You... you...” Wei Yuejiao was so angry that she was dizzy. She also realized that all of this happened because of Wei Qiufu’s inexplicable visit. Wei Qiufu came to her room and framed her. Then, she was scolded by Grandmother, and even implicated Wei Yuewu’s biological mother in this. All of this was caused by Wei Qiufu visiting her out of the blue.

However, she did not dare to be too presumptuous. She looked at the surrounding environment and glared at Wei Yuewu fiercely. Without a word, she rushed to Concubine Dong’s courtyard with her two frightened maids.

She was going to tell Concubine Dong about Wei Qiufu who deliberately framed her. She hoped that Concubine Dong could avenge her grievance.

Wei Qiufu was from the most unremarkable third branch. Could they overturn the heavens?

Then, Wei Yuewu was left alone. Watching Wei Qiufu and Wei Yuejiao go their separate ways, she curled her lips into a smile, but she did not leave.

Sure enough, Nanny Hong came out from inside, walked to Wei Yuewu’s side, and said with a smile, “Sixth Young Lady, Madam Dowager is inviting you to go in again.”

“Okay!” Wei Yuewu smiled and nodded indifferently. Then, she followed Nanny Hong into the inner room again.

Of course, Madam Dowager was reluctant to give up all of her mother’s dowry. She was going to persuade her!

Inside the room, Madam Dowager was lying in the bed, looking paler and more haggard. Upon seeing Wei Yuewu enter the room, she waved her hand slightly to indicate that she should sit down on a chair.

“Sixth Young Lady, Madam Dowager asks you to take a seat!” Nanny Hong smiled and stepped forward.

“Never mind. I’ll just stand.” Wei Yuewu’s face was full of respect and timidity as if she did not know what Madam Dowager was thinking.

“Sixth Young Lady, Madam Dowager has had a hard time processing all of this. In the past, she thought that Second Young Lady was a good person, so she had been raising her carefully, but in the end... Then, she saw that Third Young Lady was good, but you witnessed what happened yourself. She burned Madam Dowager’s small kitchen. As for Fourth Young Lady, who knows what she will turn out to be!”

Seeing that Wei Yuewu had no intention of sitting, Nanny Hong did not insist and just sighed.

On the bed, Madam Dowager moved slightly and turned inside, looking as if she was very sad and dejected.

“Yes, Grandmother has worked hard,” Wei Yuewu said softly.

“Madam Dowager indeed has worked hard. For so many years, the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang has never had an official female Master. In the past, when Marquise Hua Yang was around, Madam Dowager had a few years of happiness and leisure. Marquise Hua Yang was so young, but no one would have expected that she would...” Nanny Hong wiped away her tears and peeked at Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu lowered her head sorrowfully. It was obvious that she also thought of her biological mother.

“Lord Marquis insisted on marrying Marquise Hua Yang. Madam Dowager did not agree to their nuptial at first, but later on, she treated Marquise Hua Yang very well. Later, when Marquise Hua Yang was critically ill, she requested to see Madam Dowager on her sickbed and entrusted you to her. At that time, Madam Dowager was very sad and urged her to take good care of herself!”

The more Nanny Hong “illustrated” the story, the more emotional she became. She took out a handkerchief and wiped her tears. Although Madam Dowager did not speak, Wei Yuewu could see that she moved her handkerchief as if she was wiping her tears too.

Wei Yuewu sneered. Madam Dowager and Concubine Dong were indeed a pair of ideal superior-subordinate. Concubine Dong had told her that her mother called her on her sickbed and entrusted the hairpins to her, asking her to keep them for her and Wei Yuejiao. To Wei Yuewu’s surprise, Madam Dowager used the same reason, but her tricks seemed smoother and more versatile.

It was not hard to guess what Nanny Hong and Madam Dowager would say or do next.

Her long eyelashes flickered, and she hid the coldness in her eyes. At this moment, she lowered her head and remained silent. She wanted to see how shameless Madam Dowager could be.

Sure enough, Nanny Hong brought them back to the main topic in her next remarks.

“At that time, Marquise Hua Yang entrusted her personal belongings and you to Madam Dowager. After that, when Marquise Hua Yang passed away, Madam Dowager took care of you diligently. She would try to satisfy all your needs and desires. When you were young, you didn’t understand the value of things and broke many of Marquise Hua Yang’s things. Madam Dowager used her own money to replace all the things that you broke.”

Since Wei Yuewu kept her head down all the time, Nanny Hong thought that she was moved by her words, so she continued saying her story according to Madam Dowager’s wish.

Seeing that Wei Yuewu was standing there without any reaction, Nanny Hong presumed that she was resentful that they sent her to her maternal grandparents’ family, so Nanny Hong continued, reciting the script Madam Dowager had drafted earlier, “If it weren’t for the fact that something happened to you, Madam Dowager would never have agreed to send you back to your maternal grandparents’ place. This was actually because of the servants’ negligence. Because of this matter, Madam Dowager even fell ill for a long time!”

Nanny Hong sighed again and looked at Wei Yuewu. The lack of response agitated Nanny Hong, and she couldn’t help but look at Madam Dowager on the bed nervously. Did she not make her points clear?

“Sixth Young Lady, Madam Dowager has always loved you and wants to return Marquise Hua Yang’s things to you. It’s just that for so many years, you’ve destroyed many of the things when you were young, and some have suffered some damage. I’m afraid that we can’t return the things according to the list of dowry from back then!”

Nanny Hong cleared her throat and raised her voice in case Wei Yuewu couldn’t hear her.

Wei Yuewu narrowed her eyes slightly. Sure enough, Madam Dowager was shameless to the point of refusing to return her mother’s things!

She looked up slightly and noticed that although Madam Dowager, who was on the bed, turned to the inside, her body was facing to the outside slightly, and her head was too far behind. It was obvious that she was secretly observing her reaction from the bed.

“Nanny Hong... I don’t know any of this. How about you come with me and explain it to my father?” The confused Wei Yuewu looked at Madam Dowager blankly, then at Nanny Hong, as if she really did not understand what Nanny Hong meant.

Her remarks made Nanny Hong cough violently. She would’ve gone to Lord Marquis if she could. Moreover, Sixth Young Lady didn’t remember anything since she was a child back then, but Lord Marquis was not a child, and he certainly knew that Sixth Young Lady didn’t break anything back then.

“Sixth Young Lady...” Nanny Hong felt that she needed to explain the situation more clearly. Madam Dowager’s meaning was very clear. It was impossible to return everything. Although Marquise Hua Yang’s family background was not prominent, her dowry was very unique, and it was not only prepared by her family.

The extra things in this part of the dowry were more valuable. Madam Dowager speculated that a part of the dowry was supposed to belong to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang, but they were brought into the mansion along with Marquise Hua Yang’s dowry. Back then, such things that were supposed to be possessed by the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang would be mixed in the dowry and sent into the mansion together with whichever young lady who married into the mansion.

Therefore, these things were not just Marquise Hua Yang’s dowry!

However, they were listed on Marquise Hua Yang's dowry list.

Gold had a price, but the shops were priceless. Of course, she did not dare to take forcible possession of the shops that were not supposed to be on Qin Xinrui's dowry list. However, for so many years, she and Concubine Dong had managed Qin Xinrui's shops, so she should get all the earnings and revenue. Why should she return the money to Wei Yuewu?

These things belonged to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. She wanted to leave this inheritance to her future generations.

"Grandmother, just now, Prefectural Prince Huai sent someone to look for Father and said that Eldest Brother asked to see him. Then, Father left in a hurry with his men. I wonder what it is."

Wei Yuewu directly interrupted Nanny Hong.

She sneered in her heart. For the sake of some wealth, Madam Dowager didn't care about her reputation and dignity. She wanted to force her to agree with what she said.

If she agreed, Madam Dowager could justifiably return fewer things that were on the dowry list, and Father couldn't say anything about it.

Wei Yuewu believed that Madam Dowager would give her the things that she didn't want as long as she agreed to her terms. She had never seen such a shameless person who would force her young granddaughter.

"What? Something happened to Ziyang?" Madam Dowager suddenly sat up and asked in surprise.

"Yes, Father left in a hurry and didn't let us know anything about what happened!" Wei Yuewu nodded.

"Nanny Hong, hurry... help me up. I want to go and take a look!" When she heard that something had happened to her beloved grandson, whom she had high hopes for, Madam Dowager became anxious

and jittery. At this moment, she didn't care about Wei Yuewu. She held the edge of the bed and wanted to get up.

When Nanny Hong saw this, she couldn't be bothered to talk to Wei Yuewu as planned. She hurriedly came over and helped Madam Dowager up as she heaved, "Madam Dowager, please slow down. Please be careful!"

"Grandmother, I'll go back first!" Wei Yuewu greeted amidst the chaotic scene.

Madam Dowager waved at her. She didn't have the time to talk with Wei Yuewu and she just kicked her out of the room without saying anything. No matter what, she would keep those shops even if Wei Yuewu didn't agree.

How dare that little brat snatch the things off her hand...

Seeing Madam Dowager leave, Wei Yuewu walked out of the room with Jin Ling leisurely. As soon as they came out of Tranquility Courtyard, Shufei, who had been waiting beside the small road outside, hurriedly greeted Wei Yuewu and lowered her voice, "Miss, I saw that woman!"

## Chapter 385 The Ideal Location

"Where is she?" Wei Yuewu asked after pondering for a moment.

"She's at a pavilion in the courtyard. She seems to be fidgeting with her belonging!" Wei Yuewu asked Shufei to keep an eye on that woman since she had planned to go and take a look at this moment. To her surprise, that woman would leave the courtyard first.

"Let's go and take a look," Wei Yuewu said indifferently.

In a pavilion in the garden, Concubine Yang was staring blankly at a hairpin in her hand. She was sent here to be Second Master's concubine. Because her last name was Yang, the people in the mansion called her Concubine Yang.

However, because there were too many women who were sent in at that time, they were all arranged to stay in the same courtyard. Although Concubine Yang was one of Second Master's concubines, she had only seen his figure from afar and had never had any close contact with him.

Among the concubines who were sent to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang by the four heirs-apparent, she was not the prettiest, so her existence was even more unremarkable.

She had not served Second Master yet, so she could not be considered a real concubine. Although the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang gave each of them a maid who served them, there were some things that she had to do on her own.

It was not a big deal actually, because they were not here to enjoy the leisure and comfortable life in the first place. However, it was quite boring to waste their time with nothing to do here. Even the prettier ones did not have a chance to meet Second Master, so Concubine Yang had long given up on the idea that Second Master would take a fancy to her.

"This hairpin looks so delicate!" A gentle voice came from beside her ear, and the person interrupted Concubine Yang's dazed moment.

Concubine Yang raised her head in surprise and saw a beautiful girl with a delicate face. She was prettier than the most beautiful ones living in the courtyard that Concubine Yang had seen. However, what shocked Concubine Yang the most was the girl's clear and cold eyes. Those eyes seemed to have a magic power that could penetrate one's soul, and they made her feel a chill down her spine.

She felt as if she was unable to hide the deepest thought in her heart from those enchanting eyes.

Concubine Yang had been in the mansion for only a short period of time and had been staying in the courtyard obediently, so she didn't recognize Wei Yuewu. Only recently did she come out of the courtyard to take a stroll around. However, she was good at reading people, so she stood up abruptly.

Her maid, who was assigned to her, recognized Wei Yuewu. She hurriedly bowed. "Greetings, Sixth Young Lady!"

Sixth Young Lady? Concubine Yang's heart skipped a beat, and she hurriedly bowed as well.

Although she did not go out of the courtyard often, she had heard of the legendary Sixth Young Lady. Moreover, Sixth Young Lady was now pretty much favored by Lord Marquis, so she couldn't afford to offend her.

"Who are..." Wei Yuewu sized her up cautiously.

"Sixth Young Lady, this is Concubine Yang, and she was sent here as Second Master's concubine by the Heir-apparent of Duke Lu," the maid introduced in a soft voice.

"Oh, so you are Second Master's concubine sent by the Heir-apparent of Duke Lu! The hairpin is really pretty!" Wei Yuewu smiled and looked at the hairpin in Concubine Yang's hand. It was a very delicate hairpin and had the latest design on the market. It was very beautiful.

Despite its latest design, it was not very previous because there was no gem on it. It was beautiful because of its exquisite design.

In fact, this kind of hairpin could be bought in any of the big jewelry shops. When Wei Yuewu was on the street, she saw several women wearing the same kind of hairpin.

"Oh... I brought it with me when I came here." Noticing Wei Yuewu's eager gaze at her hairpin, Concubine Yang retracted her hand slightly and subconsciously avoided Wei Yuewu's gaze.

"Concubine Yang, did you bring this hairpin from Heir-apparent of Duke Lu's mansion?" Wei Yuewu smiled and asked gently.

"Yes... yes!" Concubine Yang lowered her head timidly.

“In that case, I shall ask him if there are any other delicate designs when I meet him next time,” Wei Yuewu beamed as if she was very interested in the hairpin.

“N-No, it was not from the Heir-apparent of Duke Lu. It’s my personal belonging. M-My family left it for me,” Concubine Yang stuttered nervously. She looked jittery, and her hands shrank back involuntarily.

She almost hid the hairpin in her sleeve.

“How many family members do you have?” Wei Yuewu stopped asking about the hairpin and changed the subject.

“I don’t have anyone left. My parents passed away long ago, and my siblings and I went our separate ways,” Concubine Yang lamented. Then, she took out a handkerchief and secretly wiped her tears.

She was the woman that Lu Yeli had chosen before, and she was sent to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang because of her outstanding qualifications and appearance. At the thought of her being alone, she couldn’t help but feel sorrowful. At this moment, she abruptly felt that she had an unpredictable future and did not know where to settle down.

“Concubine Yang, from now on, the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang is your home! You can settle down after you and Second Uncle have children!” With a faint smile, Wei Yuewu turned to leave with Jin Ling and Shufei.

“Concubine, let’s go back too,” the maid tugged at Concubine Yang’s sleeve and said softly.

“Let’s go!” Concubine Yang nodded. She had actually just come out to clear her mind. At this moment, her heart was a mess, and she did not know what to do. That was why she had come out to take a stroll alone.

There were some things that she could not decide on her own.

After she left, a maid walked out from behind a big tree behind the pavilion. She looked in the direction in which Concubine Yang was walking and then turned back to look in the direction where Wei Yuewu

had left before. She went in the direction that was opposite to the two of them and hurriedly went back to report...

“Miss, there is something wrong with Concubine Yang. The hairpin is new, and it is clearly the latest style, but Concubine Yang said that she got it from her family,” Jin Ling walked a few steps closer to Wei Yuewu and reminded her.

Jin Ling had seen it clearly before. The hairpin’s color and style were very new, which indicated that Concubine Yang had obtained that hairpin only recently.

As for whether the hairpin was old or new, it was as sure as a gun for Jin Ling.

“Shufei, is this woman the one who spoke to the geomancer?” Wei Yuewu did not directly answer Jin Ling. Instead, she glanced at Shufei, who was beside her.

“Yes, Miss. I was still suspicious before, but now, I am certain that it is this woman!” Shufei nodded with certainty.

She was unable to get a clear sight earlier due to the distance, but this time, she had seen her face clearly.

“I think the geomancer gave her the hairpin!” Wei Yuewu smiled coldly.

“What? How dare he? This is Marquis Mansion!” Shufei was shocked. Although she had heard people talk about this kind of thing, it usually happened in those small-time aristocratic families. How could this kind of scandal happen in a prestigious aristocratic family!

Although a concubine could not be considered a real Master, her status was much higher than that of a maid.

“Why not? He must have already inquired about it. Second Uncle did not even meet these concubines, let alone sleep with them. They are nothing but women with the title of a concubine, and no one takes them seriously,” Wei Yuewu said lightly.

It dawned upon her when she noticed the sadness in Concubine Yang's eyes. Concubine Yang was lonely and desperate, so she was definitely moved when someone took a fancy to her at this time.

"Miss, what should we do? Should we inform Lord Marquis and ask him to tell Second Master to keep a tight watch on the yard over there?" Jin Ling asked anxiously.

"No, we don't have to do anything." Wei Yuewu shook her head and lowered her eyes slightly. "What's the hurry? Didn't you see that there was someone else with us just now?"

Coincidentally, that maid, who was hiding, should have been keeping her eyes on Concubine Yang all along. It was just that she did not expect that Wei Yuewu would come over after spotting Concubine Yang. She frantically tried to avoid her, so she looked very sneaky and sheepish. The alert Jin Ling had already noticed her and even secretly pulled Wei Yuewu's sleeve to signal her to pay attention.

However, Wei Yuewu only managed to see the girl's back. Even if she saw her face, she might not be able to recognize whose maid she was.

Wei Yuewu was familiar with the few top-level maids in the mansion, but she couldn't recognize the ones below even if they looked familiar.

It seemed that she wasn't the only one who had her eyes on this matter. She should lay low and see what that person was planning to do!

As they spoke, they had already arrived at the kitchen. Seeing Wei Yuewu appear with two maids in the kitchen, the nurse-in-charge was startled, but she swiftly came to her senses and bowed respectfully. "Greetings, Sixth Young Lady!"

"Grandmother's small kitchen was caught on fire. I'm afraid she won't be able to use it for the next few days. Bring in more food ingredients that are easy to digest and send the food over for Grandmother. Think of some way to make sure that the food is hot upon delivery. It's cold, and Grandmother won't be able to withstand the chill due to her old age. She may catch a cold if she eats something cold!"

Wei Yuewu warned as she casually walked around.

It was time to prepare dinner. The kitchen was very busy, and the people were bustling around. When they saw Wei Yuewu, they bowed and continued to work. Only the old maidservant, who was in charge, accompanied Wei Yuewu.

“Sixth Young Lady, don’t worry. I have already asked someone to send the ingredients that are easy to digest over to the kitchen. It’s time to prepare Madam Dowager’s dinner too. Later, I’ll pick an airtight container to put in her food. I won’t let Madam Dowager eat cold food!”

The nurse-in-charge hurriedly promised with a smile as she thought that Wei Yuewu made this trip to the kitchen because she was worried about the food.

“That’s good. What are those?” Wei Yuewu pointed at a medicine pot placed on a stove in the corner and asked in surprise, “Is someone sick?”

“Oh, no. No Masters in the mansion are sick. It’s Madam Dowager’s medicine pot. The medicine is her supplement to nourish her body. Previously, it had been prepared in the small kitchen, but after the fire, the pot was moved here. However, we had never prepared any medicine here, and we didn’t know where to put the pot, so it was casually placed in the corner.”

The nurse-in-charge explained.

“How can you place Grandmother’s medicine pot in such a shady corner? It’s better to put it out here!” Wei Yuewu turned to look and suddenly pointed to a place under the corridor outside. “Why don’t you put it there? You can prepare her medicine there too, right?”

That place was very big, but there were no other objects, and no one was busy there. Compared with the busy and crowded kitchen, the empty space looked abrupt and strange...

## Chapter 386 Asking for Permission to Be a Monk

“Sixth Young Lady, we use that spot to make the ink,” the nurse-in-charge informed.

“The ink?” Wei Yuewu frowned. Only then did the nurse-in-charge remember the incident related to the ink and realize that Sixth Young Lady definitely did not like to hear about it. At the thought of this, the nurse-in-charge hurriedly explained, albeit vaguely, “It’s Concubine Dong’s order. We can’t contaminate the ingredients and food in the kitchen with the ink, so we especially use this spot for the making of the ink.”

“What is that over there?” Wei Yuewu raised her head slightly and pointed in a certain direction with her chin.

“Oh, that? It is used to brew Concubine Dong’s medicine for her health,” the nurse-in-charge answered with an awkward smile as she looked at a small stove not far from the ink.

The nurse-in-charge felt awkward because she just said that they had to clear the spot because they didn’t want to contaminate the food with the ink, yet Concubine Dong’s stove was placed exactly in that spot.

However, Concubine Dong had only taken the medicine once in a small amount, and this only happened recently, so the nurse-in-charge didn’t put two and two together.

A trace of frigidness flashed across Wei Yuewu’s eyes. Her long eyelashes flickered as she glared at the corridor with a bit of hostility.

It was a perfect setting indeed. No one would notice the oddity since the small stove was placed in the corridor not far from the place where the ink was mixed. They could easily pour the freshly brewed Five Drums Grass into the ink and mix them up without anyone knowing.

In this way, she would die in a mysterious way...

“It’s not good to place it in the corner.” Wei Yuewu eventually shifted her gaze back to Madam Dowager’s medicine pot and frowned in dismay.

“Okay. How about I put it in the corridor on the opposite side?” The nurse-in-charge suggested in embarrassment. Previously, the kitchen was already so packed that there was no extra space for anything more. The medicine pot was not an item in the kitchen, so now, the extra medicine pot complicated the already chaotic arrangement of the kitchen. Furthermore, Madam Dowager had specified that it was best not to place her pot near the cooking area, or the smell of medicine would be diluted.

In addition, the maid from Tranquility Courtyard informed her that they would make Madam Dowager’s medicine here temporarily, and it would be moved back to Madam Dowager’s small kitchen when it was repaired. Therefore, the nurse-in-charge did not mind about it. However, now that Wei Yuewu mentioned it, it finally dawned upon the nurse-in-charge, and she felt rather helpless.

“Well, you can do as you please since you’re in charge of this kitchen. Actually, I don’t know where to put it either,” Wei Yuewu uttered indifferently as she could not make the decision for the nurse-in-charge.

Then, she glanced at Concubine Dong’s stove before leaving with her two maids.

Her casual questions and ambiguous response put the nurse-in-charge in a dilemma. The nurse-in-charge scratched her head and tried in vain to come up with an idea.

Meanwhile, another old maidservant, who had been standing at the side listening to their conversation, thought of something and suggested to the nurse-in-charge, “How about you ask for Concubine Dong’s opinion? She arranged the matter of the ink. If she told you to retain the setting, you could push the matter on Concubine Dong when Madam Dowager asked about it.”

In other words, Concubine Dong was the decision-maker, and they only followed her orders.

The nurse-in-charge thought that it was a good idea, so she immediately went to Concubine Dong’s courtyard.

On the other hand, Concubine Dong was in a chaotic mess at the moment. First, Wei Yuejiao was scalded. After dealing with her injuries, Concubine Dong was informed that Wei Yuewu’s maid had spilled the ink and made a fuss at the construction site. Hearing this, Concubine Dong quickly went to take a look. The maids and old maidservants at the scene simultaneously complained about Jin Ling, and

they also stated that there was nothing they could do since Wei Yuewu was watching them from not far away.

Knowing that Wei Yuewu had come over once, Concubine Dong was shocked and immediately asked about the overall process starting from when Wei Yuewu arrived at this place with her maids. Unfortunately, Wei Yuewu didn't do anything herself, and only Jin Ling came to make a fuss. She was worried that Madam Dowager would hear about this matter. It would be nothing unusual on normal days. But now, Wei Yuejiao had damaged Madam Dowager's small kitchen and enraged her, so it was a bad timing to explain herself.

Concubine Dong was thinking about the way to euphemistically complain about Wei Yuewu to Madam Dowager when Wei Yuejiao ran over crying. She said that Wei Qiufu had framed her and even deliberately accused her of smashing her. After that, Wei Luowen demanded that Concubine Dong should compensate for the damaged things. Hearing the series of events, Concubine Dong was so frustrated and exasperated that she almost fainted.

Concubine Dong was trembling all over and pointing at Wei Yuejiao while gasping heavily when the nurse-in-charge from the kitchen came over and asked, "Concubine Dong, Madam Dowager's small kitchen was destroyed because of a fire, and her maids needed to use our big kitchen to brew her medicine, but the kitchen is as packed as it is now. Can I please move the ink a little further in the corridor so that we can brew Madam Dowager's medicine alongside your medicine pot? What do you think?"

On her way to Concubine Dong's yard, the nurse-in-charge had thought about the idea over and over again. She felt that this was a feasible and good idea.

"Good! Just do it!" Concubine Dong's face was gloomy, and she was up in arms at this moment because of Wei Yuejiao. She was not in the mood to care about other things, so after hearing the nurse-in-charge's suggestion, she directly waved her hand and agreed.

The nurse-in-charge wanted to tell Concubine Dong about Wei Yuewu's visit to the kitchen, but she didn't dare to say another word after seeing Concubine Dong's annoyed expression. After getting her approval, the nurse-in-charge left.

Therefore, Concubine Dong had no idea that this matter was related to Wei Yuewu.

“What? Ziyang wants to become a monk?” Wei Luowen suddenly stood up in shock. He really liked Wei Ziyang. Although he was his nephew, Wei Ziyang grew up under his watch, and he was close to him as his own son. Therefore, he was bewildered when he heard such bizarre news.

“Yes, Lord Marquis. I am still trying to change his mind. Please go and talk to him. I don’t know what has happened to him, but he locked himself in the room for a few days without a word, and when he came out, he told me that he wanted to be a monk!” Han Ming was anxious, and his forehead was drenched in sweat although it was still in the middle of winter.

“Did something happen before this?” Wei Luowen asked in a low voice.

“Nothing. He just stayed at my place. Oh, right. A while ago, he went to Prince Nan’an Mansion with Madam Dowager to visit the Heiress-apparent of Prince Nan’an. Something unfortunate happened in the palace, and the heiress-apparent was seriously injured. After coming back from the visit, Ziyang locked himself in the room and never came out!”

Han Ming replied.

At that time, he did not go to Prince Nan’an Mansion with Wei Ziyang, so he did not know anything that happened there.

“Lord Marquis, please come with me and take a look at him. Ziyang seems to be very determined to become a monk. I asked him to discuss it with Madam Dowager and Second Master, but he refused and insisted that he wanted to become a monk!”

“I see. Let’s go! I shall meet him in person,” Wei Luowen said and strode out. Han Ming had to trot two steps before catching up. They left the mansion in a hurry, hopped on their horses, and headed straight for Prefectural Prince Huai Mansion.

However, not long after they left, Madam Dowager arrived with Nanny Hong. After asking the lad servant in the study about what happened, she was so anxious that she almost fainted. Among her grandchildren, Wei Ziyang was the only one with a bright and promising future. The rest of them were too young and immature to manage the entire mansion of Marquis Hua Yang!

At the thought of this, Madam Dowager hurriedly ordered the servants to prepare a carriage and then rushed to Prefectural Prince Huai Mansion with several maids and old maidservants. She must stop Wei Ziyang from becoming a monk, or there would be no successor for the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang. As long as she thought of this, Madam Dowager was anxious and felt that she could not wait any longer...

Inside Prefectural Prince Huai Mansion, Wei Ziyang looked at the table in front of him in a daze. He had been quiet for a long time.

Wei Ziyang's personal lad servant looked at the door nervously, but Prefectural Prince Huai was nowhere to be seen. He was so anxious that he was about to cry. What should he do if Eldest Young Master became a monk?! Madam Dowager would definitely punish him for letting this thing happen!

"Eldest Brother, Wei Yuewu and Wei Qiufu are the reason why I became like this! They wanted to ruin the second branch! Just think about what happened to me, Mother, and Second Younger Sister. We have fallen into such a miserable situation because we were victims of their schemes! When you came back last year, we were still so happy and peaceful as a family. But look at us now! We end up in such a horrifying situation."

Wei Fengyao's curse and sob echoed inside his mind like a sound from hell.

"Eldest Brother, are you not going to avenge me and Second Sister? And Mother too! Do you really believe that Mother has that kind of illicit relationship with another man? Brother... Eldest Brother..."

Wei Ziyang refused to believe that any of this was true. He hoped that it would be like the good old times when he returned to the capital for a harmonious and happy New Year celebration with his family and went back to the border with his uncle.

But now, he knew what had happened to the second branch. He did not want to stay with the second branch simply because he wanted to forget about the past as much as possible. Wei Yuewu had told him about what had happened to his mother, and he had witnessed the incident in Li Mansion with his own eyes. It was his father who had punished his mother.

Wei Ziyang really could not believe that this matter had something to do with a young girl like Wei Yuewu!

But if it was none of Wei Yuewu's business, the coincidence of this matter was too bizarre and unbelievable. It seemed that all the evidence was against his mother, so much so that his mother was exiled and could not even return to the mansion. He hated Lady Li because of this and could not understand why she could be so shameless as to commit such an atrocious thing.

On second thought after the resentment, he felt inexplicably sad when he saw how miserable Lady Li was. She was, after all, his mother, and he could not turn his back on her no matter what she had done.

However, every time he went to Li Mansion, Lady Li would insist that Wei Yuewu had framed her, but she couldn't give a specific answer when he pursued the matter in detail. The ambiguity and hesitation were enough for Wei Ziyang to interpret the matter in a different way and realize something distinctive.

It was Lady Li at first, and now, something happened to Wei Fengyao. Wei Ziyang felt like something was strangling him, and he was in great despair. He didn't know how to deal with this feeling, thus, he had the thought of escaping all of a sudden.

He could not stay with this family anymore! He wanted to become a monk like Master Fenghe. From then on, he would not have anything to do with these worldly matters.

The more he thought about this idea, the more he made sense out of it. Eventually, it became an obsession. He felt that he would solve all the troubles when he became a monk.

Just as he was deep in his thought, Wei Luowen walked in with a gloomy face.

"Eldest Uncle," Wei Ziyang greeted and stood up quietly while looking at Han Ming. He knew that Han Ming, his dear friend, would go and invite Eldest Uncle over. Han Ming did the right thing. He couldn't selfishly put the burden on Han Ming because of his personal affairs. Han Ming would have been blamed had he allowed him to become a monk without informing anyone in the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

"What are you thinking? Are you out of your mind?!" Wei Luowen growled angrily as he glared at his outstanding nephew. In his heart, he treated his nephew as his own son.

It was unwise of Wei Luowen to adopt Wei Ziyang as his son because Wei Ziyang was his brother's only son. Otherwise, Wei Luowen would have adopted Wei Ziyang officially, and it would be more justifiable for the latter to inherit the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang in the future!

This was what the first branch owed the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang in the first place!

“Eldest Uncle, I beg for your permission to allow me to become a monk!” Wei Ziyang abruptly knelt down and bowed to Wei Luowen. His expression was calm and composed as he stated his intention. Then, he took out something from his pocket and slowly revealed it to Wei Luowen. A cold light flashed. It was...

#### Chapter 387 No a Chance

A cold light flashed. It was actually a short sword, emitting a cold and oppressive aura!

This was the short sword that represented the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's successor, which was also the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang's family heirloom. However, at this moment, Wei Ziyang handed it back to Wei Luowen.

“Nonsense! Do you still remember what I taught you!” Wei Luowen was so frustrated that his face turned pale. He paced the room with his hands behind his back a few times before standing in front of Wei Ziyang and asking sharply.

“When an honorable man handles things, he shall judge right from wrong disregarding his own wellbeing!” Wei Ziyang lowered his head in embarrassment as he recalled the guidance Wei Luowen had given him personally in the past. He felt very ashamed and guilty at this moment. For him, Wei Luowen was more than his uncle. He was like his father, and even more.

He had grown up by Wei Luowen's side since he was a child, and Wei Luowen taught him martial arts and educated him hand-in-hand. Wei Luowen even lectured him on soft skills. Wei Ziyang could feel that Wei Luowen was sincere and genuine in guiding him, but at this moment, he had to go back on his own heroic words he had once told Wei Luowen and thought of becoming a monk in his despair.

This very thought had betrayed Wei Luowen's meticulous guidance all these years!

"Since we are judging right from wrong and disregarding our own wellbeing, why do you behave like those women in the backyard? I remember telling you that you are a man. No matter how serious the matter in the backyard is, it is not as important as the matter of the country, isn't it?!" Wei Luowen asked sternly.

He didn't know what was going on with Wei Ziyang that instigated him to make such a bizarre decision, but he knew that Wei Fengyao must have told him something since Wei Ziyang had this idea after visiting her.

Wei Luowen used to think that Wei Fengyao was a nice girl, but now that he thought about it again, he felt that she was insensible and unwise. How could she have thought of becoming the so-called referee in the palace for those troublesome heirs-apparent? As a result, she was injured seriously. In addition, he heard that she was ill-treated in Prince Nan'an Mansion. However, Wei Luowen was certain that Prince Nan'an Mansion would not harm her for the sake of himself and his second brother.

All she needed to do now was rest well and recover from her injuries and not talk nonsense to Wei Ziyang. Because of her unwise move, Wei Ziyang even thought about becoming a monk! From this matter, Wei Luowen deduced that Wei Fengyao was not a good sister to Wei Ziyang. In fact, she did not behave like a decent young lady of an aristocratic family.

She actually disturbed her own brother because of the matter of the backyard.

"Uncle, i-if it was between family and fact, which side should I choose?" Wei Ziyang lowered his head even more in embarrassment after hearing Wei Luowen's furious rebuke and asked timidly.

"You should choose fact over family!" Wei Luowen said resolutely.

"But..." Wei Ziyang hesitated.

"A real man should not act like an ignorant woman!" Wei Luowen scolded him mercilessly.

His rebuke made Wei Ziyang's handsome face turn red. He did not know how to respond to this. Despite the lingering hesitation, his desire to become a monk faded a lot. Wei Luowen was right. His attitude was no different from that of an ignorant woman!

Han Ming, on the other hand, was good at judging people's expressions. Moreover, he had grown up together with Wei Ziyang. Judging from Wei Ziyang's reaction, he knew that Wei Ziyang was hesitating about his decision. Hence, he hurried over with a smile and helped Wei Ziyang up. "Brother Ziyang, look at how anxious you have made Lord Marquis. He rushed over in such a hurry that he even put aside his concern about Madam Dowager who is sick."

"Grandmother is sick?" Wei Ziyang was shocked and got up abruptly.

"Yes, I am sick, but I still have to come and see you, imbecile!" Madam Dowager's furious voice suddenly came from the door. Everyone turned around and saw the enraged Madam Dowager staggering into the house. "What the hell are you thinking? Do you want to make me so angry that I'm gonna die of rage?!"

"Grandmother!" Wei Ziyang fell to his knees again.

"Tell me, what is it that you can't think things through and want to become a monk?" Madam Dowager approached supported by Nanny Hong and rebuked angrily.

"No, I have changed my mind!" Wei Ziyang obediently shook his head, not wanting Grandmother to see his anxious appearance. "Grandmother, let's go home, shall we?"

Wei Ziyang was worried about Madam Dowager's condition and wanted her to return to the mansion to rest.

"G-Go home? You want to go home with us?" Overjoyed, Madam Dowager urged the servants to help Wei Ziyang up. Wei Ziyang had refused to come home because of Lady Li's matter. To her surprise, he wanted to go back with her this time.

“Yes, Grandmother. Let’s go home!” Wei Ziyang stood up and came over to hold Madam Dowager’s arm. With his support, Madam Dowager happily turned around and walked out. She was so happy that she even forgot to say goodbye to Prefectural Prince Huai.

Seeing that Wei Ziyang looked relaxed, Wei Luowen also let out a sigh of relief. He cupped his fists and bowed at Prefectural Prince Huai before trotting after Madam Dowager and Wei Ziyang.

Han Ming had been at the back, smiling as he watched them leave. He had already been informed about Madam Dowager’s arrival, so he had people lead her here. Now that Wei Ziyang seemed relieved and fine, he felt glad and delighted.

“Prefectural Prince, Master invites you over,” a lad servant trotted over and whispered to him.

“Alright, I’ll be right there!” Han Ming knew that the lad servant was referring to his uncle, who was now called Master Fenghe.

Since Wei Ziyang’s problem had been settled, he ordered his servants to clean up the house and pack up Wei Ziyang’s belongings to be delivered to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang before he hurried to the backyard. He had not officially married yet, so there was no woman in the backyard. Master Fenghe lived in a deserted yard in the corner of the backyard.

Usually, Master Fenghe would be here if he didn’t go to the palace.

“Master!” When Han Ming entered the courtyard, he saw Master Fenghe standing in the courtyard with his hands behind his back, looking at a tall tree in the courtyard.

“Have they left?” Master Fenghe asked without looking back.

“Yes, they have,” Han Ming answered honestly, knowing that he was asking about Wei Ziyang.

“Good. If he has such thoughts again in the future, it is better to report it to Marquis Hua Yang immediately!” Master Fenghe pondered for a moment and said.

“Yes, I will.” Previously, he was helpless about what to do. Thanks to the message from Master Fenghe, he managed to invite Wei Luowen over and have Wei Ziyang go back to the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang on his own accord.

He never understood why his uncle would suddenly abandon everything and become a monk in his prime at that time, but now, he did not allow Wei Ziyang to do the same thing he had done!

Han Ming had once heard his mother talk about his uncle. He was once a talented and charismatic man, but in the end, he chose to become a monk. Even now, no one knew why he, who was then the heir-apparent of Prefectural Prince Huai, would suddenly become a monk so resolutely.

“You should help Wei Ziyang as much as you can if he’s in dilemma,” Master Fenghe advised gently.

“Yes, I will.” Han Ming always felt that his uncle was too enthusiastic about the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang’s matter. More bizarrely, Master Fenghe suddenly talked about his marriage a few days ago, and he even faintly expressed that it would be very good if Han Ming could marry the Sixth Young Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

“Anyway, what do you think about the matter I told you the last time?” Master Fenghe turned around and looked very kind.

“Uh... I have to wait until after the Crown Prince’s nation-wide selection, right?” Han Ming could feel his ears heat up. Was his uncle talking about the girl with bright eyes? Well, he would agree to the marriage if his bride was her. On the other hand, he was worried. She was so outstanding and beautiful, would the Crown Prince really not select her?

“The Crown Prince will not choose her,” Master Fenghe said calmly. He seemed to have thought of something because his smile faded slightly, and a trace of exhaustion flashed across his face. He waved his hand, indicating that Han Ming could leave.

Han Ming bowed respectfully to him again before leaving the yard. He stood outside the door, dazed and confused. Would His Highness really not choose her?

On second thought, he felt that his uncle was right. He heard that her Fourth Elder Sister had been selected to enter the Crown Prince Mansion, but the matter was postponed because something had happened. He put two to two together and deduced that the girl would not be selected.

While Han Ming was figuring this matter out, the Empress' decree arrived at the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

Madam Dowager had just come back with Wei Ziyang when she heard the report from an old maidservant, saying that the imperial decree from the Empress had arrived. Wei Luowen had already gone to accept the decree, while Madam Dowager ordered her maid to inform Wei Qiufu, she went back to her courtyard to tidy herself up, and then led Wei Qiufu, who had rushed over, to the main hall.

Seeing Madam Dowager and Wei Qiufu come out, the eunuch stood up and announced the imperial decree.

The decree was generally about how virtuous and dignified the Fourth Young Lady of the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang was. As the role model for the young ladies of aristocratic families, the Fourth Young Lady would be promoted to Liangdi of the Crown Prince.

Liangdi was directly below the junior concubine of the Crown Prince, which could be considered a high-ranking concubine. However, she had no chance to be promoted as Crown Princess. At the thought of this, Madam Dowager sighed involuntarily due to disappointment, but she immediately revealed a smile. No matter what, this result was much better than she had predicted before.

The incident in Plum Blossom Nunnery almost ruined Wei Qiufu's future. Fortunately, she had been selected to enter Crown Prince Mansion and was appointed as a high-ranking concubine.

Nanny Hong handed the eunuch a pouch, which she had prepared earlier on. The eunuch pinched the pouch to feel its thickness. Then, he gleefully exchanged some simple pleasantries before returning to the palace.

“Qiufu, from now on, you have to be extremely alert and watch out your own words and actions!” Madam Dowager advised while asking the old maidservant to help Wei Qiufu up, who was still in a daze.

“Yes, Grandmother!” At this time, Wei Qiufu had already come back to her senses. She lowered her head, and a trace of hatred flashed in her eyes!

If it weren't for Wei Yuewu, she would have been able to be appointed as a high-ranking concubine, at the very least! Judging from how the Crown Prince had treated her by showering her with endless gifts, Wei Qiufu was confident that she would be appointed as a secondary concubine. But now, she wasn't appointed as a junior nor secondary concubine! Wei Qiufu was resentful of this.

On the other hand, now that she was bestowed with the title of an official concubine, she could be considered noble in the mansion. She was aware of this from the tone of Madam Dowager's voice, which had softened tremendously.

But this was not enough. It would be even better if she could convince the Crown Prince to change her status!

Wasn't the Crown Prince curious about Wei Yuewu's birth mother before? She could start from here and change things up a little. In fact, she could do better! Although she had only vaguely heard the rumors from the old maidservant, she could have guessed something out of it.

As for the battle between Wei Yuewu and Concubine Dong, she would sit by as an audience and watch...

There would be plenty of opportunities to make her move against Wei Yuewu, that wretched girl!

“What? Fourth Young Lady has been conferred the title of Liangdi?” Shufei held the fruit plate in her hand and stared at the little maid who came to deliver the message.

“Yes, Madam Dowager is currently organizing a feast to celebrate!” The girl smiled happily while saying. She happened to be in the front yard just now and received a red packet. Later, they would distribute red packets in the backyard, meaning that she would get two red packets!

Wei Qiufu became Liangdi? Wei Yuewu stood in front of the window quietly, listening to the words in the courtyard clearly. She curled her lips into a mocking smile. No matter how she looked at it, she felt that the Crown Prince's favor toward Wei Qiufu was a bit strange. It seemed like he was protecting her, but also not protecting her.

It really made her suspicious...

What exactly did Wen Tianyao want to know? Or what did he know?

She turned around from the window and walked to the writing desk. She took out a scroll of painting from the top of the writing desk and slowly unfolded it...

### Chapter 388 Was There a Prince's Residence?

The painting was unfolded. It was a painting of a woman gracefully standing at the gate of the courtyard. The green scenery filled the gate, but they were no match for the woman's sweet smile.

Wei Yuewu drew this painting herself, and the woman in the painting was her biological mother, Qin Xinrui. She once saw the portrait of her mother by chance in Wei Luowen's study. After returning to her room, she drew a picture of her mother based on her memory.

In fact, if one looked closely, one would find that they did not look alike, but at first glance, they had some similarities.

This was the portrait that she intended and had promised to give to Wen Tianyao. However, she could not give this portrait away in person, so she had figured out another way...

Early in the morning, a carriage, which had been prepared beforehand, was parked in front of the mansion. Wei Luowen and Wei Yuewu got on the carriage and headed to the mansion of the Heir-apparent of the Duke of Yan State along with a group of bodyguards in splendid uniforms.

With such an eye-catching demeanor, the massive convoy attracted the attention of the passers-by, causing them to guess whose carriage this was. After looking closer at the symbol on the carriage, they realized that it was the carriage of Marquis Hua Yang. Now, they wondered where the carriage was heading or if they were going somewhere to apprehend criminals.

Wei Yuewu stole a few glances at Wei Luowen, who brought so many people with them to Duke of Yan State Mansion, and giggled in amusement. She knew that by doing so, her father wanted to make it clear in public that Yan Huaijing and Wei Yuewu were not in any kind of relationship. That was why he brought her to thank Yan Huaijing with such great fanfare.

Yan Huaijing had already received the news about Wei Luowen's overly presumptuous visit.

"There's no need to open the front door to welcome them!" He put down the writing brush in his hand and smiled lazily. He was as handsome as ever and looked perfect from all angles.

"Really?" Lin Fang muttered in confusion. "But Marquis Hua Yang is a favored minister nowadays. Maybe it will do good to us by welcoming him warmly."

"No need. He comes to thank me for saving his daughter, doesn't he? So, he won't be mad at me for not being courteous," Yan Huaijing said indifferently. He got up and walked to the living room of the outer courtyard.

"Sixth Miss Wei is Marquis Hua Yang's biological daughter, and I heard that he loves her very much!" Lin Fang jogged up to Yan Huaijing and reminded him with a smile.

Of course, he did not do this out of kindness, but simply out of curiosity and amusement. He could tell that his master treated Wei Yuewu differently, but Yan Huaijing seemed aloof and uninterested now that her father came to visit him in person. He didn't know what Yan Huaijing was thinking about.

"Loves her very much? Do you call it love by abandoning her for decades?" Yan Huaijing gracefully turned his head to look at Lin Fang, whose face was full of curiosity. "How about you bring up this past when they're here?"

"What?!" Lin Fang was taken aback. Then, he came to his senses and stammered while waving his hands, "N-No, Your Heir-apparent, I'm very busy!"

"How is the progress of the matter I asked you to do last time?" Yan Huaijing asked gently.

However, it made Lin Fang feel sheepish. "Your Heir-apparent... I... I'm actually very busy these days. I have to deal with the matters inside and outside of the mansion. Also, there are always people who want to spy on the young lady of the mansion. I... I have to keep an eye on her every day so that no one finds out about it!"

Of course, Lin Fang felt sheepish because he had not settled that matter yet after so long!

"Can you hurry up?" Yang Huaijing urged leisurely as if he didn't hear the complaint in Lin Fang's tone. "If you really can't do it, you can go back to the country, lest you are too busy here."

"No, please don't send me back! I'm okay, I can do it! Actually, I have the strength and ability to help you. I've already delivered the message to my father about this matter, but their reply is a bit slow. It's actually beyond my control." Lin Fang patted his chest and avowed with a serious face, "Your Heir-apparent, I can do anything for you no matter how tired I am!"

What, the heir-apparent was not kidding, right? Did he really want to send him back at such a critical moment?

He was sensitive enough to sense that the heir-apparent was different from usual. He would miss the fun if he went back now! Therefore, he would not go back no matter what.

"Are you sure? It's going to be very exhausted. Are you not afraid?" Yan Huaijing glanced at him.

"No, I'm not!" Lin Fang hurriedly shook his head.

"Alright then. When Marquis Hua Yang arrives, invite him in. I'll be waiting for him in the living room in front! After that, don't come over. Also, go and speed up the matter. If you don't do it well..." Yan Huaijing raised his eyebrows and looked at Lin Fang with amusement.

"Alright..." Lin Fang grunted in disappointment, and his spirit immediately dissipated. So, the heir-apparent had no intention of letting him stay to watch the drama unfold. However, he felt guilty again when that matter was brought up. He planned to push this matter aside as he had been very busy these past two days. Now, it seemed that the heir-apparent had been paying close attention to this matter and could not allow it to be delayed for even a second.

In that case, he should increase his momentum and speed things up too!

Wei Luowen and Wei Yuewu were welcomed to the living room by Lin Fang. Just as they arrived at the door, they heard a laugh from inside. Yan Huaijing appeared at the door, dressed in a white brocade robe.

“Welcome to my humble mansion, Marquis Hua Yang! Your presence brings honor to my dwelling!”

The simple white brocade robe did not look simple at all on his body. It actually emphasized his good looks, tall figure, and extraordinary temperament.

His pair of enchanting eyes were gentle and calm. With a faint smile, he looked at Wei Luowen before turning to Wei Yuewu, and there seemed to be a flash of light in his eyes.

Wei Luowen was very unhappy that Yan Huaijing had rudely turned his eyes to his daughter. He snorted coldly and moved to block Yan Huaijing’s line of sight.

“You’re welcome, Your Heir-apparent. I’ve been wanting to bring Yuewu over to thank you, but I was too busy recently because of some personal affairs.”

“Marquis Hua Yang, you don’t have to be so polite. This way, please!” Yan Huaijing leisurely withdrew his gaze, not minding Wei Luowen’s obvious gesture. He retreated to the side with a faint smile.

With that, everyone walked in and took their seats. Wei Yuewu sat next to Wei Luowen and slightly lowered her head without saying anything.

Her father was the main cast today, and she was simply the walk-in.

“I heard that you saved Yuewu several times. I brought her here to express my gratitude to you as well as some gifts for you!” Wei Luowen gestured at the bodyguard beside him, who nodded and walked to

the outside of the living room to nod to the few bodyguards. After that, the bodyguards walked in two by two carrying four boxes in.

Then, they lined up the boxes one by one in the living room and opened them.

There were all kinds of silk, gold, silver, and valuables that fit into four boxes. Wei Yuewu was mesmerized by the sight and her father's generosity. These items were very expensive in total.

"Marquis Hua Yang, you..." Yan Huaijing looked up at Wei Luowen and asked leisurely, "Is this money worth as much as Sixth Miss Wei's life?"

His question made Wei Yuewu blink in bewilderment, and the smile on her face became stiff.

Yan Huaijing looked extremely elegant and was suspected to be an immortal from heaven who had entered the mortal world, but his words were extremely sharp. In fact, his question was a direct hit to Wei Luowen.

Although these treasures were quite precious, one couldn't say for sure how valuable they were compared with human life.

These items would be way too valuable if he was referring to someone whom Wei Luowen did not value.

But if the person was someone he cared for and loved, her life was worth much more than any item in the world.

Wei Luowen's face twisted in a resentful grimace, and the hideous scars on his face seemed fierce and ruthless. Wei Luowen gritted his teeth and glared at Yan Huaijing. "What do you mean by that, Your Heir-apparent?"

The atmosphere in the living room became a bit heavy. It felt as if they were going to fight soon.

Yan Huaijing suddenly laughed. “Marquis Hua Yang, I’m just asking if you value Sixth Miss Wei. I heard that the assassination of Sixth Miss Wei on the way to the capital was premeditated. I wonder if you have discovered anything about this.”

These remarks made Wei Luowen change his expression slightly. He looked at Wei Yuewu and felt a little ashamed. He did investigate the matter, but his men couldn’t find anything. The only information they obtained was that Yan Huaijing and Mo Huating were both there at that time.

However, Mo Huating was going to pick up Yuewu, while Yan Huaijing was on the way to the capital. Therefore, it was hard to say which one of them was involved with this matter!

Previously, Wei Yuewu had told him that Mo Huating had something to do with this assassination, but no matter how he investigated this matter, he couldn’t find any traces or clues. Mo Huating was there to pick up Wei Yuewu in the first place. As for why Wei Yan’s maid was with Mo Huating, he deduced that the maid was there for some ulterior motives.

Otherwise, why would the person who had gone to pick up Yuewu join Mo Huating’s group, making Mo Huating have no choice but to bring her back to the capital?

He was working in the military. Only when he obtained any evidence could he determine that Mo Huating was guilty. Although he was a little suspicious, he couldn’t prove anything, and he was suspicious of Yan Huaijing too.

Why did he appear there so coincidentally? He heard that place wasn’t on his route to the capital. Why did he suddenly make a detour and change his route?

As he put two and two together, Wei Luowen suspected Mo Huating as much as he suspected Yan Huaijing. However, it was a fact that Yan Huaijing had saved Wei Yuewu. In fact, when Wei Yuewu fell from the high platform at Madam Dowager’s birthday banquet, it was also Yan Huaijing who grabbed her.

There were witnesses who saw these things with their own eyes. Therefore, Wei Luowen came to thank Yan Huaijing.

“No, I haven’t found anything yet, but I’m curious to know why you suddenly changed your route and went to that small town at that time.” Wei Luowen pondered for a moment, and then his eyes turned back to Yan Huaijing.

“Marquis Hua Yang, do you suspect me too?” Yan Huaijing cut to the chase with an enchanting smile on his face.

“Actually... I’m just curious about your schedule. How did you coincidentally appear at the place where Yuewu encountered an assassination?” Wei Luowen coughed dryly before answering due to Yan Huaijing’s obvious statement. Originally, there were some things that he wanted to say, but Yan Huaijing’s provocation made him unable to say them out loud.

Yan Huaijing laughed, his slender fingers lightly tapping on the table twice. Then, he raised his head and confided meaningfully, “Of course, I have a reason, and it is an important reason. Perhaps this matter has something to do with you, Marquis Hua Yang!”

“What do you mean?” Wei Luowen’s face tightened slightly.

Wei Yuewu looked at Wei Luowen’s somewhat nervous expression and then at Yan Huaijing who seemed to figure out everything. Her eyes were deep, and she clenched her hands, which were on her knees. Maybe this matter could solve her doubts.

“I heard that the place used to be the residence of a Prince...” Yan Huaijing stared at Wei Luowen and smiled slightly.

Before Yan Huaijing finished speaking, Wei Luowen suddenly stood up and slammed the table with one hand. The scar on his face looked particularly ferocious...

## Chapter 389 Something She Dropped During the Assassination

“What’s wrong, Marquis Hua Yang? Are you alright?” Yan Huaijing smiled even more gently and elegantly.

Only Little Dezi, who was standing behind him, couldn't help but lean back. Someone had provoked the heir-apparent. It was better for him to keep a distance now.

"In that small town..." Wei Luowen slowly adjusted his expression. He forced a smile and slowly sat down again. "How could there be a Prince's mansion in that small town? I find it strange!"

There were some things that no one had ever known, or rather, most of the people who knew about them had died. The ones who survived were all his trusted servants. It was impossible for Yan Huaijing to know about this. A fierce look flashed across Wei Luowen's eyes.

This matter was of great importance, and it was no longer a matter concerning his life alone!

"Well, I'm not clear either. I just heard that Prince Bei'an used to like to visit that place and he even brought his favorite woman to stay there for a period of time, so I went to take a look for the sake of my curiosity. Hmm, is my guess correct? Was there really a Prince's mansion?" Yan Huaijing smiled evilly, and his fingers gently tapped on the table again, looking relaxed and tranquil.

Wei Yuewu was suddenly shocked. Prince Bei'an Mansion!

She could now be sure that the mansion of Duke of Jing was the former Prince Bei'an Mansion, but she had never expected that Prince Bei'an had actually been to the small town where she was almost assassinated and lived there for some time.

As the most beloved son of the Emperor at that time, why did Prince Bei'an go to such a rural and small town for a vacation? The reason would not be so simple. What was he doing in the town?

Moreover, judging from her father's reaction, she could tell that he was aware of this. At first, she thought that it was related to her mother or her maternal grandparents. Only now did she realize that not only her mother but her father also had something to do with Prince Bei'an Mansion.

She had a suspicion about her second uncle too. Why did he keep away the private collection of books about Prince Bei'an Mansion? Was it for a simple personal reason or more than that?

The plot thickened. Because of Wei Luowen's unexpected reaction, Wei Yuewu felt more and more confused. The mist of mystery was growing bigger and bigger as if it was going to engulf the entire mansion of Marquis Hua Yang.

Prince Bei'an Mansion and the mansion of Marquis Hua Yang seemed to be closely related, but she could not find any trace of contact!

Her eyes flashed, and she glanced at Wei Luowen without batting an eyelid. Then, she glanced at Yan Huaijing and happened to bump into his enchanting, charming, affectionate, and smiley eyes. She hurriedly retracted her gaze and feigned calmness. Did Yan Huaijing know something that she didn't?

Was it really not a coincidence that he saved her?

It was a pleasant surprise that she could hear such an exciting secret during this trip.

"Oh, there is such a rumor. I'm sorry, but I have been at the border for so long that I have always been ignorant," Wei Luowen grunted with a cold expression.

"In fact, these rumors have always been spreading and circulating in the society. It is said that Prince Bei'an had left a large sum of money, waiting for the opportunity to rise again. Unfortunately, he had been imprisoned for so many years and had no way to escape. Because of this, the enormous wealth was buried in vain."

Yan Huaijing narrowed his eyes and smiled leisurely. "Well, there is also another rumor that said Prince Bei'an had escaped from his imprisonment and is now hiding among the commoners, waiting for a chance to strike back and rise."

Yan Huaijing's remarks were a mixture of truth and false, and they were all rumors, so it was hard to distinguish if they were facts or hoaxes. However, when Wei Luowen heard his so-called confusing nonsense, he felt his heart skip a beat. He tried hard to suppress the shock in his heart, but the underlying meaning in Yan Huaijing's words still terrified him, so much so that his expression was slightly tense.

Thanks to his time in the military since he was young, he was good at controlling his emotions. After a brief moment of being shocked, he calmed down. While glancing at Yan Huaijing, he picked up the tea beside him and took a sip. Then, he asked coldly, “Your Heir-apparent, why do you tell me this? Do you think that Yuewu’s assassination has something to do with this matter?”

“Well, perhaps it’s related! If Prince Bei’an’s treasure was really stored at that place, it would attract the attention of greedy people. It was possible that someone misunderstood Sixth Miss Wei’s presence in that town and tried to kill her!” Yan Huaijing laughed and said leisurely.

“Your Heir-apparent, please don’t joke around. When the former Emperor was alive, he had banned all kinds of topics about Prince Bei’an Mansion!” Wei Luowen snapped in a deep voice.

“It has been so many years. Even if Prince Bei’an went a little overboard, it had already passed. Moreover, Prince Bei’an didn’t rebel in the end. Why did the Emperor forbid anyone to mention him? They were a family. Why did the Emperor treat him so harshly?” Yan Huaijing raised his handsome eyes. He looked like a ruffian, but at the same time, he looked elegant and mystifying.

However, he did not show much respect to the former Emperor and Prince Bei’an by saying such statements.

Of course, Wei Luowen knew that with Yan Huaijing’s current status, he would not be apprehended even after saying such harsh words. With State of Yan’s backing, he could be pompous, and no one would dare to easily make a move against him.

“Thank you for saving Yuewu’s life!” Wei Luowen didn’t want to pursue this topic and keep beating around the bush, so he directly changed the subject. “This time, I specially came to express my gratitude. I will continue to investigate Yuewu’s assassination. I can’t let her be frightened for nothing!”

“Frightened? Don’t you think that’s a bit of an understatement? If it weren’t for me who was at the right place at the right time, Sixth Young Lady would have died. The people wouldn’t have known that Marquis Hua Yang loves not only his concubine’s daughter but also his legitimate daughter!” Yan Huaijing raised his eyebrows and leaned back lazily.

However, his remarks irritated Wei Luowen again. He furiously slammed his hand on the table and barked, “Your Heir-apparent, what do you mean by that?!”

“Does it matter? The people only know that Sixth Miss Wei was abandoned by her own father and had been ignored for years. It was perhaps because of this that the series of unfortunate events kept happening to her. May I know if Third Miss Wei, who grew up beside you and has been protected by you all the time, ever encounter such a thing? In fact, I did say a SERIES of unfortunate events, didn’t I? Don’t you think you should investigate it carefully?”

Yan Huaijing raised his eyes, and his smile became gentler and more elegant, but Wei Luowen was rendered speechless.

Then, Wei Luowen turned to look at Wei Yuewu, who had been lowering her head, and the guilt in his eyes was more obvious.

Compared with his eldest daughter, this youngest daughter was indeed in a lot of crises and disasters. She was blessed to be able to survive until now. He thought that he was doing the right thing, but actually, it caused more harm to her!

“I will handle Yuewu’s matter!” Wei Luowen took a deep breath and affirmed.

“I remember giving you a painting before, right? This is what I meant!” Yan Huaijing suddenly stopped asking and changed the topic.

A painting? Wei Yuewu blinked and looked at Yan Huaijing in confusion. She didn’t know when Yan Huaijing gave her father a painting, nor did she know what the painting was and why the atmosphere between her father and Yan Huaijing suddenly became strange?

Wei Luowen began to breathe heavily. He wanted to suppress the anger in his heart, but he couldn’t suppress it even after a few deep breaths. How could he let his daughter become Yan Huaijing’s concubine?!

“Your Heir-apparent, Yuewu’s matter is none of your business. From now on, I hope that you can keep a distance from Yuewu. I will send a big gift on your wedding day if you marry the Princess one day!” Wei Luowen hissed the words out from his gnashing teeth.

With Wei Luowen's vicious expression, he looked more like to be here to quarrel rather than to express his gratitude.

Wei Luowen was literally hinting Yan Huaijing had come to the capital to marry the Princess, so he should stay away from Wei Yuewu. In fact, he hoped that Yan Huaijing would stop approaching Wei Yuewu for the sake of the favor of rescuing her.

"Well, it was up to the Emperor whether I can marry the Princess or not. The State of Yan has always been loyal to the Emperor, so I will obey his order wholeheartedly. I don't really mind the gesture of expressing your gratitude to me because I am even more delighted that I have the chance to get to know Sixth Miss Wei. By the way, I picked up something that Sixth Young Lady dropped at that time. I wonder if she still wants it?"

Yan Huaijing spoke in such a respectful manner, but the meaning behind his words irritated Wei Luowen, making him feel like his warning was in vain.

"What is it?" Wei Luowen had an inexplicable sense of vigilance toward Yan Huaijing.

Wei Yuewu also raised her head skeptically, surprised to know that Yan Huaijing had her belonging. She remembered that other than a few unwanted books, she lost literally everything that day.

Mo Huating executed his plan very well. He did not leave anything for her.

"Actually, it's not a big deal. It's actually a person!" Yan Huaijing chuckled leisurely.

"A person?" Wei Yuewu suddenly stood up, looking worked up and unable to hide her excitement. "Who is it?"

Did someone survive that ordeal? It was totally beyond her expectation.

"Calm down, Sixth Young Lady. Actually, it's not a person, but something that a person dropped. Also, I'm quite puzzled to figure out whether this thing belongs to you or not." Yan Huaijing smiled lazily.

“What is it?” Wei Yuewu’s breathing also quickened. Even though she told herself that whatever this cunning fox said might not be reliable, she could not help but widen her lively eyes in anticipation.

“Little Dezi, bring the thing over!” Yan Huaijing ordered with a smile.

Little Dezi responded and walked out from behind him with a very small box in his hand. It didn’t look exquisite or special, but Wei Yuewu stood up in astonishment. She was very familiar with the box and even knew what was inside because she had carried the box with her everywhere she went since she was a child.

She had always thought that she had lost the box forever, but to her ultimate surprise, it was not gone! She was over the moon! She stood up and walked a few steps forward involuntarily, her clear eyes filled with indescribable joy. This was something that her mother had left for her, and she had always brought it with her.

Behind her, Wei Luowen gasped in shock and disbelief, and his expression changed dramatically. He was about to extend his hand when he realized that Yan Huaijing was staring at him with his sharp eyes, and he quickly retracted his hand and put it on the table.

That thing? It was that thing? Did Rui’er have it all along? Why did he know nothing about it?!

## Chapter 390 She Thought She Lost It

“This item fell from the hands of the dead maid who took her place! She clenched her fist so tightly when she died that no one noticed she was holding such a small box in her hand,” Yan Huaijing recounted with a leisurely smile as if he hadn’t noticed the dramatic changes in expressions of Wei Yuewu and Wei Luowen.

Qin Ruo was holding the box? Wei Yuewu slowly came to her senses. She remembered that she was there when they handled Qin Ruo’s body. It was mainly Yan Huaijing’s bodyguards who helped her, but no one told her about it at that time, and Yan Huaijing didn’t say anything either later.

However, she did not expect that Yan Huaijing would take it out at this time!

This was something that her mother had left for her. In fact, she had been wearing it as a necklace all the while. She must have dropped it accidentally when she was running away from Mo Huating, who tried to kill her at that time. Qin Ruo probably had noticed it. Hence, she picked it up and held it tightly in her hand, hoping that she could see it.

But at that time, all she could think of was defending herself from Mo Huating, so she didn't notice the item in Qin Ruo's hand. In the end, Yan Huaijing found it and kept it.

However, it seemed that the box had not been opened. The old seal was still there, and above the opening of the box that was glued with ancient and yellowish wax was a red wax seal. She had been wearing it since she was a child. Her maternal grandmother told her that her mother especially left it for her, and that she must wear it all the time.

As a result, she wore the small box like a necklace pendant. Only Qin Ruo and her maternal grandmother knew about this!

Taking the small box from Little Dezi, Wei Yuewu looked at Yan Huaijing in surprise, not knowing why he kept her thing. This was something that her mother had told her to wear all the time, and she did as she was told. However, when she realized that she lost it, she had to leave in a hurry and had no time to search for it. Because of this, Wei Yuewu was sad for a long time.

"Thank you, Your Heir-apparent. Yes, it is my thing." Wei Yuewu bowed respectfully to Yan Huaijing. Her expression slowly returned to normal. Although she did not know what this sly man tended to do, Wei Yuewu did not think that Yan Huaijing had any ulterior motives against her.

Moreover, he was quite a gentleman by not opening the seal to take a look at the content of the box.

In fact, Wei Yuewu did not know what was inside. It was probably empty too.

"Your Heir-apparent, I also have a gift for you. The gift my father gave you is from him, and I have something I want to give you personally." Wei Yuewu turned around and waved to Jin Ling.

Jin Ling came over with a scroll in her hand, raised it above her head, and respectfully presented it to him.

“I heard that you like this kind of painting, so I gave this to you as a token of my appreciation,” Wei Yuewu said with a gentle smile.

Yan Huaijing was very happy that Wei Yuewu, his little fox, was very sensible and prepared a personal gift for him. He was satisfied with her action.

Little Dezi had already taken the scroll from Jin Ling’s hands and stood to the side with a smile.

Wei Luowen did not expect that Wei Yuewu had also prepared a gift for Yan Huaijing. He was curious about the painting and wanted to look at it, but Little Dezi had already accepted it, so he decided to remain quiet. At this moment, his mind was full of thoughts, and he did not want to stay and have verbal sparring with Yan Huaijing.

He expressed his leave by saying that there was something he needed to settle in the mansion and left with Wei Yuewu.

Wei Yuewu held Jin Ling’s hand and got into the carriage, but the carriage did not move. Just as they were feeling strange, they saw that Wei Luowen suddenly hopped onto the carriage and gave Jin Ling a sideways glance.

Jin Ling understood and hurriedly came out of the carriage and sat on the shaft of the carriage.

The carriage slowly started.

“Yuewu, can you let me look at the box? I haven’t seen it for many years!” Wei Luowen sighed, but he looked outside the window, with a somewhat absent-minded vibe.

“Sure, Father!” Wei Yuewu handed over the small box in her hand and glanced at Wei Luowen quietly. She noticed that her father seemed to be more worked up than her when he first saw the box.

Did her mother have any other motive for leaving this box to her?

She put the box lightly on Wei Luowen's palm. The box looked even smaller as it was placed on Wei Luowen's thick and big palm. Only now did Wei Yuewu realize how small the box was, so much so that it could barely keep anything.

A pair of earrings, perhaps? But would someone put earrings in such a box?

On second thought, what else could it hold besides earrings? She was very curious and clueless.

The box itself was an ordinary box made of nanmu wood. However, did the exquisite carving of the nanmu box indicate the uniqueness of the box?

"Father, what is this?" Wei Yuewu asked hesitantly.

"Did your mother ask you to keep it with you all the time?" The expression on Wei Luowen's face was very strange. He didn't look particularly happy or sad, but there was deep sorrow in it.

"Yes. Maternal grandmother told me not to tell anyone about it. She said that she got the instructions from Mother. Mother also instructed me to keep wearing it, so I wore it as a necklace. But it went missing during that incident. I had no idea that Qin Ruo was holding it at that time!" Wei Yuewu's expression dimmed. She bit her lips, and her eyes became fierce.

Therefore, she would never forget about avenging Qin Ruo!

At that moment, Qin Ruo had died for her. Wei Yuewu, who was living a peaceful and quiet life, also died with Qin Ruo that day!

"Since your mother asked you to keep it, you should keep it," Wei Luowen sighed. Originally, he thought that it was gone, and it didn't matter if it was. But since she left it for him on purpose, he should keep it.

He presumed that he didn't need to use the thing anymore.

However, he would never have thought that Rui'er had it and even kept it. She didn't tell him about it because she was ignoring him back then. But in the end, she handed it over to Yuewu. Did it mean that she also agreed with what he had done?

Did she not hate him so much, after all?

As he thought about this, an inexplicable sadness came from his heart. He lowered his head slightly, not letting his little daughter see the bitterness in his eyes.

"Father, what is this?" Wei Yuewu took the small box and asked.

"It is actually not something important. It is just a thought!" Wei Luowen smiled bitterly and shook his head. It was just a thought? It sounded so casual, but what happened when it materialized?

How many people had he stepped on to reach this point? Therefore, he had no way out...

His gaze fell on Wei Yuewu's pale little face. That face was different from Rui'er's. It was much colder, but at this time, there was a hint of concern. That pair of bright eyes reflected concern, and they made him involuntarily feel sad!

He had already disappointed Rui'er, so he would not allow anyone to hurt Yuewu! Never ever again!

In the study of the Duke of Yan State Mansion, Yan Huaijing unrolled the painting scroll that Wei Yuewu had given him, and his eyes darkened as he looked at the woman in the painting.

"Is this the painting that Sixth Miss Wei gave you?" Lin Fang, who came in quietly, looked at the painting and asked in astonishment. He did not expect Sixth Miss Wei to be so considerate to the heir-apparent.

But after thinking about it carefully, he felt that it made sense. He had never seen any young miss who didn't look shy or expectant in front of the heir-apparent. Yan Huaijing's handsome look would make the other young ladies fall head over heels in love with him.

"No, this is not her self-portrait." Yan Huaijing shook his head. He looked at the painting very carefully. On closer inspection, one would notice that Wei Yuewu's facial features were more exquisite, and they didn't look alike. Furthermore, the woman in the painting was about twenty years old, but Wei Yuewu was only thirteen.

"Who is that?" Lin Fang was taken aback. He observed more carefully again and realized that it was not Wei Yuewu.

"She is the late Marquise Hua Yang." Looking at the face that was somewhat similar to Wei Yuewu's, Yan Huaijing smiled slightly and reached out to take out a letter on the side of the painting scroll.

Wei Yuewu wrote the letter, stating that she needed Yan Huaijing's help to think of a way to deliver this painting to Crown Prince Wen Tianyao!

If Wei Yuewu presented the painting to Wen Tianyao in person, it would have a bit of ambiguous intention in it, and it would be a great deal when others found out. However, it would be normal if Yan Huaijing was the one who gifted it. In addition, Wei Yuewu was certain that Yan Huaijing would deliver it stealthily.

Yan Huaijing was overjoyed gloatingly that Wei Yuewu passed the painting to him and relied on him to do something for her. Although he was a little annoyed by the fact that the painting was not intended to be given to him but to an outsider and he even thought of pranking her because of this, he decided to let her off the hook this time since she trusted him so much.

"Your Heir-apparent, why did Sixth Miss Wei give her mother's portrait to you?" Lin Fang was confused. The heir-apparent's glittering eyes intrigued him to look at the painting closer, but just as he poked his head forward, Yan Huaijing spotted his action and folded the painting, so he couldn't see anything. Thus, he was very puzzled by Wei Yuewu's actions.

He had only heard of people giving away dowry, but he had never heard of someone giving away their own mother's portrait!

“Is Fourth Princess’ gift ready?” Yan Huaijing gently put the letter into his pocket and turned to ask Lin Fang.

At the mention of the serious matter, Lin Fang immediately restrained his mischievous smile and answered, “Yes, it’s the same as Third Princess’ gift.”

The Fourth Princess’ coming of age ceremony was around the corner, so he must deliver the gift to her beforehand. Lin Fang asked skeptically, “Your Heir-apparent, Fourth Princess is the Empress’ biological daughter. Is it appropriate to give her the same gift as you gave the Third Princess?”

“Of course, it is appropriate. The State of Yan treats the two princesses equally, so we can’t look down on the Third Princess just because she is the Zhaoyi Tu’s daughter.” Yan Huaijing rested his slender palm on the table and looked ahead with his profound eyes. At this time, he was not gentle at all. There was a strong dark and ruthless aura around his body.

Lin Fang could not help but sigh. If those obsessed young ladies of aristocratic families saw his cold and cruel expression now, would they still be so shy and want to pounce on him at any minute?

Actually, this was the real Yan Huaijing.

His usual elegant and affectionate appearance was just a disguise. The heir-apparent had always been ruthless and cunning. Of course, this mansion of Marquis Hua Yang’s Sixth Young Lady was really surprising too!

“Do you want to give a present to this Sixth Miss Wei?” Lin Fang suddenly felt that it was necessary to remind the heir-apparent.

“On what grounds?” Yan Huaijing glanced at Lin Fang. Although his eyes were deep, he was apparently very intrigued.

“Uh... There is a good reason!” Lin Fang patted his head and felt that it was rare for him to be smarter than the heir-apparent...