

G E D 721

Chapter 721: Your Majesty, I Have a Secret!

Even if the emperor was convinced that Mr Zuo had rigged the examination by mishandling the exam paper of one student, Mr Zuo didn't think that there would be any serious consequences. That was why he had been so bold.

However, he had never expected Feng Wu to attack him!

And it was a killing move!

She was so fast that no one had been able to react in time.

Even Emperor Wu jumped a little!

He shifted his gaze to Feng Wu and the look in his eyes grew colder.

Thump!

Mr Zuo fell back and the back of his head hit the ground first. His skull cracked and blood oozed out.

He was dead before that happened.

Emperor Wu's gaze locked on Feng Wu, and he looked very grim!

Those piercing eyes!

They had an authoritative look in them, which was characteristic of someone of his status.

It was as sharp as a blade that could kill.

The temperature in the prison plummeted!

No one dared to make a sound. Even the cunning Master Bai and the chief steward, the latter genuinely worried about Feng Wu, shivered like autumn leaves. Neither said a word.

Emperor Wu was furious!

A chilly gust of wind swept out toward Feng Wu!

Feng Wu was frozen to her bones!

She could almost hear them crack!

She was cold, in pain, and couldn't breathe!

Taking a deep breath, Feng Wu dropped to her knees at Emperor Wu's feet.

"Feng Wu, how dare you!" Emperor Wu bellowed. "You killed him! Right in front of me!"

Feng Wu bit her lower lip and used all her strength to fight the cold.

She couldn't use her spiritual essence, for the emperor would notice it right away.

“Answer me!” The chair shattered at Emperor Wu’s smack and he rose to his feet!

Wrapped in the thick cape, his stawalt body gave off an intimidating energy, demonstrating his boundless power!

Feng Wu bit her lip. “Your Majesty, you have my utmost respect, but I couldn’t control myself and I had to kill him! He was one of the people I would never forgive!”

Feng Wu clenched her fists and sounded indignant.

Emperor Wu was so infuriated that he laughed. “Why did you kill him?”

“Because he deserved it!” Feng Wu ground her teeth.

So, it was personal.

“I’ll spare your life if you can convince me. Otherwise, you’re going to join Zuo He very soon!”

Feng Wu’s eyes darted around.

Emperor Wu smirked. Was she stalling?

“Your Majesty, may I speak to you in private?” Feng Wu looked at him with her limpid black eyes and suggested in a solemn tone.

Emperor Wu was rendered speechless!

The girl acted as if it was some confidential information! Did she have any idea that if she couldn’t explain herself, she would lose her head very soon?

“Why should I grant you that request?!” Emperor Wu glared at Feng Wu.

Then, he saw the girl shivering a little.

Was his voice that frightening? Crossing his hands behind his back, Emperor Wu snorted!

Feng Wu looked up, darted a pleading look at Emperor Wu, and lowered her head again.

Emperor Wu was intrigued by Feng Wu’s little affectations. Was she trying to read his mood?

However, one simply couldn’t stay mad at the girl when she looked so pitiful.

But Emperor Wu still wouldn’t relax his facial muscles and went on glaring at Feng Wu.

“Your Majesty...” Still on her knees, Feng Wu inched forward until she was a meter away from Emperor Wu.

“Your Majesty, watch out!” Master Bai was on guard. He feared that Feng Wu would charge out again and use another dagger on the emperor.

Emperor Wu gave Master Bai an “are you an idiot?” look. Who did the eunuch think the emperor was? This crippled girl would never be able to touch him. *Use your head, man!*

Chapter 722: Unbelievable!

Feng Wu ignored Master Bai. She looked up, giving the others a full view of her stunning face. She then stared at Emperor Wu with her limpid doe eyes.

Feng Wu's mother was the most beautiful woman in the empire. The apple never fell too far from the tree.

She only needed to mimic part of her mother's expression, and Emperor Wu couldn't stay mad at the pitiful girl. He even wanted to reflect on himself, thinking that he might have been a little too mean.

"Your Majesty, I killed him because he was one of the people that was responsible for my losing my ability! I'll never let it drop! I will have my revenge!"

The first half of her speech was expressed with deep feeling and fervor, but the second half sounded rather willful.

Emperor Wu was surprised.

He asked, "Didn't you lose your ability because you got greedy and overstretched yourself?"

"No, I didn't!" Feng Wu defended herself. "The Zuo family did it to me! They're evil people!"

"And your evidence?" Emperor Wu challenged her.

"I killed him and that's my evidence," Feng Wu said matter-of-factly. "Why would I waste such a big favor from Your Majesty if it wasn't for a deep-seated hatred?"

Both Master Bai and the chief steward were speechless.

Master Bai was astonished by how bold Feng Wu was.

Whereas the chief steward was worried about Feng Wu.

Both men served Emperor Wu day in and day out and they both knew how capricious the emperor was in temperament.

This girl had said the first thing that came to her mind without even trying to restrain herself. How dare she mention "a favor"? Did she have a death wish?!

Master Bai snorted inwardly. He believed that the girl would die before she realized it!

Emperor Wu chewed on Feng Wu's answer. "Such a big favor?"

Feng Wu looked all innocent. "I saved Her Majesty the empress dowager. Your Majesty, wasn't that a big enough favor? I informed Your Majesty before I killed him just then."

Emperor Wu was speechless. So that was what she had been doing? Informing him?

However —

His Majesty smirked. "As a subject, it's your duty to offer Her Majesty your service. Are you asking for a reward? And how dare you talk about me owing you a favor?!"

Feng Wu lowered her little head reluctantly.

“Speak!” Emperor Wu bellowed.

He was so loud...

Feng Wu slowly raised her head and looked at Emperor Wu with puppy-dog eyes. She mumbled, “If I saved someone else’s mother, not only would they pay me, they would find an opportunity to return that favor...”

She said those words in the tiniest voice, but of course Emperor Wu wouldn’t miss any of it.

He was so vexed that he chuckled.

His face then turned grim. “Are you saying that I’m inferior to some commoner?”

Still kneeling there, Feng Wu stuck out her chest and beamed at him with the brightest smile. She looked wonderful, but not as wonderful as the words that rolled off her tongue.

“Your Majesty, you shouldn’t belittle yourself like that! You’re the greatest conqueror, adept with both the pen and the sword. You’re a paragon of virtue, striking the universe with your greatness. People respect and admire you. Your contributions will benefit generations to come, and it’s a record that has never been nor ever will be reached again. What’s more, you’re eminently talented. You have a casual and elegant bearing, and the manner of a delicate beauty, which will stay unsurpassed for generations. Everyone falls in love with you! Your martial prowess is unchallenged, you’re a genius without peer in your generation, and you have all the virtue of the greatest sages in history! There really is no other emperor like you!”

Everyone’s mouths fell open!

If their eyes opened any wider, their eyeballs would fall out.

Master Bai couldn’t believe it! He almost wanted to give Feng Wu a thumbs up!

He was known for his ingratiating expressions, and he had worked hard to expand his vocabulary. However, compared with Feng Wu, Master Bai felt that he had been thrashed.

Chapter 723: Your Majesty, My Legs Are Asleep...

The chief steward didn’t know what to say. He couldn’t even look at the girl and had to smile wryly to himself.

What a kid. She showed her white feathers when necessary, stepped up when needed, and spared no ingratiating words when she asked for a favor. Judging from her courage and brazen manner... the chief steward believed that not many people could be her match.

Emperor Wu didn’t know what to say.

Looking at Feng Wu, he wanted to say something, but all words failed him. At this age, he had never been praised in such a blatant manner before. Everyone else was so subtle about it.

Finally, Master Bai came back to himself!

This wasn't right. He was against Feng Wu and he had to do something about it. Mr Zuo had been killed. If he just stood around, his alliance with the Zuo family would...

At that thought, Master Bai had no choice but to step out. "Miss Feng Wu, for a young lady, you're so hypocritical..."

As soon as Master Bai mentioned that word —

Feng Wu's eyes lit up!

I dug this pit just for you, Master Bai. And you've finally jumped in!

Feng Wu frowned and looked indignant!

"Master Bai, did you just call my praise for His Majesty hypocritical? Are you saying that I'm lying? That His Majesty isn't the greatest conqueror, adept with both the pen and the sword, and he's not a paragon of virtue, striking the universe with his greatness? That people don't respect and admire him? That his contributions won't benefit generations to come..."

Master Bai almost had a heart attack.

Of course he didn't mean that!

But Feng Wu had twisted his words to sound exactly like that!

Master Bai's knees buckled and he scrambled to Emperor Wu's feet. "Your Majesty, Your Majesty, it's all my fault! I'm guilty!"

Emperor Wu stared at Master Bai with a grim look on his face.

Feng Wu didn't say anything else, for she didn't want to overdo it.

She lowered her head and knelt there in silence, acting like an obedient girl and trying to attract as little attention as possible.

Emperor Wu looked from Master Bai to Feng Wu, then back.

Feng Wu held her breath.

She was trying to push Emperor Wu's limits. Only by finding his bottom line could she make sure she would say just the right thing in the future.

If Emperor Wu kicked Master Bai away now, the eunuch would walk away safely.

However, if Emperor Wu kept his silence... Master Bai would have to watch out from now on.

Emperor Wu stared at Master Bai without saying a word. He then turned to Feng Wu. "Feng Wu, you're very bold."

Feng Wu kept her head lowered without making a sound.

"You tricked Bai right in front of me. That was very clever of you."

Feng Wu cringed, but still didn't say anything.

"Do you take me for an idiot?"

She had to reply to that question!

Raising her head abruptly, Feng Wu said in a solemn voice, "Your Majesty, how can you say that about yourself? You're extremely intelligent, you're wise and farsighted, and you tower above the rest in intellect..."

It was clear that Feng Wu was going to drown Emperor Wu with her compliments again, and Emperor Wu's face almost turned green!

"Fine! Fine!" He waved her off impatiently. "Save your spit. I've heard enough of your flattery."

"...Alright." But Feng Wu wouldn't keep still and she would squirm every now and then.

Emperor Wu stared at her. "Behave yourself! Stop squirming!"

Feng Wu looked up and pleaded with her bambi eyes, "Your Majesty, my legs are asleep..."

Emperor Wu almost laughed!

Chapter 724: The Innocent Heart of a Child

Her legs were asleep? So many people had knelt before the emperor, and surely the girl couldn't be the only one whose legs turned numb, but she was the first to say it aloud!

However, that only made Emperor Wu find her a frank, lovely girl.

As an emperor who dealt with political tactics day in and day out, he naturally preferred a naive, harmless, and sincere girl who spoke her mind.

But Emperor Wu wouldn't let the girl know what he thought, in case she became too pleased with herself.

Putting his hands behind his back, Emperor Wu straightened his face and smirked. "Is that how you show your reverence for me?"

Feng Wu replied in a solemn tone, "Your Majesty, that just shows how much I hold you in awe and veneration!"

"You think?" Emperor Wu snorted.

"Yes. Your Majesty —" Feng Wu shifted a little to find a more comfortable position before she looked up at Emperor Wu. "Your Majesty, my legs are asleep; I'd be lying to you if I made up some other answer.

"That's how I think I should express my veneration for you: to be as frank and honest as an innocent child. Your Majesty, what do you think?"

Emperor Wu felt silent. He really couldn't think of a way to retort to her.

The chief steward stole a glance at Feng Wu and Emperor Wu, then vented his sarcasm inwardly.

His Majesty might sound impatient at the girl's words, but both the current atmosphere and his attitude had improved before he realized it.

The chief steward admired Feng Wu for what she had achieved.

There was something so peculiar about the kid that she seemed to bring joy wherever she went. No matter how furious one was, the girl could soothe them with a few lines.

If anyone else had tried to do the same thing, they would have been whipped senseless by now.

Emperor Wu didn't know what to do with Feng Wu. This girl would listen obediently when he scolded her, but as soon as he softened a little, she would try something else. If he glared at her, she would lower her head and steal pleading glances at him. It just so happened that the girl was exceptionally beautiful. It was said that one shouldn't turn away from a smiling face, not to mention that she had such a pretty smile... Emperor Wu was at a loss over what to do.

1However, his face betrayed nothing. No one could read an emperor's mind and Feng Wu was no exception.

Someone had brought in a new chair when she wasn't looking.

Once Emperor Wu was seated again, he darted a casual glance at Feng Wu, trying to think of a way to punish the girl.

As innocent as a child, she said?

It reminded Emperor Wu of his son.

Just then, Master Bai said, "Is Miss Feng Wu very familiar with His Royal Highness?"

Feng Wu stiffened. Master Bai's revenge had come quicker than she thought.

Emperor Wu was alarmed as well.

Jun Linyuan was his most valuable heir, and what was more, Bai had obviously held something back.

Emperor Wu then recalled the jade pendant.

According to the empress dowager, it was such an important piece that the cold-hearted Jun Linyuan should never have given it away under any circumstances, not to mention that he had given it to Feng Wu.

Emperor Wu found it the strangest thing!

Did Jun Linyuan like Feng Wu? Emperor Wu would never believe it.

So, it was because of the girl herself...

"Little Feng Wu, did you say that your frankness proves your veneration for me?"

"Yes."

“So, tell me. What do you think of Jun Linyuan?”

What did she think of Jun Linyuan?!

Feng Wu wouldn't stop complaining about Jun Linyuan if they let her!

Ever since she had met him again in Northern Border City, Jun Linyuan had sabotaged her missions more times than she could count, all the way from Northern Border City to the imperial capital!

Feng Wu wanted more than anything else to tell Emperor Wu everything!

But!

It wouldn't be a good idea to trash a son in front of his dad, right

Chapter 725: Your Majesty, It's a Big Misunderstanding!

Feng Wu was conflicted.

“Are you hesitating?” Emperor Wu stared at Feng Wu.

What happened to “as innocent as a child”?

Feng Wu felt that she had dug her own grave. She should have never mentioned the “frank, honest” bullshit.

What did she think of Jun Linyuan? Where should she start? She had lost count of how many times she had suffered losses because of him.

However, she couldn't tell that to Jun Linyuan's dad. What if Jun Linyuan refused to give her back the broken star piece when he heard about this? The broken star piece was the most important thing!

Grinding her teeth, Feng Wu forced a smile. “His Royal Highness? Well, he's good! Excellent! Like, perfect!”

Of course he knew his son was perfect. Emperor Wu was glad to hear Feng Wu sing praises of Jun Linyuan.

“Exactly how good is he?” Emperor Wu shifted in his chair and asked casually.

Seeing that Emperor Wu had changed into a more comfortable position, indicating that he was ready to hear a long speech, Feng Wu was a little flustered.

“Miss Wu, Your Majesty asked you a question,” the chief steward kindly reminded Feng Wu, who had let her mind wander off.

“Sure... well, His Royal Highness is so great that I don't know where to start.” Feng Wu chuckled awkwardly.

Emperor Wu rolled his eyes. Start from anywhere and be quick about it.

“*Ahem* —” Feng Wu cleared her throat.

If she had to sing a hymn of praise for Jun Linyuan, she would make sure that she did it right. She had to make the emperor happy!

Feng Wu said, "His Royal Highness is the best! He's talented beyond compare, he's a superb cultivator, and he's more capable than anyone could ever imagine!"

She then stole a glance at Emperor Wu and saw that he didn't seem impressed. Fine, she would try harder!

"His Royal Highness is wise, unbelievably resourceful, and has perused books of all sorts. He can answer any question, regardless of how uncommon the subject is! He's like a living library!"

Feng Wu stole another glance at Emperor Wu.

His Majesty still looked so indifferent... but why?

It then occurred to Feng Wu!

How dumb of her! She was focusing on Jun Linyuan only and had forgotten about Emperor Wu!

She changed her strategy right away. "His Royal Highness is adept in both the pen and the sword. He's eminently talented. He has a casual and elegant bearing, and the manner of a delicate beauty, which will remain unsurpassed for generations. Everyone falls in love with him... No wonder His Royal Highness is so incredible — he's your son! I'm sure he inherited everything from Your Majesty!"

Feng Wu was very pleased with her little speech.

Not only did she say a lot of good things about Jun Linyuan, she had played up to Emperor Wu at the same time. She was confident that Emperor Wu would be glad to hear it.

But —

The longer Emperor Wu listened to her, the darker his face became. He narrowed his eyes.

He was right!

Like many girls out there, this girl liked his son! And this girl thought she could keep it from him!

Feng Wu's stomach lurched.

Wait! This wasn't right... She needed to think.

Before she could figure it out, Emperor Wu spoke in an unhurried tone.

"Little Feng Wu, were you telling the truth?" Checkmate.

"Y- yes..."

"So, you like Jun Linyuan, don't you?" Emperor Wu stared at Feng Wu with a half-smile.

That was it!

Feng Wu stood there dazed, as if she had been struck by lightning!

She finally knew what she had done wrong!

Everyone thought she was in love with Jun Linyuan, and Emperor Wu had his suspicions, too. That was why he had asked for her opinion on Jun Linyuan. While she praised Jun Linyuan against her will, Emperor Wu was convinced that she was in love.

She had been set up!

Your Majesty, it's not what you think —

Feng Wu was almost rendered speechless.

“Your Majesty, it's not like that! It's a big misunderstanding!”

Chapter 726: The Girl Knows What to Do

“Your Majesty, I'm not! There's nothing between me and Jun Linyuan! Nothing!” Feng Wu shouted at the top of her lungs.

“Why are you so agitated? What are you trying to cover up?”

“I'm not!” Feng Wu felt like crying.

She had jumped into the pit she had dug herself! Feng Wu wanted to smack her own head!

Emperor Wu smirked. *Like hell I'm going to believe you.*

But he only darted an emotionless glance at Feng Wu. “All girls are in love with the crown prince. You're not that special.”

Yes. Feng Wu could live with that conclusion from the emperor.

However —

Master Bai interjected at that moment.

“I heard that His Royal Highness carried Miss Feng Wu on his shoulder.”

Carry? On his shoulder?!

Those words didn't fit Jun Linyuan at all!

Emperor Wu stared at Master Bai. “Are you sure?”

Feng Wu wanted to throttle Master Bai right there and then!

What an evil man! He was the worst!

Master Bai was satisfied to see how flustered Feng Wu was. He made a show of pondering the question before answering it. “Your Majesty, I think that really happened, and it took place in World Tower!”

“Feng Wu?!” Emperor Wu stared at Feng Wu.

“Th- that was because...” Feng Wu was going to explain, but Emperor Wu had risen to his feet.

“You can call the crown prince ‘cousin’ from now on and that’s my answer to the big favor you asked for.” After giving Feng Wu one last grim look, he turned to leave.

Feng Wu mumbled, “...Cousin?” She didn’t want to have Jun Linyuan as her cousin at all! She wanted to explain everything!

However, she had lost that chance, because Emperor Wu had marched off.

That Master Bai! He was so cunning! Feng Wu clenched her fists.

“Find out what really happened,” Emperor Wu said in a low but chilly voice.

Cining Palace.

Both Lady Northern Feng and Empress Dugu had stayed behind to keep the empress dowager company.

And they were talking about Feng Wu as well.

Lady Northern Feng was praising Feng Wu and Empress Dugu was trashing the girl. As a result, the two women were about to start a row again.

They only calmed down because Emperor Wu entered the hall.

“Your Majesty, Lady Northern Feng insists on having Feng Wu as her goddaughter. How about we just give the girl some money and stop this nonsense?” Empress Dugu disliked Feng Wu so much that the last thing she wanted was for her status to increase.

Lady Northern Feng wanted to retort, but Emperor Wu stopped her with a wave of his hand.

“If you insist on having her as a daughter, you can, but you have to wait after Her Majesty has fully recovered,” said Emperor Wu casually. “Keep it quiet. Showing her around in the family will be enough.”

Although Lady Northern Feng was a tough and willful woman, having grown up in the imperial palace, she was too good at reading faces.

And she knew what His Majesty meant right away.

“...Alright.” Lady Northern Feng felt sorry for Feng Wu and decided that she would make it up to her in the future.

“That girl is really pretty. Too bad she’s crippled,” said the empress dowager. “If she and Junjun somehow got together, she might give birth to a little crippled baby.”

The old lady was frightened by her own imagination and waved her hands. “No, no, we can’t let that happen! Yaya, try not to bring the girl here from now on. Okay?”

Lady Northern Feng was speechless.

Emperor Wu said, “Mother, please don’t worry. I’ve warned her and the girl knows what to do.”

Feng Wu had no idea that she had just been blacklisted as the “most unpopular person” by the royal family.

Chapter 727: Only Then Will He Be Able to Protect You

The first thing Lady Northern Feng did after she left the imperial palace was to summon Feng Wu.

“The last thing His Majesty said was that you could address His Royal Highness as ‘cousin’?” Lady Northern Feng frowned.

Feng Wu was confused. “Didn’t His Majesty want me to stay away from Jun Linyuan? Why would he want me to become Jun Linyuan’s cousin?”

“I think I know why.”

“Why?”

“Because Princess Wanning used to follow him around and he ended up making this announcement.”

Lady Northern Feng looked into Feng Wu’s eyes and stressed each word. “He said that he would never marry a cousin. From then on, all those princesses stopped throwing themselves at him and left him in peace.”

Feng Wu said, “He can do that? Holy shit!”

Lady Northern Feng smacked her on the back of her head. “You’re a girl; mind your language.”

“...Alright.” Feng Wu rubbed her head.

Lady Northern Feng had already switched into “mum mode” and had started to smack Feng Wu around like she did with Feng Xun.

“Did you offend His Majesty?” Lady Northern Feng asked suspiciously.

“Of course not! I only said nice things and he was so happy!” Feng Wu said in a solemn tone.

Lady Northern Feng gave Feng Wu a strange look. “Then why did His Majesty tell me that I should keep the news inside the family and forget about the big party?”

Feng Wu said, “Well...”

“And I have to wait until the empress dowager is fully recovered.” Lady Northern Feng sighed. “I have no problem with that. I won’t be in the mood anyway. But —”

Lady Northern Feng wasn’t convinced!

“Why can’t I throw a big party?! I was planning to tell the whole world that you’re my daughter now, and no one will ever pick on you again!”

Feng Wu said, “Well... keeping it quiet is fine with me, actually.”

“No, it’s not! Grow a spine! Now tell me. What did you do to offend His Majesty?”

“...His Majesty asked me what I thought of Jun Linyuan.” Feng Wu looked at Lady Northern Feng. “What do you think I should say?”

“Say that he’s the best! Spare no effort!”

“Yes, that was what I did...”

“And His Majesty got mad?”

“...Yes. But I think I overdid it and led him to the wrong conclusion. His Majesty thinks I’m in love with Jun Linyuan...” Feng Wu wanted to cry. “Why on earth would I fall in love with that guy? That’s never going to happen! Ahhhh —”

Feng Wu clenched her fists in frustration.

“Hahaha, hahahaha —” Lady Northern Feng convulsed with laughter and she laughed until her belly ached and her eyes watered. “Ouch, my belly —”

Feng Wu rolled her eyes at Lady Northern Feng.

“That makes sense, hahaha —” After a while, Lady Northern Feng finally stopped laughing. “That was why His Majesty made Junjun your cousin and told me to keep you as far away from court as possible. I see why he was taking all the precautions now.”

Feng Wu was frustrated. “Against me? Why? Jun Linyuan finds me repulsive! He’ll never like me!”

“Kiddo...” Lady Northern Feng jabbed Feng Wu’s forehead with a finger. “With your good looks, you pose a threat to a lot of people just by showing up. Of course they’ll raise their guard. You haven’t reached your full potential yet and they fear what you’ll become.”

Feng Wu didn’t say anything.

“This won’t do! I need to prod Ah Xun in his cultivation!”

Feng Wu was dumbfounded.

“Only then will he be able to protect you in the future. Otherwise...”

Chapter 728: But How Is That Possible?

Feng Wu said, “...Actually, I can protect myself.”

Lady Northern Feng rolled her eyes at Feng Wu. “Forget it. Without cultivation ability, it doesn’t matter how strong your physique is. All the enemies you’ve encountered so far were Spiritual Masters, which is why you could fend them off with your physical strength alone. But when they become Spiritual Grandmasters or Spiritual Elders...

“As they improve, you’ll lag behind, because your physical strength will grow at a much slower rate than their cultivation. The discrepancy will only grow bigger.” Lady Northern Feng admonished her. “It’s like the difference between common soldiers and officers in the army: without spiritual essence, the best you can be is a chief petty officer. Those with spiritual essence, however, can start off as captains and lieutenants. From there, they’ll then become majors, colonels, or even major generals...”

“Whereas you, Xiao Wu, you’ll remain an NCO, which is as far as you can get!” Lady Northern Feng got more concerned as she spoke. “By the way, do you really not feel anything for Jun Linyuan?”

With Jun Linyuan as a patron, Feng Wu could get through anything even if she was ten times prettier than she was now.

“Stop making fun of me. I can’t stay far away enough from Jun Linyuan, not to mention that the royal family doesn’t like me at all...” Feng Wu smiled bitterly. She needed to keep her distance from Jun Linyuan from now on.

“I guess it’s better this way.” Lady Northern Feng nodded.

Those in the imperial palace couldn’t keep Feng Wu far away enough, as if the girl actually wanted to marry Jun Linyuan.

Just then, footsteps came from outside.

It was Feng Xun.

Lady Northern Feng frowned as soon as she spotted her son.

Forget about Jun Linyuan. Ah Xun here was no less troublesome. He had been ranting about not wanting a sister.

Lady Northern Feng was trying to figure out a way to get Feng Xun to accept Feng Wu when she noticed the boy Feng Xun dragged in.

It was the sixth son of the Mu family.

“Mu the Sixth, I have a sister now! Behave yourself around her from now on. Got it?”

Mu the Sixth was speechless.

What had he done to deserve this?

He had been walking on the street when Feng Xun spotted him, and that guy wouldn’t shut up about having a sister.

Who didn’t have a sister nowadays? Mu the Sixth had a dozen of those at home!

But Feng Xun was his boss and Mu the Sixth needed to play up to him. He had no choice but to smile obsequiously. “Brother Feng, congratulations. You finally have a sister now.”

“You don’t say. I have the prettiest sister in the world!”

“Do you?” Mu the Sixth thought to himself. He didn’t believe it. If someone could claim that title, he would give it to that little Feng Wu whom he had met the other day.

“Of course! And she’s the most brilliant girl as well!” Feng Xun said proudly.

“Really?” Mu the Sixth went on doubting his boss in his head. The most brilliant girl would still be little Feng Wu, who got the highest mark in the written exam. She was also the very first candidate to get full marks!

“Yes! And my sister can do so much more! Formations, medical skills, you name it! She’s the best in everything!”

"Is she?" Mu the Sixth's eyes flickered, as if he was excited to hear it.

But what he thought was: *Brother Feng, you're so full of shit.*

"Hey, what's with that look? You don't believe me?"

"No, Brother Feng, of course I believe you! I was just thinking... that you're exaggerating a little." He would be convinced if Feng Xun's new sister was Feng Wu. But how was that possible?

Chapter 729: Boss Jun Will Back You Up

"Exaggerate? Heh." Feng Xun gloated. "That's because you haven't met my sister! You'll be stunned once you know how amazing she is!"

"...Yes, of course..." Mu the Sixth had no choice but to succumb.

Feng Xun and Mu the Sixth chatted as they walked in.

Both Feng Wu and Lady Northern Feng had sharp ears and they heard the entire conversation.

Lady Northern Feng was dumbfounded.

She thought Feng Xun didn't like Xiao Wu, but he was already showing his sister off? That brat...

Just then, Feng Xun walked in with Mu the Sixth.

And Feng Xun stopped abruptly as soon as he set foot inside.

His mother was here and so was little Feng Wu!

Feng Xun was speechless. Did his mother hear what he said out there just then?

Lady Northern Feng darted a glance at Feng the Third. "You, come here and greet your sister!"

Feng Xun raised his chin. "Like hell. I told you I didn't want a sister!"

Lady Northern Feng was speechless.

So was Mu the Sixth.

Lady Northern Feng smirked. "His Majesty has spoken. Xiao Wu is going to address His Royal Highness as 'cousin'."

"What?!" Feng Xun almost jumped to his feet. "Why?! I won't have it! No way! She's my sister! Mine! Why should he get a share?"

Mu the Sixth tugged at Feng Xun's sleeve. "...Brother Feng, Brother Feng, by your sister, you mean..."

"Little Feng Wu!" Feng Xun had forgotten all about his pride. Throwing an arm over Feng Wu's shoulders, he made the introduction. "From now on, she's my sister. Give your people the heads up. Mess with her and you'll have to answer to me!"

Mu the Sixth was shocked!

Feng Wu... as in the Feng Wu...

Mu the Sixth was a hopeless student and had the natural veneration for a straight A student!

He patted his chest. "Miss Feng Wu, come to me if you need anything! Brother Feng's sister is as good as my own!"

"Go away —"

Feng Xun, who had been acting all defiant with Lady Northern Feng, pushed Mu the Sixth out of the way. "Since when is my sister yours? Get your own sister!"

After shouting at Mu the Sixth, Feng Xun turned to stare at Lady Northern Feng. "Why is Boss Jun her cousin now?!"

A cousin was as good as a half-brother; little Feng Wu was his sister and his alone! He wouldn't let anyone change that!

Lady Northern Feng rolled her eyes. "Weren't you against having a sister, and made a big scene out of it? What? She's your treasure now? You want to have her all to yourself?"

"That's right!"

"Look how pretty your sister is."

"Of course! Feng Xun's sister has to be nothing but pretty!"

"She's still so young, and she'll become even more beautiful."

"There's no doubt of that!"

Lady Northern Feng asked, "So, you're confident that you'll be able to protect her?"

"Are you kidding me? Me, Feng Xun, can't protect my own sister? Mum, how can you belittle me like that?!"

"Heh. You can't even win against Zuo Qingluan. Are you sure about that?"

"I..." Feng Xun was rendered speechless!

"A cousin is as good as half a brother. Only with Jun Linyuan as a cousin and you as a brother can Xiao Wu live in peace and enjoy a carefree life."

Feng Xun tilted his head. That sounded reasonable!

Boss Jun was such an influential patron that if he took Xiao Wu under his wing, no one would dare to pick on her again!

"Sure!"

Feng Xun patted Feng Wu on the shoulder. "Little sister, don't worry. I'll go to Boss Jun and I'll make him look out for you!"

Feng Wu: !!!

Chapter 730: Cousin?!

“No, that won’t be necessary —” Feng Wu waved her hands. “I’d rather see him as a distant relative and stay out of his way.”

Who were they kidding?!

Jun Linyuan was indeed a powerful patron, but she couldn’t stand his mood swings!

What was more, he specialized in sabotaging her!

And he wouldn’t stop doing it.

The last thing Feng Wu wanted was to get anywhere near him. She had to stay as far away as possible!

“Don’t be shy.” Feng Xun held Feng Wu by her shoulder like a real big brother. “Come, I’ll take you to him.”

Mu the Sixth watched their interaction with envy.

They were going to see the crown prince —

After following Feng Xun around all these years and calling him “Boss,” Mu the Sixth had only met the crown prince a couple of times. And Boss Feng had never mentioned introducing him to Jun Linyuan.

But now, Feng Wu would get to see the crown prince right away and would be under his protection... Mu the Sixth was so envious that he could cry!

However, Feng Wu —

“No, no, no. I’m not going.” Feng Wu shook her head repeatedly.

“Yes, yes, yes, please —” Feng Xun tried to drag Feng Wu out with him.

“No!” Feng Wu said affirmatively. “It’s late and I need to go home!”

After hearing about the royal family’s attitude, Feng Wu didn’t want to go anywhere near them.

Lady Northern Feng was thinking the same thing. She darted a warning glance at Feng Xun. “Aren’t you supposed to protect you sister? What are you doing now?”

Feng Xun was rendered speechless.

Fine. If Feng Wu wouldn’t go, he would go by himself.

“Cousin?” Jun Linyuan had been cultivating despite Feng Xun’s noisy babbling. Nothing could disturb the crown prince, but —

What the hell was that “cousin” all about?

For the very first time, Jun Linyuan stopped his cultivation because of Feng Xun.

Feng Xun mumbled, "...I didn't want to share my sister with you, but since you're so useful... Fine, you can have half of my sister, but only half."

Jun Linyuan found Feng Xun preposterous. "Who are you talking about?"

"Feng Wu, of course," Feng Xun said matter-of-factly. "Little Feng Wu is my sister now and that makes you her cousin. That's as good as half a brother."

Jun Linyuan almost rolled his eyes at Feng Xun. He didn't want to be a "half-brother"! That sounded as idiotic as Feng Xun.

Feng Xun went on babbling. "But I'm still closer to her! I'm the real brother and you're just her cousin! You're not taking her away from me!"

Jun Linyuan detected something else from Feng Xun's words.

He snorted. "Who the hell is her cousin?"

"You're not walking away from this! This came from His Majesty, and my sister was told to address you as cousin," Feng Xun gloated. "I know you hate your female cousins, but my sister is a different story! You can't hate her!"

From His Majesty himself? Interesting.

Jun Linyuan darted a look at Feng.

Feng nodded and left right away.

Jun Linyuan didn't hear anything Feng Xun said after that and he kept repeating that sentence in his head: *This came from His Majesty, and my sister was told to address you as cousin.*

Since when was His Majesty so nosy?

Jun Linyuan narrowed his eyes.

It was his habit to stay seven or eight steps ahead.

He could always find the key information as soon as other people stopped talking. From there, he would soon get to the bottom of everything.

Feng returned shortly afterward and whispered something in Jun Linyuan's ear.

Then, Feng Xun saw Boss Jun, who never let any emotion show, flare up. His eyes were as cold as winter!