

G E D 961

Chapter 961: Won't Let Go (2)

The empress dowager ignored her. Walking past Feng Wu, she sat down by the bed and looked affectionately at Jun Linyuan.

"Is the crown prince alright or not?" the empress dowager asked Feng Wu as she kept her gaze on Jun Linyuan.

Feng Wu nodded. "His Royal Highness's condition isn't too severe. He'll recover after a few days of rest."

The empress dowager snorted.

Feng Wu said, "Your Majesty, do I have your permission to withdraw?"

Since the crown prince wasn't in any danger, Feng Wu had just become redundant. The empress dowager threw a dirty look at Feng Wu. "You can leave now."

She didn't want this girl around.

Feng Wu nodded and turned to leave.

The empress dowager had spoken, and Feng Wu thought that Jun Linyuan would let her go now.

But she almost tripped as soon as she moved.

Because Jun Linyuan still wouldn't let go of her sleeve!

Feng Wu tugged with all her might, dragging Jun Linyuan with her.

The empress dowager flared up.

Baby Jun was the apple of her eye. How could this girl treat him so carelessly?

"Stop it!" The empress dowager cast a stern look at Feng Wu. "You don't behave like a girl at all! Granny Tao, scissors!"

What really displeased the empress dowager was...

That reluctant look on Feng Wu's face. What was that about?

She looked as if the crown prince was the one that wouldn't let her go.

The empress dowager glared at Feng Wu. "Don't overthink it! The crown prince will never be in love with you and you don't have to give me that innocent look!"

Feng Wu sighed. "Your Majesty, that's not what I meant."

Just then, Granny Tao came back with a pair of scissors. She was going to use it when the empress dowager snatched it away.

"I'll do it myself!" The empress dowager held the scissors while Granny Tao stretched out Feng Wu's sleeve. With one move, part of Feng Wu's sleeve was cut off.

The empress dowager smirked. “There you go. It’s nothing complicated. You can go now. From now on —”

However, before she could finish —

The crown prince, who had been sleeping peacefully on the bed, stirred, and his face turned scarlet red.

Spotting this, Granny Tao cried out in surprise. “What’s happening to His Royal Highness?”

The empress dowager looked at Jun Linyuan.

She saw that his face was flushed from his rising temperature!

She touched Jun Linyuan’s forehead and there was a sizzling sound —

It sounded like meat grilling.

The empress dowager cried out at the scorching heat and she jumped to her feet. “What’s happening to the crown prince? What’s going on?!”

The temperature was so high that it could burn a man to a crisp. How could he stand it?

“Master Chu! Master Chu!” The empress dowager yelled toward the door.

Master Chu rushed into the room and was astonished when he saw Jun Linyuan’s face. He asked the empress dowager, “Your Majesty, did you tell Feng Wu off?”

The empress dowager didn’t understand the implication in the question. She only urged Master Chu, “Come over here! He’s ill again! Do something!”

Master Chu knew what was going on as soon as he checked Jun Linyuan’s pulse.

He couldn’t say it out loud, and could only smile bitterly in his heart. He said, “I’m afraid there’s nothing I can do. Your Majesty, we need Miss Feng here.”

The empress dowager looked astonished.

She glared at Master Chu, who smiled bitterly at her. “Your Majesty, Miss Feng Wu is the only one that can help His Royal Highness.”

What choice did the empress dowager have?

Chapter 962: Won’t Let Go (3)

However, the old lady had just excoriated Feng Wu. She was so reluctant to ask Feng Wu to treat her grandson again.

Was the empress dowager the type to apologize for what she said? Never.

Hence, she glared at Feng Wu. “Did you not hear him? Do your job!”

Feng Wu wanted to retort, but —

Emperor Wu turned to her. “Go treat the crown prince now. You’ll be generously rewarded afterward.”

Feng Wu was lost for words.

Both the emperor and the empress dowager were colossal figures. Compared with them, she was as powerless as an ant. What other choice did she have, except to obey?

She couldn't even let her reluctance show on her face.

"Of course." Feng Wu went up to Jun Linyuan and activated the green light again. Soon, Jun Linyuan's temperature was back to normal, but this time, he grabbed Feng Wu's hand.

Feng Wu: !!!

She pulled with all her strength, but couldn't draw her hand back.

The empress dowager watched in disbelief.

She could cut off as many sleeves as she wanted, but she couldn't do that to Feng Wu's hand.

Feng Wu turned to Emperor Wu and the empress dowager with a pleading look in her eyes.

Emperor Wu waved her off. "Little Feng Wu, it'll be a while before the crown prince recovers from his critical condition. Stay here and look after him."

Feng Wu didn't like the sound of that at all.

She needed to go back home to her mother now, and there was so much more that she needed to take care of. After that row she had with Feng Yanfeng, who knew what that man would do?

"But my family..."

"Don't worry. After what you did for the crown prince, the empress dowager will raise your mother's status to a first rank Dame. No one will dare offend her again. Your top priority now is to take good care of the crown prince."

Patting Feng Wu on the shoulder, Emperor Wu sighed with relief, then left the room.

The empress dowager, on the other hand, glared at Feng Wu.

What was with that look on her face? She wouldn't let that girl stay if she had a choice!

"Hmph!"

The old lady flipped her sleeves and stormed out of the room.

The empress dowager began to complain to Emperor Wu as soon as they were out of the room. "What's with that look on her face?! She was so reluctant! Does she not want to be around the crown prince? What is she thinking? She's in no position to dislike a boy as brilliant as my grandson!"

The empress dowager hated it when girls wouldn't leave the crown prince alone, but she couldn't stand it when they weren't in love with the teenager either.

Taking his mother's arm, Emperor Wu slowly led her away. "Mother, I thought you didn't like the idea of them as a couple. If that's the case, you should be relieved to see that Feng Wu isn't in love with him."

The empress dowager rolled her eyes at her son. "That's not how it works!"

Emperor Wu asked, "How so?"

The old lady snorted. "It's only natural that Baby Jun doesn't like her, but I don't like the fact that she's not in love with him!"

Emperor Wu gave her a wry smile. "Mother, isn't that a bit... unreasonable?"

The empress dowager scowled. "No, it's not. Of course she should be in love with him!"

Emperor Wu rubbed his nose and shook his head in resignation.

An idea struck him all of a sudden. "Mother, I have an idea. Little Feng Wu actually has turned out to be an ideal choice for Jun Linyuan. She's a great doctor, she's pretty, smart, and she has her cultivation ability back..."

His mother glared at him. "What are you getting at?!"

Emperor Wu said, "Well, a beautiful, smart, and talented girl is hard to come by, not to mention someone as exceptional as Feng Wu. I think we should let them have a go."

"No!" The empress dowager rejected it outright.

"But why?"

The old lady said, "I don't care how exceptional she is. She doesn't care for the crown prince at all, and for that reason alone, I won't allow her to marry him!"

Chapter 963: Your Royal Highness... Be Civil (1)

Inside.

Once the empress dowager and her son were gone, Feng Wu and Jun Linyuan were all by themselves.

Feng Wu stared at Jun Linyuan.

But the crown prince merely lay very still on the bed.

Feng Wu smiled a little.

Even Master Chu had noticed it, so how could she not? Jun Linyuan had done it on purpose.

She kept her gaze on Jun Linyuan's face. "How long are you going to keep doing this?"

Jun Linyuan slowly opened his eyes.

His brooding eyes looked like bottomless pits, and they reminded Feng Wu of the coldest ice. He met Feng Wu's gaze and didn't look disturbed at all.

However, he still wouldn't release her hand.

Feng Wu stared at him. "Let go."

There was something intimidating about the look in Jun Linyuan's eyes. The teenager still struck one as the most influential figure in the empire, even when he was bedridden.

Feng Wu lowered her voice. "Jun Linyuan, can you let go of my hand now?"

Jun Linyuan wanted to tell her that he would never let go of her, but when he actually spoke, his tone was contemptuous. "Do you seriously think I want to hold your hand?"

Recalling the rumors going around about her, Feng Wu was vexed. She wouldn't have to endure all the gossip if she hadn't been trying to save Jun Linyuan.

The rumors didn't bother her, but she couldn't stand it when her family was affected.

What frustrated Feng Wu more was that her secret had been exposed in the process of saving Jun Linyuan... Would Jun Linyuan suspect her of stealing that Immortal Spiritual Fruit when he learned that she had recovered her ability?

Feng Wu scratched her head at that thought in vexation.

She turned to leave.

But an arrogant voice rang out behind her. "Take another step. I dare you."

His tone was full of threat.

She had always considered the teenager as someone who was thirsty for blood. Nothing good would come out of setting him off now.

Taking a deep breath, Feng Wu turned around and looked Jun Linyuan in the eye. "What do you need me here for? My family needs me urgently now. My mum passed out earlier and I don't know how she's doing. I have to go back to her."

Her bright eyes had a worried look in them.

She had to leave this place.

However, what Jun Linyuan said next made her stomach lurch.

"So, you have nothing to explain to me." Slouching in bed, the crown prince stared at her with a threatening look on his face.

"What's there to explain?" Feng Wu fidgeted, but still fought to keep her voice steady.

"You tell me." With a wave of his hand, she stumbled, almost losing her balance.

Thump, thump, thump —

She eventually tripped over her feet and fell into his arms.

Looking up, she saw the dangerous look in his eyes.

He kept staring at her with a taunting smile on his face, and his black eyes seemed to glow red. Caressing the tender skin on the girl's neck with his calloused fingertips, he gave off such an intimidating air!

Feng Wu's heart sank.

Shit!

He knew...

But she didn't know how much he had figured out yet...

Biting her lower lip, Feng Wu squeezed out a smile. "Y- Your Royal Highness... Let's talk like civilized people, shall we?"

Putting her hands over Jun Linyuan's, Feng Wu tried to free her neck from his grip.

"Your explanation!" Jun Linyuan glared at Feng Wu.

Feng Wu cringed. "What do you want to know?"

Jun Linyuan didn't reply, but the look in his eyes grew more dangerous.

Chapter 964: Your Royal Highness... Be Civil (2)

"Alright, alright..." Feng Wu threw her hands up in the air. "I have spiritual essence now and I shouldn't have kept it from you. I'm sorry, I really am."

Jun Linyuan kept glaring at Feng Wu with a ferocious look in his eyes.

Feng Wu could tell that the guy was mad, and she didn't blame him. She would be mad, too, if she were the one who had been kept in the dark.

However, over the past few months, Feng Wu had gained some experience in placating Jun Linyuan.

She wasn't in a rush to leave anymore, for she had to straighten things out with him. Otherwise, she would be in more trouble if he learned it from someone else.

Sitting down on the bed, Feng Wu tugged at Jun Linyuan's sleeve and said in a pitiful voice, "I didn't mean to, I promise. It's just... the people who did those things to me five years ago are still watching me now. If I exposed myself too early, they would be alarmed and I could have been killed. Right?"

Jun Linyuan's eyes flickered and he looked even angrier.

Feng Wu sighed inwardly.

So, she went on. "Look, my secret was exposed only because I was trying to save you, and now, the whole world knows about it..."

"And that's why you decided to tell me now?"

Instead of being soothed by those words, Jun Linyuan turned into a ferocious beast with glinting eyes!

Oh, no...

"So, you're only telling me now because the whole world knows about it."

Oh, no...

Feng Wu wanted to slap herself. She shouldn't have put it that way, even if she had been telling the truth.

Seeing that Jun Linyuan was going to flare up again, Feng Wu took his hands and laughed awkwardly. "O- of course not! I've been meaning to tell you, but never got the chance!

"By the way, when did you find out about my cultivation ability? Were you aware when we fell over that cliff?" Feng Wu asked curiously.

The crown prince stared at Feng Wu. "Keep talking."

About what? Feng Wu's heart was pounding. Had Jun Linyuan connected the recovery of her cultivation to the loss of his Immortal Spiritual Fruit?

Feng Wu made a sour face. He would probably kill her if she confessed that to him!

"You don't want to tell me?" Jun Linyuan gave her a crooked smile, which made her stomach turn. "Fine."

Should she tell him or not...

Feng Wu cringed when she saw the frightening look on Jun Linyuan's face and she blurted out, "I have nothing else to tell you! No more secrets!"

"Little Feng Wu, you had your chance." Jun Linyuan narrowed his eyes.

Since Feng Wu had made up her mind, she decided to stick to it. "I'm telling the truth! I have nothing else to say!"

Jun Linyuan smirked.

Leaning back, he darted a knowing look at Feng Wu, which seemed to tell her that he knew everything.

Feng Wu's heart sank...

She opened her mouth involuntarily, but something landed on her lap before she could speak.

Feng Wu was over the moon when she saw what it was.

The broken star piece!

She looked up at Jun Linyuan and cried out with joy. "My broken star piece!"

Finally, he had given it to her!

Jun Linyuan snorted. "Get out of my sight."

That wasn't very polite.

Biting her lip, Feng Wu gave Jun Linyuan another look before turning to leave.

Chapter 965: Your Royal Highness... Be Civil (3)

Feng Wu could feel the intense gaze on her back, which gave her the creeps.

“No one ever lies to me,” Jun Linyuan said in a bone-chillingly calm voice. “Those who have are already dead!”

Feng Wu gritted her teeth. For a moment there, she wanted to tell Jun Linyuan that she was the one who had stolen that Immortal Spiritual Fruit. But... she still wanted to live. She would keep that secret for as long as she could.

Holding the broken star piece in her hand, Feng Wu quickly walked toward the door.

She opened the door —

And was met by two royal guards outside.

They stopped Feng Wu as soon as she tried to set foot outside.

“By Her Majesty the empress dowager’s edict, Miss Feng, you’re not allowed to leave Cining Palace.”

Feng Wu said, “His Royal Highness is fine now. I need to go home.”

However, the two guards wouldn’t budge.

With no other choice, Feng Wu started to fight her way out.

But —

The two guards were way more capable than she was, and she was defeated at the first blow.

Feng Wu: !!!

“Take me to Her Majesty. I’ll talk to her myself.” Feng Wu pouted.

But the two guards only stood straight like statues and told her “no.”

“When can I leave, then?!”

“I’m afraid you’ll have to ask His Royal Highness, Miss Feng.”

The guards shoved Feng Wu back into the room and closed the door from outside.

Feng Wu was speechless.

Where had these two guards come from, anyway? They were as powerful as they were stubborn!

Feng Wu was almost thrown off balance. She had no choice but to go back in after she regained her balance.

She could only leave with Jun Linyuan’s permission... She wondered how everyone was doing back home or if her uncle was giving her mother a hard time again. She was so worried.

She quickly went back in.

Feng Wu slowed down the closer she got to Jun Linyuan’s bed.

She had been so determined to leave that it was embarrassing for her to ask him for a favor now. On second thought, however, Feng Wu realized that this wouldn't be the first time she had given in to Jun Linyuan. Doing it one more time wouldn't make much of a difference.

Hence, Feng Wu bit her lower lip, went up to the bed, and crouched down. She then looked up at Jun Linyuan.

The arrogant teenager's face was emotionless. He looked away.

Feng Wu rose to her feet, went to the other side of the bed, crouched down, and looked up at him again.

Jun Linyuan snorted, then turned his head away again.

So, he was really mad...

Feng Wu scratched her head. What could she do to cheer him up now?

"Your Royal Highness... are you hungry? I can make you something to eat.

"Your Royal Highness... are you still not feeling well? Shall I give you a nice massage?

"Your Royal Highness... are you really mad at me?"

Sitting on the edge of the bed, Feng Wu gingerly studied Jun Linyuan's face.

Jun Linyuan threw a dirty look at her. "I thought you left."

Feng Wu pouted. "I couldn't. So I came back."

Jun Linyuan stared at the girl. Couldn't she tell that he was mad?

"Jun Linyuan... can you write me an edict?" Feng Wu pleaded with her eyes.

The crown prince lay down and turned his back to Feng Wu.

Feng Wu bit her lower lip. So, talking nicely wouldn't work on him now. What now?

Did she have to stay here in Cining Palace?

No way!

Staring at Jun Linyuan's back, Feng Wu reached out before she realized what she was doing. She began to give Jun Linyuan a head massage, and instantly, the guy stiffened!

Chapter 966: His Royal Highness Is Holding a Girl (1)

Feng Wu was on tenterhooks. She was convinced that Jun Linyuan would throw her hands off, but to her surprise —

The crown prince didn't react at all.

Good. He had given his tacit consent.

Feng Wu's face lit up. That was promising.

She then began to press various pressure points on Jun Linyuan's head, massaging all the way from his head and back down to his waist, legs, and the bottom of his feet... all the way down his body.

Two hours had passed by the time Feng Wu was done.

Jun Linyuan had fallen asleep during the process.

It made sense. Jun Linyuan was physically worn out, and Feng Wu's massage had cleared up his energy channels. Sleep was good for him.

Asleep, he looked less intimidating and more like what a teenager his age should.

His exquisite bone structure and deep-set features were almost too stunning to look at.

Feng Wu rose to her feet, but Jun Linyuan grabbed a corner of her clothes like a spoiled child.

"You came back voluntarily; you're not going anywhere now!" Jun Linyuan grunted and wouldn't let go of Feng Wu no matter what.

He had been pretending to sleep!

"Nature calls." Feng Wu quickly came up with an excuse. However, Jun Linyuan bolted upright in bed the next moment.

"What are you doing?" Feng Wu stepped back involuntarily, but before she knew it, Jun Linyuan had picked her up in both arms.

"Y- you —" Feng Wu was nonplussed.

She had never been picked up like this, not once in both her lifetimes!

"Where are you taking me?" Feng Wu panicked a little and began to pound on his muscular shoulder.

Someone could walk through that door at any moment, and the empress dowager would be furious if she knew that her precious grandson, who had narrowly escaped death, was carrying a girl in his arms!

However, regardless of how narrowly he had escaped death, Jun Linyuan still had more than enough strength to handle a struggling Feng Wu.

Crash —

Still carrying Feng Wu, Jun Linyuan kicked the door.

It swung open.

Outside, the empress dowager and Lady Northern Feng were here to visit Jun Linyuan, and this was what they saw.

Feng Wu: !!!

Her worst fear had just come true. The empress dowager was the last person Feng Wu wanted to see her like this, and there she was... Could the day get any worse?

Feng Wu hardly ever lost her composure, but she was blushing so hard now that even her hands were pink.

This was so embarrassing...

The empress dowager stood there dazed as she watched in disbelief!

Her Baby Jun who was supposed to have zero interest in women... Not only wasn't he interested, he would feel nauseated if women got too close...

But that same boy was now willingly carrying a girl in his arms!

Rumble...

The empress dowager felt as if thunderclaps were going off in her head. She couldn't look away, and pointed at Feng Wu with a trembling finger.

Feng Wu had turned scarlet red in the face. Glaring at Jun Linyuan, she whispered, "Put me down! Now!"

Your grandmother looks like she's going to have a stroke!

However, the crown prince ignored her and maintained his inflexible course. He marched on, still holding Feng Wu.

Feng Wu was flustered. The empress dowager was trying to kill her with her eyes!

Reaching out, she pinched Jun Linyuan's waist!

But Jun Linyuan's muscles were simply too hard, and Feng Wu felt as if she were pinching a piece of iron!

"Put me down now or I'll never talk to you again!" Feng Wu whispered through gritted teeth!

Chapter 967: His Royal Highness Is Holding a Girl (2)

That threat actually worked. Jun Linyuan darted an arrogant look at Feng Wu before putting her down.

She was barely back on her feet when the empress dowager, who had finally come back to herself, rushed over to Jun Linyuan's side. "Baby Jun, how are you doing? Are you breathing alright? How do you feel? Are you in any pain?"

The old lady couldn't stop worrying!

Her Baby Jun had just escaped death and he was covered in wounds. He had to be in so much pain! But that girl had let him carry her? Damn her!

At that thought, the empress dowager glared at Feng Wu with eyes that could spit fire! What a tart!

Feng Wu sighed inwardly.

She didn't ask for this, okay? Jun Linyuan simply did what he wanted; she couldn't control the guy.

Jun Linyuan glanced at her at that moment. "Shouldn't you be somewhere?"

Feng Wu rubbed her head. He was right. She had made an excuse about going to the toilet so that she could use the chance to flee.

However, Jun Linyuan gave an order. "Granny Tao, take her to the lavatory."

The lavatory?

Hearing that, everyone looked at Feng Wu strangely.

Feng Wu was so embarrassed she wished the ground would open up and swallow her now.

You just don't talk about going to the toilet in front of everyone! Feng Wu screamed in her head.

Seeing the awkward and frustrated look on Feng Wu's face, Granny Tao chuckled inwardly, but she was unperturbed and polite when she said, "Miss Feng, please come with me."

Granny Tao was an influential figure in Cining Palace and the empress dowager's most trusted maid. She could speak to Feng Wu like an equal.

She waited outside after showing Feng Wu to the lavatory.

Granny Tao pondered the situation in amazement while she waited. She had never seen the crown prince like this.

Everyone saw the crown prince as an indifferent figure. He never said any unnecessary words, and when he spoke, it was either an order or a verdict. He had never paid attention to petty things like this before.

But now, after he was severely injured, not only wouldn't he allow Miss Feng Wu to leave his side, he even tried to carry her to the toilet...

Granny Tao was anything but foolish. To be able to rise to her current station was proof enough of her intelligence.

She could see things much more clearly than a lot of people.

Inside the lavatory, Feng Wu shook her head in embarrassment.

That Jun Linyuan was outrageous! How was she going to face the others now?!

But she couldn't hide here forever. She would have to go back out eventually.

Meanwhile, the empress dowager was questioning Jun Linyuan. "What's wrong with you? Don't you have any idea what condition you're in? Why did you have to carry that girl? She's not an invalid. She can walk on her own!"

In a word, the empress dowager doted on her grandson, and she had no intention to hide her bias.

Standing there, Jun Linyuan reminded one of a spectacular sculpture with his exquisite features and deep-set eyes. His beauty was breathtaking.

He snorted arrogantly.

The empress dowager poked his forehead with a finger affectionately. "If you really like that girl, make her a maid in your bedchamber. You don't have to do all that."

Lady Northern Feng stared at the old lady. “Your Majesty...”

The crown prince was a formidable figure alright, but Feng Wu wasn’t just some random common girl. She had once been a genius, and she had just gotten that ability back! What the empress dowager was saying was pure humiliation!

The empress dowager realized how insulting her suggestion was, but she went on stubbornly. “Fine, not a maid in the bedchamber. An official concubine, then.”

Lady Northern Feng frowned. Feng Wu wouldn’t say yes to that either.

Chapter 968: His Royal Highness Is Holding a Girl (3)

Official or not, a concubine was a concubine; it was just a way to address the concubine with the highest status alongside the crown prince’s official wife. Feng Wu was too proud a girl to ever agree to that.

If Feng Wu was to be the official concubine, who did the empress dowager have in mind as Jun Linyuan’s wife?

Jun Linyuan narrowed his eyes. Raising his hand, he saw Feng Wu at the door.

She was sneering at him.

Jun Linyuan’s pupils contracted when he saw that smirk!

He cut the empress dowager off and said impatiently, “I’m going back to my residence.”

The empress dowager panicked!

“What’s wrong with staying in Cining Palace?”

“Too noisy.”

“How about your bedchamber in the palace...”

“I don’t like it.”

“But what if you fall ill again when I’m not around...”

Jun Linyuan asked, “Are you a doctor?”

That successfully shut the old lady up.

Lady Northern Feng sighed inwardly. Everyone would always be trounced by someone else. Little Feng Wu was Jun Linyuan’s weak point in the same way that Jun Linyuan was the empress dowager’s weak point and the empress dowager Emperor Wu’s weak point... Based on that logic, had Feng Wu become the most authoritative figure in the empire?!

No matter how hard the empress dowager tried, Jun Linyuan wouldn’t stay.

It was just what Jun Linyuan was like. He always got what he wanted and he wouldn’t be persuaded by anyone.

The empress dowager knew Jun Linyuan too well. In the end, she had to let Granny Tao pack Jun Linyuan's things and see Jun Linyuan off at the gate.

She flared up again when she saw Jun Linyuan dragging Feng Wu along behind him.

Glaring at the girl, the empress dowager wanted to scold her, but she had to suppress her anger when she realized that the crown prince would need Feng Wu if he fell ill again.

"You, come over here!"

The empress dowager wanted to tell Feng Wu off in private.

However, Jun Linyuan wouldn't let go of Feng Wu. He only glanced at the empress dowager and continued making his way toward the gate.

The empress dowager might be the most arrogant lady in the empire, but there was nothing she could do when Jun Linyuan decided to leave. She turned to Granny Tao in a haste. "Quickly, get the carriage ready! And fetch him his thick cape! And —"

She even wanted to go out to see him off herself, but Granny Tao stopped her.

"It's chilly outside, and Your Majesty will need to do a lot in preparation before you go out, which will take too long. You can always visit His Royal Highness after he settles down at home. How about tomorrow?"

Granny Tao's words carried weight, and the empress dowager was persuaded.

They stood in the long corridor as the carriage drove away... Then, the empress dowager saw the crown prince drag Feng Wu into the carriage with him!

"That's the royal carriage!" The empress dowager lost her temper again.

Her grip on Granny Tao was so tight that her fingernails almost dug into the granny's flesh.

The empress dowager bellowed, "What kind of girl is she?! How can she be so shameless?! She crawled into the crown prince's carriage in broad daylight!"

Granny Tao sighed in resignation. She couldn't help but vent her sarcasm inwardly. Anyone who wasn't blind could see that Miss Feng Wu had been forced, and the crown prince was the one forcing her.

However, she couldn't say that to the empress dowager, for it would certainly set the old woman off.

Granny Tao smiled bitterly. "I think His Royal Highness was only trying to use her as a blanket to shield him from the draught."

The empress dowager asked, "Is that so?"

Granny Tao said, "It's very likely."

The empress dowager grunted. "Hmph! That girl will bring us nothing but trouble!"

Granny Tao and Lady Northern Feng exchanged looks, and both saw resignation on each other's faces.

Xiao Wu was such a wonderful girl. Why wouldn't the empress dowager accept her?

Chapter 969: In the Hot Spring... (1)

The crown prince's residence.

Jun Linyuan still wouldn't let go of Feng Wu's hand after they got out of the carriage. His grip was so tight that Feng Wu couldn't break free from it.

She stared at Jun Linyuan in resignation.

Jun Linyuan said in a righteous tone, "You came back with me willingly!"

Feng Wu gritted her teeth!

Did she have a choice? His guards wouldn't allow her to go anywhere else!

Vexed, Feng Wu bit Jun Linyuan's hand.

However —

His hand might seem fair and smooth, but Feng Wu almost broke her teeth on it.

Feng Wu glared at Jun Linyuan!

The arrogant crown prince's face softened, and he actually smiled.

"Are you a dog?"

Feng Wu wanted to stomp on Jun Linyuan's foot, but —

Jun Linyuan put a palm on her forehead and was able to keep her at arm's length. She couldn't move any closer no matter how hard she tried.

Despite the hand on her forehead, Feng Wu pressed forward like an obstinate calf. "Jun Linyuan! Stop it!"

Despite his injuries, Jun Linyuan could handle Feng Wu with minimal effort.

She could neither bite him nor step on his foot... Feng Wu shouted in frustration.

Jun Linyuan's face lit up, and he raised an eyebrow and grinned.

They were outside his residence now, and in a spot where people came and went.

Many saw what was going on.

And their eyes widened.

Holy shit!

His Royal Highness was smiling...

The crown prince, who was known for his cruelty and relentlessness, was smiling!

And it was a cherubic, harmless, and relaxed smile.

Was he the same crown prince that they knew?

That was what Feng and Granny Gong saw when they arrived.

They exchanged wry smiles.

His Royal Highness would pay the price for pissing Feng Wu off.

Before Feng Wu completely lost it, Feng interjected, "Your Royal Highness, the hot spring is ready. You can enjoy it anytime you want."

"I'll deal with you later." Jun Linyuan sneered at Feng Wu. "For now, follow me."

He then turned to leave.

Feng Wu wanted to kick some ass!

And she was already imagining doing it to Jun Linyuan!

If Jun Linyuan landed on his face... Hahaha!

However, Feng Wu was still enjoying her daydream when Granny Gong took her hand. "Miss Wu, please don't try anything reckless, and just go with His Royal Highness."

After that, Granny Gong gently pushed Feng Wu forward.

She must have used some trick, for before Feng Wu realized it, she was right behind Jun Linyuan.

Thump —

She bumped into Jun Linyuan.

Holding her arms to steady her, Jun Linyuan shot her a contemptuous glance. "I see you can't wait."

Feng Wu wanted to scream!

What the hell?!

She wanted to kick his ass, but Granny Gong pushed her toward him!

Feng Wu glared at Granny Gong over her shoulder.

However, that kind old lady winked at her with a "thank me later" look on her face.

Feng Wu was speechless.

Jun Linyuan said arrogantly, "Well, if you're so eager, I'll grant you your wish."

Feng Wu asked, "What wish?"

Jun Linyuan glanced at her. "What do you think?"

Then, with a light push, the door to the hot spring opened. Inside was a room full of pretty maids.

Chapter 970: In the Hot Spring... (2)

Everyone bowed to the crown prince.

“Out!” Jun Linyuan waved his hand.

Feng Wu turned to run, but Jun Linyuan grabbed her by the back of her collar as if he were picking up a chicken.

Feng Wu: !!!

The dozen or so maids left the room immediately, and the last one was even considerate enough to close the door behind her.

Throwing off Jun Linyuan’s hand, Feng Wu stepped away from him and looked alarmed. “W- what do you want to do to me?”

Jun Linyuan closed in, reminding Feng Wu of a magical beast going after its prey. “What do you think I want to do?”

His face was so close. Staring at his deep-set black eyes, Feng Wu felt her heart skip a beat.

The teenager wouldn’t look away for even a second.

“S- stay away from me!” Feng Wu bellowed. “I’m not your match, but I won’t go down without a fight —”

Jun Linyuan said quietly, “I’m going to take a bath.”

Feng Wu said, “Are you sure? You’re still injured.”

Jun Linyuan glanced at her.

Feng Wu said, “Fine, take your bath.”

But then, Jun Linyuan said in a pitiful voice, “I always have the temperature tested before I go in. You’re not doing your job properly.”

Feng Wu was speechless.

You spoiled child!

It’s just a bath! Can’t you check the water temperature yourself?

However, Feng Wu gave in when she saw the puppy dog look on Jun Linyuan’s face.

She couldn’t take it when Jun Linyuan looked at her with those accusing bambi eyes...

She wouldn’t hesitate to yell back at him when he yelled at her.

But when he showed weakness first... Feng Wu had to surrender, for he simply looked too adorable. She would be overwhelmed by guilt if she refused him.

Crouching down by the hot spring, Feng Wu dipped a finger in the water, then said to Jun Linyuan, “It’s the right temperature, not too hot nor too cold. It’s perfect. You can go in now.”

Jun Linyuan moved toward Feng Wu.

“What now?” And that aggrieved look on his face... Feng Wu couldn't believe that the person in front of her was that formidable crown prince.

Jun Linyuan darted another look at Feng Wu, then tilted his head. “My maids always help me undress.”

Feng Wu was speechless.

Hello? You have a pair of hands yourself!

However, when Jun Linyuan raised his head with a sad look on his face, Feng Wu gave in again. “Fine, fine. I'll help you with that, alright?”

Beautiful people were the worst. It was impossible to say no to them.

Feng Wu quickly ripped Jun Linyuan's clothes off with her eyes shut, and was going to push him into the water. “Can you go in now? The water will get cold.”

Jun Linyuan went in, but he was displeased when he saw how far away Feng Wu was.

“My maids scrub my back...”

It's never enough for you, is it?! Feng Wu vented her sarcasm inwardly. A neat freak like you would never let anyone scrub your back! You can't fool me.

However, the crown prince gave her that pleading look again.

He was simply too beautiful to look at.

Steam swirled over the water, blurring his straight eyebrows, his perfectly sculpted nose, his smooth skin, and his exquisite features...

Leaning against the side of the pool, he reminded Feng Wu of an emperor looking down on his land...