

Nobel Ruler 61

Chapter 61: Battle!

“What? You want to join the warrior assessment?” That teacher was shocked. “Didn’t you already participate in the Xuan Master assessment?”

Chu Liuyue explained, “Teacher, it’s my first day at school today, and I haven’t chosen which aspect I want to specialize in. So, I should be given a chance to join the warrior assessment, right?”

“This...” The teacher paused. “It’s not wrong to say that, b-but... there has never been such a case before.”

Even if a person had a lot of talent in different aspects, they would normally just choose one to specialize in. For example, someone that could become a Xuan Master would usually spend all their efforts on Xuan formations, not warrior cultivation.

All humans had a limit to their energy. If they wanted both ends of the stick, they would usually end up failing to obtain both.

Besides, Chu Liuyue lacked a Yuan meridian, so it would be best for her to become a Xuan Master. What made her foolish enough to join the warrior assessment?

“The academy doesn’t have a rule that states that each student can only join one assessment. Since the girl wants to try, let her have a go.”

That teacher looked up and was stunned momentarily before he respectfully greeted the speaker.
“Greetings, Elder Sun.”

Chu Liuyue also turned around and nodded in gratitude. Originally, she planned to come on her own, but she did not expect Sun Zhongyan to follow her. It seemed like he was standing up for her.

Since Sun Zhongyan had already spoken, outsiders could not stop her anymore.

After hesitating for a while, that teacher said with much difficulty, “It’s not impossible for you to join the assessment, but... the assessment here has already ended—the finals are over. If you want to join the assessment, you need an opponent to determine who wins and loses. However, there isn’t anyone suitable at this moment.”

Chu Liuyue raised her chin. “Isn’t there someone suitable there?”

“Chu Xianmin?” With disbelief, that teacher dazedly said, “You want to go against the top warrior? Are you serious?”

Is Chu Liuyue a fool?

She lacks a Yuan meridian and probably might not even be a match for a stage-one warrior. How can she possibly compare with Chu Xianmin, who is about to reach warrior stage four? Only failure will await her if she goes on to battle.

Chu Liuyue paused for a while and smiled abruptly. “I’m serious, because... I came here to be the top scholar!”

...

After the finals, the warrior assessment zone had already calmed down; many people were preparing to leave. However, they did not expect Chu Liuyue to come over to participate in the assessment and even directly challenge Chu Xianmin.

The originally quiet crowd burst into heated discussions.

“Is this true? Chu Liuyue wants to go against Chu Xianmin?”

“Hah, did I hear it wrongly? She wants to be the top scholar?”

“My god.... This Chu Liuyue doesn’t usually talk, but she shocks everyone once she does! Does she think she hasn’t proved herself enough today?”

“A battle between the sisters while the Crown Prince is at the side. How exciting!”

If it weren’t for so many people watching her at the side, Chu Xianmin would burst out in laughter. *Chu Liuyue actually wants to vie for first place with me? I can’t do anything to Chu Liuyue regarding anything about Xuan Masters, but she is just asking for trouble by participating in a warrior assessment.*

“Sister, do you really want to challenge me?” Chu Xianmin had a belly full of jealousy and hatred yet to be unleashed, but who would have thought that Chu Liuyue would offer herself?

Chu Liuyue raised her brows. “You won’t fight me?”

“If that’s what you want, I’ll definitely obey. Don’t worry, I’ll be ‘careful’ and won’t hurt you, Sister.” As she talked, she smiled at that teacher. “Teacher, please allow for this match to take place.”

Since both of them had agreed, others would not interfere with their decision.

“Okay! Then, we’ll add one more match. However, I’ll repeat this once more: the match stops when you score sufficient points.”

Chu Liuyue did not say anything.

Rong Jin’s expression was complicated as he stared at the girl not too far away from him. *The once inferior girl has now become a Xuan Master talent... Did she purposely come here to prove something to me?*

However, Chu Liuyue didn’t even look in his direction after waiting some time; she acted as if he did not even exist.

An unknown fire grew in Rong Jin’s heart. He turned to look at Chu Xianmin and gently said, “Be careful, don’t let me worry about you. I’ll organize a celebratory feast for you when you get first place!”

Chapter 62: Enlighten Me!

Chu Xianmin was shocked by Rong Jing’s sudden warmth towards her. The Crown Prince did like her, but he rarely used such a gentle tone with her, especially when in front of so many people. He even sounded like he was pampering her.

Does this not prove that the Crown Prince is determined to marry me? Chu Xianmin was filled with elation and delight as she smiled even more sweetly. "Then, I'll thank you first, Brother Jin."

Rong Jin nodded, but the corner of his eyes quickly swept past the nearby Chu Liuyue. However, she was already walking towards the arena. She did not care about what happened between them or his actions.

Rong Jin's thin lips pressed against each other tightly, and the unknown fire burned even more fiercely in his heart. *Didn't Chu Liuyue previously say that she secretly had a crush on me? Why does she have such an attitude now?*

In the past, he only had hatred towards her. The marriage agreement between the two of them was like a gigantic mountain crushing his heart, which utterly frustrated him.

However, he felt like something was wrong now that she didn't bother him nor take another look at him anymore after the marriage agreement had been dissolved. He felt... uncomfortable.

He did not even know why he would feel this way himself, but this feeling would not go away and kept annoying him.

Rong Jin quickly retracted his gaze and looked at Chu Xianmin. Suddenly, he felt very bored.

But Chu Xianmin did not notice Rong Jin's changes and turned around to head for the arena.

The two sisters were against each other.

The atmosphere immediately started to tense up.

“Sister, I haven’t congratulated you. I didn’t know you had such amazing talent as a Xuan Master. If our family finds out about this, they will be over the moon.” Chu Xianmin smiled as if she was genuinely happy for her.

The crowd looked at each other with confusion and doubts in their eyes.

What does that mean? The Chu family doesn’t know that Chu Liuyue has Xuan Master talent? Then how did she start learning how to be a Xuan Master and attain second place in the assessment when faced with such outstanding students?

“Don’t worry; they’ll find out about this very soon. I don’t know if they’ll be happy, but it seems like you aren’t, Third Sister.” Chu Liuyue was very straightforward and had no intention of faking their ‘sisterhood.’

Chu Xianmin could not maintain her facade. “Sister, you’re seeing yourself as an outsider by saying this. It’s a good thing for the entire Chu family if you can become a Xuan Master, so why wouldn’t I be happy? The more talented and stronger you are, the happier I will be as your sister. For this warrior assessment, I still need you to kindly enlighten me.”

The crowd choked with laughter.

“Chu Liuyue lacks a Yuan meridian and can’t even be counted as a warrior. She is bound to lose this match. How could she possibly have the ability to ‘enlighten’ Chu Xianmin?”

“Hahaha, it seems like this pair of sisters’ relationship has thoroughly fallen apart.”

Chu Liuyue’s lips curved up slightly. “Since you’ve said so, then... I won’t go easy on you.” Before Chu Liuyue finished her sentence, she suddenly vanished into thin air.

Chu Xianmin was stunned, and her heart skipped a beat. *Why is Chu Liuyue so fast?*

A dangerous aura suddenly attacked from behind her, and Chu Xianmin instinctively turned around and drew her sword.

A red figure flashed across her eyes, and Chu Xianmin swiftly brandished her sword towards the front and stabbed harshly.

The sharp sword instantly cut through the person’s chest.

Before Chu Xianmin could be happy about it, she realized that the other party was not injured. The other party’s figure had even slowly disappeared.

Chu Xianmin immediately felt that something was amiss. *That wasn’t even Chu Liuyue. It was her shadow!*

“You’re too slow.” A cold voice sounded.

Chu Xianmin looked up and saw Chu Liuyue already standing three steps away and looking at her nonchalantly. Chu Liuyue gazed at her as if she were looking at a tiny ant.

Chu Liuyue's gaze made Chu Xianmin feel inferior for some reason.

"What happened just now?"

The spectators watching the battle also did not expect Chu Xianmin's attack to miss. They looked at each other in confusion.

The few teachers' expressions changed slightly. When they looked at each other, they saw the shock in the other party's eyes.

"How can Chu Liuyue be so fast? It looks like she's not weaker than a stage-three warrior."

"She's not even a warrior. How can she have such ability?"

At this point, Bai Chen could not help but raise his brows in delight. "Hehe, why don't you think about it carefully? What's so surprising about Little Liuyue having such ability if she could pass the warrior examination?"

The few teachers were stunned when they heard his words.

That was right!

Chu Liuyue had passed all three categories in the entrance examination. This proved that her own capabilities were comparable to that of a stage-three warrior.

Seeing their expressions, Bai Chen unleashed the anger in his heart. "Did you think that I purposely made it easy for Little Liuyue to enter our academy?"

The few teachers kept quiet for a while before shaking their heads since they knew Bai Chen was someone with integrity and honesty. He definitely wouldn't do such a thing.

"Hehe, let me tell you that an exciting show awaits at the back!"

This group of people doesn't know how to think on their feet. They will start regretting it when they see that girl's true potential.

...

No! It should not be like this! Chu Xianmin clenched her teeth tightly. Chu Liuyue is just a loser, and I'm about to become a stage-four warrior. How can I not be Chu Liuyue's match? T-that... was just a mistake on my part previously.

Chu Xianmin did not say a word as she circulated the force in her body and infused it into her longsword.

Weng! Weng!

The sharp sword started vibrating and made frightening sounds.

“Go!” Chu Xianmin stood on her toes and swiftly attacked Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue looked up.

The sharp sword was coming right for her.

Her hair flew along with the wind.

“Chu Liuyue won’t be able to avoid it this time...” said someone softly in the crowd.

However, the next second, the crowd shockingly discovered that Chu Liuyue did not retreat but had even advanced.

Chu Liuyue took a step forward and planned to face the attack head-on.

The most important thing was that she had no weapons on her. Was she going to fight Chu Xianmin with her bare hands? She was bound to lose if that were the case.

Chu Xianmin’s longsword was only half an arm away from Chu Liuyue’s neck.

Chu Xianmin suddenly had an evil thought as she stared at the face getting increasingly closer. *Her face really is getting prettier. If I can ruin it once and for all, Chu Liuyue will not be so arrogant in the future.*

When Chu Xianmin thought of this, her wrist tilted slightly, and the sword's blade moved an inch away, heading straight for Chu Liuyue's face.

Murderous intent flashed across Chu Liuyue's eyes. She spun around and bent her left leg slightly as her right leg flew up and went straight for Chu Xianmin.

Bang!

Chu Liuyue directly kicked Chu Xianmin's wrist with her foot.

Chu Xianmin felt excruciating pain as she yelled out loud.

Before she could react, Chu Liuyue had already rapidly closed in on her. Chu Liuyue turned around, and her left leg went flying out.

This time, she kicked Chu Xianmin's face directly.

A silver light flashed across, and fresh, red blood gushed out. Chu Xianmin's face instantly had several deep cuts.

Chapter 63: Chu Liuyue's Enlightenment

“M-My face!” Chu Xianmin felt that something was amiss and immediately touched her face. Her hand felt sticky.

That excruciating pain made her heart tremble.

Chu Liuyue actually ruined my face! Anger erupted from the bottom of her heart, and Chu Xianmin threw away the last bit of her rationality.

She quickly looked at the bottom of Chu Liuyue’s foot. As expected, a few very sharp blades were hidden underneath.

Chu Liuyue used this to cut her face just now.

There was an 80% chance of her face being scarred.

While covering her face in a hurry, she questioned with a shaking voice, “Chu Liuyue! What hatred do you have towards me for you to harm me like this?”

Chu Liuyue calmly glanced at the sword she dropped on the floor. “Weren’t you planning to disfigure me first?”

Chu Xianmin was instantly stumped and felt guilty.

Actually, it all happened in a single moment. When she decided to leave a scar on Chu Liuyue's face, she only shifted her wrist slightly. If one did not observe the battle closely, they would not have noticed that something was wrong. However, Chu Liuyue had accurately guessed her intentions.

"No, I-I didn't! W-We're only dueling, so why would I do such a thing? You! It's you! You wanted to do this much earlier, right? If not, why would you react so quickly?"

Chu Liuyue's lips curved up slightly as she mocked Chu Xianmin mercilessly. "I'm fast because I'm stronger than you. You should've known this from the start, right?"

Chu Xianmin's anger was stuck in her chest; she felt so uncomfortable that she was about to explode. She had no way of retorting Chu Liuyue's words.

Chu Liuyue was indeed very fast when the two of them first exchanged blows. However, how could Chu Xianmin be calm with her possibly disfigured face?

Murderous intentions rose in Chu Xianmin's heart. "I'm going to kill you!" Chu Xianmin screamed and rushed towards Chu Liuyue. Even though her face was harmed, she still had her abilities—which exploded at the highest speed with her current agitation.

Even the Heaven and Earth Force in the surroundings seemed to have converged towards her body.

In a short span of time, Chu Xianmin's aura became even stronger. "Stars and Sky Fall!"

The next moment, red force quickly gathered in her hands and formed burning fireballs. She harshly flung the red balls out afterward.

The balls burned brightly in the air and headed straight for Chu Liuyue.

The strong force was hurled towards the front at a high temperature, leaving the ground with long scorch marks.

“She truly is about to become a stage-four warrior. She can actually forcefully expand her warrior skills now. It seems like she’ll still win this battle in the end...” said a teacher softly.

All of them had seen Chu Xianmin’s talent for themselves. If not, she would not have come in first place during the warrior assessment.

Bai Chen sneered. “Not to mention the fact that she isn’t a true stage-four warrior yet, she might not even be Little Liuyue’s match even if she were.”

This sentence immediately attracted the teachers’ attention.

“Bai Chen, why do you think so highly of Chu Liuyue? You need to know that it’s a huge jump from warrior stage-three to warrior stage-four. An ordinary person can’t casually overcome this gap.”

“Considering Chu Liuyue’s previous reaction and moves, she should’ve undergone some simple training. Her talent as a warrior is proven since she can execute such moves, but it’s a pity that she has a lacking Yuan Meridian and is helpless in front of such warrior skills.”

Bai Chen could not be bothered to speak to them. *Even if Chu Liuyue really can’t become a true warrior in the future, the capabilities she has are more than enough to go against a mere Chu Xianmin.*

The scene of the entrance examination appeared in his brain once more. He could still vividly remember that moment he felt his life being threatened when he fought against Chu Liuyue.

In the arena, Chu Liuyue did not appear anxious in front of Chu Xianmin's unleashed powers—which were in an uncontrolled state. She even raised her brows and laughed instead. "Since you told me to enlighten you, watch closely. This is how you use a sword!"

As Chu Liuyue said that, she rapidly stepped forward, lifted the sword with her foot, and quickly caught the handle.

"How fast!" The crowd gasped.

Chu Liuyue's action just now was even faster than her previous moves.

Compared to her, Chu Xianmin seemed like she had purposely slowed down her movements.

Chu Liuyue spread her legs as she got into a stance and bent her knees slightly. Her muscles tensed up and gathered all the energy to be unleashed.

She tightly held the sword in her hand and suddenly raised her arm when the fireball of force was about to reach her.

The sword was high in the air, and the cold light was harsh.

Shua!

Chu Liuyue cleaved down without hesitation. This move was executed at the speed of lightning.

The crowd did not even see Chu Liuyue's actions clearly, and only saw the gleam of a blurred silver shadow.

They then heard a frightening sound of air being pierced through.

The next moment, that silver shadow cut right through the middle of the red fireball.

This all happened in just a moment's worth of time.

To the crowd, Chu Liuyue's sword cleave did not have any effect at all. That frightening fireball of force was still flying towards her rapidly.

Chu Xianmin sneered. "With your abilities, you must be dreaming if you think you can stop my attack."

A loser who can't even be considered a warrior might not even know what warrior skills are. Chu Liuyue will be handicapped with this one move, if not dead.

However, Chu Xianmin's smile froze the next moment because that fireball had actually stopped one arm away from Chu Liuyue.

After a momentary silence, it suddenly exploded.

Hong!

The fireball exploded into countless sparks. The energy within the ball also quickly dissipated.

When the scattered sparks were about to land on her body, Chu Liuyue raised the sword once again, tilted her wrist, and sliced the front.

The strong sword power immediately erected an invisible shield in front of her, blocking all of the aftereffects.

The countless sparks fell around Chu Liuyue like the beautiful stars in the night sky. However, her body was clean and did not even get dirtied by a single speck of dust. Her pair of dark eyes seemed to shine even brighter.

Everyone was stunned! If they did not see it with their own eyes, they would never believe that Chu Liuyue could actually block Chu Xianmin's warrior skills with a sword.

Chu Xianmin was shocked beyond words as her eyes widened; she had even forgotten about the excruciating pain on her face. She looked at Chu Liuyue in a daze, and her mind was blank.

Chu Liuyue suddenly threw the sword towards Chu Xianmin the next moment.

The harsh murderous intentions came from all directions, wrapping around Chu Xianmin tightly.

The indescribable, deep fear made Chu Xianmin's body go soft, and she could not retaliate.

Choo!

The longsword flew past the top of Chu Xianmin's head and instantly cut off a part of her scalp.

"Ah!" Chu Xianmin screamed and instantly collapsed onto the floor. *I-I... almost died just now!*

"Your reaction speed is too slow! You're too slow, and your moves are too clumsy! It seems like you're not very good yourself." A harsh and cold voice sounded from above Chu Xianmin's head.

Chu Xianmin trembled as she raised her head and saw that the weak girl she had trampled on so many times before had completely changed her look.

It was as if Chu Liuyue had superior powers that no one could ever obtain, which humbled people and made them admire her from their hearts without any tinge of defiance.

"Third Sister, are you pleased with this enlightenment?"

Chapter 64: Blessings

Chu Xianmin's entire body trembled, and her face was pale as if she had just seen a ghost. Her lips moved slightly, but she could not say a word.

The sword had previously flown right across the top of her head. If it had deviated slightly, she would have died.

Everyone had their mouths agape.

Since when did Chu Liuyue become this strong?

"Her sword had force in it!" muttered a teacher in shock.

If not, there would be no other explanation for why the sword had such tremendous strength.

Chu Xianmin's abilities were nearing that of a stage-four warrior. An average person definitely couldn't push her to this stage.

"This means that... She has a Yuan meridian!"

All the other teachers looked at each other in confusion, and their eyes filled with doubt.

"No wonder..." Bai Chen let out a deep breath.

When he first exchanged blows with Chu Liuyue, he already felt that something was amiss. In hindsight, this seemed to be the only explanation.

“It seems like this girl has many tricks up her sleeve...” Sun Zhongyan was dazed for a moment before he smiled. He looked at Chu Liuyue with shock and admiration.

Even he did not feel that anything was wrong. If Chu Liuyue had not battled Chu Xianmin, nobody would have known when the public would find out about this secret.

“What happened? I thought Chu Liuyue didn’t have a Yuan meridian.” The crowd’s shock could not be appeased. “If Chu Liuyue is a warrior, why did nobody notice her?”

If Chu Liuyue showed a trace of her force movement before, the others would definitely notice it. Chu Xianmin would also not be so arrogant and lose this badly. Sun Zhongyan looked at Chu Liuyue calmly and stroked his beard with a smile before saying, “That’s because she’s still not a warrior.”

“What?” The teachers were stunned when they heard his words.

“The Heaven and Earth Force her body has absorbed is plentiful, but she did not take that final step to become a true warrior. That’s why no one noticed her.”

Ling Zhu sighed softly and looked at Chu Liuyue with a completely different gaze than before. *She is so young, but she already knows how to keep a low profile. Her mindset is already much stronger than that of other people her age.*

“However, Director had once checked for her before, and she really did not have a Yuan meridian. Why...?”

“I heard that Chu Liuyue bought numerous herbs from Zhen Bao Pavillion after she sold the Crown Prince’s hunting ground earlier on. This piece of news spread like wildfire back then. Could it be that was when she recovered her Yuan meridian?”

“However, there are only a few heavenly doctors in the entire Country Yao Chen. Who has such capabilities?”

In their eyes, recovering a Yuan meridian was an impossible task. However, Chu Liuyue—who stood in front of their eyes—was living proof. They had to believe it.

...

“Surrender or continue?” asked Chu Liuyue nonchalantly in the arena as she looked down at Chu Xianmin from above.

Continue? Once Chu Xianmin heard that, her body started shaking violently. The excruciating pain on her face and head kept reminding her of what happened previously. If she continued... her entire body would probably be destroyed by Chu Liuyue.

However, she would be indignant until death if she surrendered to Chu Liuyue.

Chu Xianmin raised her head slowly and looked at Chu Liuyue standing in front of her. The young girl—who was once trampled on, played with, and bullied by her—currently stared straight down at her from a high position.

Chu Xianmin never imagined that such a day would come.

If she surrendered, Chu Liuyue would get first place. She would easily win everything.

Two strong opposing forces in Chu Xianmin's body were tearing her apart crazily, making it hard for her to decide.

"Then we'll continue," said Chu Liuyue. She did not have that much patience to wait for Chu Xianmin's answer, and she raised her right hand.

"I surrender! I surrender!" yelled Chu Xianmin out loud as if she was agitated greatly. At the same time, she swiftly moved backward and stared at Chu Liuyue's right hand in horror as if she were avoiding a humongous beast.

Chu Liuyue shifted the loose strands of her hair behind her ear with her right hand and chuckled. "Why are you nervous? I said I only wanted to come in first place during the assessment."

As she was talking, she looked at the supervising teacher at the side. "Teacher, can we announce the results now?"

The teacher was dazed when he saw everything happening in front of him. He only recovered his senses when Chu Liuyue spoke to him. Even if he had never thought of this scenario in the past, the truth was right before his eyes.

He gulped some saliva down with much difficulty before saying, "Chu Liuyue, first place in the 453rd Warrior Assessment."

Chu Liuyue came in first place!

The teacher's voice immediately spread far and wide, echoing throughout the mountains. It entered everyone's ears crystal clear.

Chu Xianmin's face immediately darkened, and her ears drooped down instinctively. *It's over...*

...

"The people in the Chu family are such fools! They will immediately regret this once they hear this news," said a teacher while shaking his head.

Everyone saw the battle between Chu Liuyue and Chu Xianmin clearly. They all knew who the stronger one was.

Chu Liuyue had also attained second place in the Xuan Master assessment. Only a few people in the entire Country Yao Chen had such Xuan Master and warrior talent at the same time.

This type of person would be lovingly doted on in any household, but how did the Chu family treat Chu Liuyue all these years?

They allowed her to be bullied and insulted by anybody and everybody.

Bai Chen chuckled and touched his chin. "Pfft, I'm afraid someone else will be the last to regret."

When the teachers beside him heard that, they instantly looked in a certain direction as if they understood each other's thoughts.

They did not forget that another key person was here—Crown Prince Rong Jin!

Of these two sisters, one was the fiancée he abandoned, while the other was the new love he doted on.

One sister got rid of her 'good-for-nothing' name with one move and became the talented one that everyone admired.

The other sister's reputation was ruined, and she had even lost to the other party in the competition she was most confident in.

Who would not regret when they realized they treated the dirt as treasure and had thrown the real treasure away?

Rong Jin stood rooted to the ground, and his entire person became as stiff as an ice statue, exuding a cold and harsh aura. His face was expressionless, just like the frozen floor—hard and stiff.

Only the hands in his sleeves were tightly clenched together as if he was about to crush something to death.

This entire battle didn't even take half an hour. The conversation he previously had with Chu Xianmin still seemed to be echoing throughout the mountains, but Chu Liuyue had already given them a tight slap.

On the arena, Chu Xianmin remained collapsed on the floor, letting her mucus and tears flow on their own as her face was badly mangled. A part of her scalp was even sliced off, making her look extremely ugly and disgusting.

However, Chu Liuyue was completely unharmed and looked just like the sun high up in the clouds as she stared down at them with her lips curved up into a gentle smile. She looked very beautiful.

The people around Rong Jin were all as quiet as mice. They did not dare move an inch, nor did they dare to look at his current expression.

However, Rong Jin could still feel countless gazes landing on him.

Mockery, teasing, and contempt—Chu Liuyue was the cause of all of this. However, the culprit was already descending from the arena and did not even look in his direction.

He swiftly went forward, blocked Chu Liuyue's path as if he could not control himself, and questioned her harshly. "Did you lie to me on purpose? You were acting on the day of the banquet. You purposely wanted to dissolve the marriage agreement between us, right?"

Chu Liuyue blinked. "Crown Prince, how could you say that? You were the one who wanted to dissolve the marriage agreement."

Rong Jin was instantly stumped since he was indeed the one who made the request. However, how was he supposed to know...

“I think you can save your efforts in preparing a celebratory banquet for my third sister.” Chu Liuyue’s smile became even more mesmerizing as she genuinely said, “However, I still need to give my blessings to both of you. I hope both of you will grow old together and build a wonderful family.”

Rong Jin’s anger was stuck right in his throat.

Chapter 65: Sin

On purpose! Chu Liuyue did it on purpose! Rong Jin was not a fool and understood everything after seeing Chu Liuyue’s present attitude. *She wanted to dissolve the marriage agreement a long time ago. If not, why would she even sell the hunting ground on her own and trigger the entire series of events?*

Rong Jin looked at the smiling young girl in front of him, and her eyes were sparkling brightly as if she long knew this day would come.

“If Your Highness doesn’t have anything else to say, I’ll take my leave,” said Chu Liuyue as she walked by him. There were no signs of reminiscence or regret from the start till the end.

Rong Jin’s heart was harshly pricked as if he had suddenly lost something important at this moment. Rong Jin clenched his fists tightly and relied on his last bit of rationality to prevent himself from rushing over to hold her back.

What position did he have now?

Everyone was taking him as a laughingstock.

“Brother Jin... Brother Jin... Please help me... I’m in pain. Brother Jin...” Chu Xianmin miserably cried while she stared at Rong Jin as though she was looking at her last straw of life. She wanted to walk towards Rong Jin, but her body was paralyzed. She laid on the floor uncontrollably and could not use any of her body’s strength.

She suddenly fell on the floor again after struggling for a while, and her body was dirtied with dust and dirt. Together with her messy hair, frightening wounds, and bloodstains, she looked as creepy as a scary ghost.

Chu Xianmin currently no longer looked like that talented young girl—who was once proud and highly sought after.

Many people looked at her with contempt.

“Pfft, Chu Xianmin has completely lost the match.”

“Hehe, didn’t you like her a lot in the past? Why are...?”

“Pui! I don’t dare to like such a pompous woman. Her reputation is completely ruined. She will never have good days like before, no matter whether it’s in the academy or the entire Imperial City.”

“If not, how could she attract the Crown Prince? There are too many women in the Imperial City who want to suck up to the Crown Prince. However, Chu Xianmin is the most—and only—successful one. The Crown Prince’s taste is pretty feisty... Hahaha!”

“Hey, do you think the Crown Prince will still marry Chu Xianmin after today?”

“I don’t know if the Crown Prince will marry her. I only know that Chu Liuyue will immediately become the most sought after distinguished woman in the entire Imperial City after today. Now that she has regained her freedom after dissolving her marriage agreement with the Crown Prince, the Chu family’s gate will definitely be struck until it’s broken. Besides, she’s originally a very pretty girl. She is also talented, both as a warrior and a Xuan Master.”

The whispers started spreading.

Rong Jin’s body suddenly became cold. At the same time, he felt as if lava was rolling around his chest, burning him. It was like he would explode in the next second. Rong Jin glared at Chu Xianmin with a deadly gaze filled with hatred.

“Someone! Bring her away and let her rest!” commanded Rong Jin while grinding his teeth.

Someone immediately stepped forward from behind Rong Jin and carried Chu Xianmin away.

When Chu Xianmin passed by Rong Jin, Chu Xianmin stretched out her hand, seeking some comfort from him. “Brother Jin, Bro—”

Rong Jin glared at her warningly. “You should rest and recuperate during this period. Don’t come out if you have nothing to do. Do you understand?”

Rong Jin had never directed such a cold and nonchalant gaze at Chu Xianmin. He looked at her as if she was useless trash.

Chu Xianmin started shaking and retracted her hand fearfully, suppressing the horror and indignance in her heart. “Y-Yes...”

“Little Liuyue, way to go! I said you were a rare talent, yet those old fellows didn’t believe me!” On the other end, Bai Chen had already rushed to Chu Liuyue’s side and excitedly raised his chin toward that group of teachers. “Do you have anything else to say about her results? Second in the Xuan Master assessment and first in the warrior assessment!”

The teachers looked at each other and laughed helplessly.

Capabilities would forever be the most powerful evidence.

If they did not see it for themselves, they would never believe that the once good-for-nothing Chu Liuyue—who was mocked by the entire Imperial City—could actually have such skills.

Sun Zhongyan smiled and shook his head. “Okay, Bai Chen. From now on, nobody will suspect that you purposely made it easy for Liuyue to get in. On the other hand, people will praise you for not making the academy lose a true talent.”

Thinking of his previous stony attitude towards Chu Liuyue, Bai Chen immediately felt guilty and scratched his head. “Pfft, that was nothing much! The main point is that Little Liuyue is outstanding herself!”

The way many students gazed at Chu Liuyue now had already changed from their initial contempt to their current curiosity and admiration.

“Teacher Bai Chen, tell us what exactly happened at the entrance examination!” shouted a student suddenly.

This sentence garnered several screams from the crowd.

“Yeah! Tell us!”

“How exactly did she pass all three of the examination’s assessments?”

Bai Chen playfully scolded, “Are you guys trying to start a revolt? I’m a teacher, not a storyteller! The incident is already spreading like wildfire in public. Go and find out for yourself!”

The crowd burst into laughter.

...

Chu Xianmin only felt that this laughter was very harsh to her ears.

At a point in time, she was in the limelight, and she was the one that everyone envied.

However, Chu Liuyue had completely replaced her now. Chu Liuyue had even attained more than what Chu Xianmin originally had.

And her?

Now, she could only be carried away from the arena and leave doggedly, miserably, and pitifully.

She closed her eyes with much hatred and almost crushed her silver teeth. *Chu Liuyue, it's not over between us!*

Rong Jin was also in an equally awkward position as Chu Xianmin. He stood rooted to the ground and felt even worse when he heard the bustling laughter.

"I still have something to do in the palace. I'll take my leave first." Rong Jin turned around to bow to Sun Zhongyan and the rest of the teachers before leaving at lightning speed. He did not turn back even once.

...

"Liuyue, it's your first day in the academy. Since you passed all three of the entrance examination's assessments, you can choose whichever one you want to specialize in. Since you've participated in two assessments, I think you should have a deeper understanding of those two aspects. Have you thought about which you would like to specialize in?" asked Sun Zhongyan.

Once he said this, the crowd instantly quietened down and looked at Chu Liuyue curiously.

Bai Chen gulped down a mouthful of saliva nervously. He originally thought that Chu Liuyue had the most talent as a Xuan Master. However, he now understood that Chu Liuyue's Yuan meridian was completely fine after the earlier battle and that she also had outstanding cultivation talent as a warrior.

She had no obstacles in front of her. A bright future laid ahead of her, no matter which path she chose.

Chu Liuyue smiled. "I choose... Xuan Master!"

...

The Chu family estate.

In the living room, all the seats were filled up. All the distinguished members of the Chu family were gathered in one place.

Suffocating silence filled the spacious living room.

Everyone sat quietly, and their expressions were strange. They came here upon hearing the news, so they knew why they had gathered here.

Finally, Third Elder stroked his beard and said, "The news has spread throughout the entire Imperial City, and many people have sent numerous gifts over... According to the rules, we should celebrate Liuyue's entry into Tian Lu Academy—"

"What's there to celebrate?" First Elder looked terrible and slammed the table harshly. "We first need to punish her for lying and hiding the truth from her elders when she comes back!"

Chapter 66: Reclaiming

Third Elder Chu laughed in response. He asked with interest, “First Elder, you must be joking. Liuyue’s acceptance to Tian Lu Academy has brought the whole Chu family honor. Why do you want to punish her instead?”

Everyone in the hall fell into a more awkward silence.

If it were any other child of the Chu family who had gotten into Tian Lu Academy, they would definitely be exhilarated. However, this person happened to be Chu Liuyue—the person the entire Chu family had bullied for over a decade!

The better she was now, the more embarrassing it was for the Chu family! She became living proof, showing everyone how blind the Chu family had been all these years.

Since the whole Imperial City had learned of this matter, the family wondered how many people would be laughing behind their backs, even if they came to offer their congratulations!

How many people were waiting to see them make a laughingstock of themselves!?

First Elder was irate. “That’s all the more reason to discipline her! Clearly nothing was wrong with her! She’s even quite talented, yet she pretended to be a good-for-nothing and deceived the entire Chu family. Now that she’s basking in the limelight, where does that leave us?”

Chu Yan suppressed the anger in his heart and seriously said, “First Elder is right! I didn’t expect Chu Liuyue to have such deep thoughts, but I absolutely believe that she did this on purpose today!”

He had been out dealing with things today, but he immediately rushed back when he heard the news. At the moment, all he could feel was extreme hatred and resentment toward Chu Liuyue.

Not only did she get herself into Tian Lu Academy, but she even participated in the mid-term examinations! She came in second place for the Xuan Master examination while taking first place for the warrior examination! Chu Liuyue had completely surpassed Minmin.

How could Chu Yan accept this?

“If all the children in the Chu family follow her example and behave like her, the Chu family won’t exist in the future.”

When everyone in the hall heard what Chu Yan said, they exchanged looks among themselves. Each of them wore a different expression.

Chu Yan seemed to speak for the entire Chu family. In reality, everyone knew he was taking this opportunity to exact his own private wrongs.

He was extremely proud of his daughter, Chu Xianmin, for being the family clan’s most outstanding daughter. However, Chu Liuyue had outshone and defeated Chu Xianmin. How could he wholeheartedly accept it when he might even be plotting to kill Chu Liuyue?

The Third Elder sipped his tea leisurely. “Outsiders might not know whether there’s an actual problem with Liuyue’s body. However, as members of the Chu family, we should know better. At that time, His Majesty asked several people to diagnose her, and all of them said she had a defective Yuan meridian. When our family clan tested her a few years ago, we also detected no force in her body. First Elder, you say she has deceived us all, then are you suspecting that all those people lied as well?”

The First Elder turned pale. “I didn’t say that!” He couldn’t afford to mess with those people, who were of prestigious status. If word got out, he wouldn’t have an easy time dealing with them.

Chu Yan refused to give up. He snorted coldly and said, "Of course, those guys can't be wrong with their diagnoses. Chu Liuyue is the only one at fault! According to Third Elder, she previously had a defective Yuan meridian. So, how did she manage to turn herself into a genius in the blink of an eye? She never said anything about what happened in between! If she hadn't gone to Tian Lu Academy and taken the exams today, there's no telling when this would have been discovered!"

The crowd exchanged looks among themselves. In fact, this was what confused them the most. What really happened to Chu Liuyue's body for her to experience such a huge and abrupt change?

"Could it be... those herbs she bought some time ago?" someone whispered with uncertainty.

"After the herbs were delivered, Chu Liuyue handled everything by herself. Are you trying to tell me that she repaired her own Yuan meridian?" First Elder was furious, but he only laughed at the absurdity!

During that period of time, he had sent his men to monitor Chu Liuyue and her father in secret. However, his men never saw anyone enter their courtyard. Nobody could repair her Yuan meridian in the whole Country Yao Chen, so how could she manage to do that on her own?

Either fate decided to give her a chance, or someone more powerful was secretly helping her! Whatever the reason behind her change, he was going to dig it up!

"The family head is still in seclusion, so I will handle all of the Chu family's matters. When Chu Liuyue returns, immediately bring her here for interrogation!" First Elder's eyes swept across the great hall, looking at everyone with authority, and finally landed on the Third Elder.

"The family head entrusted the whole family to me. Naturally, I have to be responsible for everyone. Chu Yin, you have been opposing me all this while. What exactly are your intentions?"

The Third Elder sneered inwardly. He thought of how shameless this old thing had gotten! *He is indeed a lawless man without his master!*

Chu Yin relaxed, leaned back in his chair, and said, “First Elder, you misunderstood me. I am not opposing you. I just feel that there aren’t many from the Chu family’s younger generation that can show their skills. We finally have Chu Liuyue—a top genius warrior and Xuan Master, who has been favored by Tian Lu Academy’s teacher—and her future is limitless.

“It wouldn’t be an exaggeration to say that she is the Chu family’s future face. There should be a limit to the questioning, interrogation, or punishment, even if First Elder wishes to do so. Of course, considering how wise and devoted you are to the Chu family, you will definitely not do anything excessive. Right?”

First Elder was choked beyond words. Finally, he swung his sleeves furiously. “That goes without saying!”

At this moment, a pageboy suddenly burst through the door in a flurry. “First Elder! Big Missy has returned!”

First Elder reprimanded him furiously. “She’s already back! Why are you panicking?” He looked up, towards the outside. “Where is she? Tell her to come see me at once!”

The pageboy threw himself onto his knees, looking flustered and helpless as he stammered, “I-It’s... it... Big Missy is back, b-but she’s standing outside the front door. She refuses to come in!”

“What?” First elder frowned. “What is she trying to do now? She won’t come in, so we have to go invite her in?”

All these years, Chu Liuyue had been a coward in the Chu family. Though she had just been accepted into Tian Lu Academy, she became so arrogant!

He gave a low grunt and looked at the crowd. "How is this not an issue? Look at her! She's already putting on airs!"

The crowd in the hall had mixed reactions.

Third Elder asked, "What did she say?"

The pageboy wiped the sweat from his brow. "Missy s-said... she wants you to go out and see her."

"She's rebelling!" First Elder slapped the table when he heard that. "Who does she think she is?"

Third Elder stroked his beard and chuckled. "First Elder, Chu Liuyue is not a nobody, but a rare genius seen only once a century. She has the most outstanding presence among the Chu family's entire younger generation. You said that the family is your priority earlier. Are you... not willing to go?"

"You!" First Elder was irate. "Fine! I'd like to see what tricks she has up her sleeves!"

...

Chu Liuyue stood in front of the Chu family estate's main gates with her hands clasped behind her back. Her eyes were calm and indifferent as she stared at the two big golden characters 'Chu Family' on the gate.

She had suffered much injustice and many grievances here. Today, she was going to reclaim everything!

Chapter 67: Clean Break!

First Elder and the others rushed to the gate and immediately saw Chu Liuyue in front of the main gate. A crowd had also gathered not far away.

It was afternoon. News of Chu Liuyue's acceptance into Tian Lu Academy had spread throughout the whole Imperial City like wildfire. Many had rushed here to join in the fun.

Even though they didn't dare to approach the Chu family's gate, the formed crowd had blocked most of the streets in and out of the family estate. It was a mess.

First Elder had been seething with anger. However, it quickly turned into resentment when he saw the crowd. "Why are you still standing there? Get in here now!" He shouted at Chu Liuyue, obviously in a bad mood.

Chu Liuyue stood rooted on the spot. Did she want the whole city to witness their family's embarrassment?

Chu Liuyue tucked the loose hair behind her ear and asked with a knowing smile, "First Elder, I was useless in the past. When you ordered me around, I had nothing to say. However, I've been admitted to Tian Lu Academy now. Why are you still being unkind to me? Am I that detestable to you?"

First Elder choked and whirled around. “It’s naturally a good thing that you’ve been accepted into Tian Lu Academy. However, if you’re going to use this to your advantage, then I won’t allow it!”

His expression remained unchanged, and his voice increased in volume as righteously said, “We, the Chu family, are one of the Imperial City’s four great families. We have always valued our family rules the most. As a junior, you dare to make me—a senior—come and invite you personally. Do you know that this is wrong?”

Chu Liuyue chuckled as if she had just heard a joke and looked at First Elder. “First Elder, you also know that you are a senior in the family? In all the years I was being bullied, did you ever show up even once as a senior to protect me?”

“You...” First Elder was tongue-tied. He averted his gaze. “There are so many things going on in the entire Chu family. It’s normal to have occasional oversights...”

“Those oversights lasted a decade.” Chu Liuyue cut him off. Her smile gradually faded, and her eyes turned cold. “At the age of five, a servant fed me poison. I was unconscious for three days and three nights, but I pulled through. At the age of seven, I wanted to practice cultivation like the other children, but I was told that I wasn’t even qualified to visit the martial arts training ground.

“At the age of ten, I could only leave the estate to go shopping for groceries. Even in the middle of the winter, I had to fetch water to wash the clothes for those lazy servants. My hands were frostbitten... How could First Elder not know about these things?” said Chu Liuyue calmly. However, one could feel the deep despair and desolation coming from the bottom of her heart.

What had a child done wrong to deserve such treatment?

First Elder and the others were dumbfounded. The crowd fell silent as well.

The whole Imperial City knew that the Chu family had a loser. Nevertheless, almost none of them remembered that this loser was also the Chu family's first trueborn. No matter what, there was no reason to be so harsh on her!

First Elder flew into a rage out of humiliation and shouted, "Th-That's all in the past. Besides, what happened didn't cause you any real harm, right? You have been accepted into Tian Lu Academy. What are you trying to do by bringing up all this now? Do you want the entire Chu family to apologize to you?"

Chu Liuyue didn't respond. Her indifferent eyes swept past everyone like icy, sharp blades.

Countless fragmented memories flickered in her mind. They all belonged to the body's original owner. Although she might not be the real Chu Liuyue, it was hard to suppress the anger and hatred welling inside her now that she had recalled those incidents.

Perhaps, it was because she was using this body, or they might have even been in desperate situations. Since she was now Chu Liuyue, it was only natural for her to settle old and new grudges together!

Chu Yan finally lost his cool and scolded loudly, "Chu Liuyue, you're so insensible! No matter what, the Chu family raised you without seeking merit or reward. Not only are you ungrateful now, but you've even turned against us and accused us of being unfair to you in front of all these people! What the h*ll do you have in mind?"

Chu Liuyue glanced at him. "Isn't what I said the truth? Besides, the ones who raised me were my father and mother. When did the rest of the Chu family come into the picture? Chu Yan, I haven't settled the score with you for secretly bullying my father all these years, yet you have the nerve to say these things to me?"

Back then, Chu Ning was injured, and his strength had decreased. However, he still excelled in other aspects. Chu Ning deserved half of the credit for running the shop under Chu Yan's name so successfully. Nevertheless, Chu Ning was not valued for his hard work. He was repeatedly exploited by Chu Yan instead.

The days of this father-daughter duo got tougher, and they were unable to make ends meet. Chu Ning also became more and more depressed.

"You're insolent!" Chu Yan never actually expected Chu Liuyue to berate him in public. For a moment, he was consumed by his anger, then he shuddered and pointed his shaking finger at Chu Liuyue. "You! You! Good for you, Chu Liuyue! Do you really think that you're so awesome just because you got into Tian Lu Academy?"

"I didn't just pass the entrance exam; I passed all three categories of the assessment. Besides, I took second place in the Xuan Master examination and first place in the warrior examination." Chu Liuyue raised her eyebrows. "I'm not that awesome. I just happened to be slightly better than Chu Xianmin."

"You!" Chu Yan's anger hit the roof, but he couldn't outsmart Chu Liuyue! Everything she said was the truth!

People with power were respected. There were no other words more powerful than these!

"Enough!" First Elder suddenly shouted in anger and glared at Chu Liuyue. "Go back right now! Think about your mistakes and repent in your room!"

"First Elder, you seem to be mistaken about one thing. I didn't ask you here to invite me back in." Chu Liuyue remained at the same spot and declared, "I came to cut all ties with the Chu family! From today onwards, I, Chu Liuyue, and my father—Chu Ning—are making a clean break from the Chu family clan once and for all! We will have nothing to do with each other in life and death!"

Chapter 68: Settle Scores

Her declaration caused an uproar among the crowd.

What did Chu Liuyue say?

She wants to sever all ties with the Chu family?

Is she crazy?

“What did you say?” asked First Elder subconsciously, stunned.

Chu Liuyue’s resolute look and resounding words struck everyone like thunder, causing horrifying waves! “I said that my father and I will have nothing to do with the Chu family from now on! Do you understand?”

“Do you know what you’re saying?” First Elder stared at Chu Liuyue in disbelief. He never imagined that she was capable of saying such things! “Both of you have the blood of the Chu family flowing through your veins. You have shown us great impiety and disrespect to say that! I knew you were going to turn things against us when you got accepted into Tian Lu Academy!”

Not only First Elder, but the entire Chu family was in a state of shock. It had just occurred to them that, once Chu Liuyue had turned over a new leaf, she might hold a grudge against them because of what happened in the past. She might even seek revenge. However, nobody imagined that she would have the resolve to choose to leave the Chu family!

Even though she had become a genius, it was wishful thinking if she believed she could pit herself against the entire Chu family!

The Chu family was one of the Imperial City's four great families and had a prestigious status. How many people would like the chance to form a connection with them? How could she have made such a decision?

"I'm not here for a discussion, but to inform you." Chu Liuyue didn't seem to care about the commotion that her words had caused at all. Her expression remained calm and relaxed.

Her words were simple and clear, yet they carried a hint of indisputable authority!

Third Elder finally frowned. "Liuyue, you can't say such nonsense. I know you're upset, but you're being too impulsive..."

"Third Elder, I've made up my mind." Chu Liuyue was still polite when she spoke to Third Elder. This was because of the memories retained by the original body. Third Elder was one of the considerable few in the family who had ever helped her and her father.

Chu Yin had no children. He had always held Chu Ning in high regard, even treating the latter like a son. However, too many things happened after that incident. As much as Third Elder wanted to help Chu Ning, he was unable to do anything about their situation.

Third Elder wanted to say something when he looked at Chu Liuyue. In the end, he only managed a sigh. The bottom-line was that he was a useless man. If he had more authority in the family and helped them a little, Chu Ning and Chu Liuyue wouldn't have been reduced to such a state...

If Chu Liuyue hadn't been accepted into Tian Lu Academy today, there was no way he could've mustered the courage to confront First Elder.

This girl has obviously given up on the Chu family! It is too late for us to want to keep her now!

Chu Yan—who had been seething with anger—finally came back to his senses. With some urgency, he abruptly asked, “Chu Liuyue! Chu Ning is not here now. Are your words also a representation of his wishes?”

The departure of Chu Liuyue and Chu Ning might not be a good thing for the Chu family. However, it would be beneficial for Chu Yan and his family!

Chu Ning would no longer be around to compete with him for the position as the next family head. Chu Liuyue would also be unable to utilize Chu family's best resources for geniuses!

Everything in the family would belong to him when they left!

Chu Liuyue saw the spark in his eyes. It was easy to guess what Chu Yan was thinking. She smiled and took her time to answer him. “Whatever I've said definitely reflects my father's wishes. Rest assured, my father and I will walk away with no further disputes. We also won't be involved with the Chu family's matters after we've settled the final issue.

She raised a finger. “First, my mother's dowry weighed a total of 120 catties when she married my father. If I remember correctly, after my father was injured back then, you used the pretext of letting him recuperate without worries to allow Lu Yao to handle the dowry at her full discretion. Since I am severing my ties with you, it's time for you to return the dowry to me.”

Chu Yan and Lu Yao suddenly went pale in unison.

“Second, my father is the family head’s son, after all. I was also once the entire Chu family’s eldest daughter. Although the master of the family is not here, he will definitely feel bad if he knows that my father and I have left without a penny. It’s not too much for us to ask for one-fifth of the Chu family’s fortune, right?”

“You’re dreaming!” Chu Yan was the first to object. “We have so many sons and daughters in the family. Do you and your father think it is that easy to walk away with one-fifth of our family’s fortune?”

Chu Liuyue bluntly said, “I’m sure all of you have witnessed how much my father has done for the Chu family over the years. If you don’t want to give it to us, that’s fine. I will go to His Majesty and seek justice. Let’s see if it is fair for us to have a part of the fortune then.”

Chu Yan promptly shut his mouth.

Everyone knew that Chu Ning had injured himself all those years ago because he was protecting the emperor. If word of this really reached His Majesty, the emperor would definitely treat Chu Ning fairly, even if it was out of consideration for his benevolent reputation!

That would only humiliate the Chu family more!

First Elder laughed in exasperation. “Fine! Fine! You’ve got it all figured out! Since this is the case, both of you are not allowed to set foot in the Chu family again from now onwards! I’d like to see how you are going to survive in the Imperial City!”

Without the Chu family to back them up, they might not even have a place to stay!

Chu Liuyue blinked and smiled. “You needn’t worry about us, First Elder. I already bought a new mansion on West Street a few days ago. It might not be as big as the Chu Mansion, but it’s very clean and free from all the nonsense. Today is the tenth day of the eighth month—an auspicious day to rid ourselves from the bad and move into a new place!”

Chapter 69: Good Things Come in Pairs

Upon hearing this, it became obvious that Chu Liuyue had this planned already! She had secretly purchased a mansion and waited till she was accepted into Tian Lu Academy before completely turning against the family!

This way, she could get rid of the Chu family once and for all!

First Elder and the others almost passed out from anger once they realized that Chu Liuyue had made all the preparations.

If it was in the past, there wouldn’t be any objections if Chu Ning and Chu Liuyue did this. They would even be secretly glad to rid themselves of the two black sheep. However, Chu Liuyue’s status had changed drastically. This was equivalent to them being abandoned by Chu Liuyue.

If word of this incident got out, the Chu family would lose face!

“First Elder, Chu Liuyue has simply gone too far. I think we really don’t have to keep her any longer!” Chu Yan took a deep breath and started to persuade First Elder.

They could afford to be embarrassed. What mattered most was to nip this in the bud completely!

Nevertheless, not everyone agreed with Chu Yan.

“I don’t think we should be so rash. After all, Chu Liuyue is now a rare genius. The other family clans yearn to have one but can’t. If we let her go just like that, it’ll be our great loss.”

“That’s right! Besides, they are the Chu family’s trueborn direct descendants. The matter of severing ties is of great importance. Our family head is not around, so we have to be extremely careful...”

First Elder was unhappy to hear their opinions. He coldly glared at the ones who dared to speak up.

“What? Do you not trust me? Or you think I don’t have the authority to decide?”

“Don’t get us wrong, First Elder. That’s not what we meant...”

“Hmph! Chu Liuyue is conniving and unscrupulous! Minmin is her sister, yet she wounded her mercilessly! Moreover, she harbors a grudge against us. If we keep such a cruel person, she is bound to wreak havoc in the Chu family!” said Chu Yan with contempt.

First Elder looked uncertain, and he was silent for a long time. After he got over the shock, he carefully considered it and was eager to agree to this matter immediately.

Among other issues, the relationship between him and Chu Ning, as well as Chu Liuyue, was strained. They even had an ongoing feud. He absolutely didn’t believe that they didn’t hate him.

If Chu Liuyue remains in the Chu family, she will definitely be highly regarded in the future. When she reaches adulthood, I fear that my bitter days will come! Nevertheless, it will be hard to explain to the family head.

“First Elder, Chu Liuyue may be gifted, but she is stubborn and vicious. She really can’t stay! Besides, her future won’t be easy after leaving the family. We don’t have to worry about the consequences. As for Chu Ning, what’s there to be concerned about a cripple?” said Chu Yan softly.

First Elder clenched his teeth. “Someone, bring me a pen and paper!”

Chu Liuyue is the one who brought this up. Even if the family head does come out of his seclusion and seeks accountability, it will be Chu Liuyue’s fault!

“Don’t bother. I have already written the declaration for severance and property division.” After that, Chu Liuyue really took out two pieces of paper from her bosom and handed them over sincerely. “First Elder, I just need your fingerprint on the papers.”

A few snickers could be heard coming from the crowd.

Chu Liuyue was really heartless; she had prepared everything beforehand!

First Elder’s face reddened. He almost exploded with anger! He snatched the two pieces of paper and read through them once while suppressing his anger. Once he was sure that the papers were in order, he bit his finger hard without hesitation and pressed it onto the papers!

“Take it! From today onwards, you are no longer a member of our family!” First Elder angrily threw the two pieces of paper back to Chu Liuyue.

Chu Liuyue didn't mind at all. She examined the bright-red fingerprints and waved the two pieces of papers with a smile on her lips. “Great! From now on, I'll hit the high road while you cross the log bridge! However, please remember to send the things on the list to my residence within three days. I don't like to leave my stuff with others.”

“Get lost!” First Elder finally lost it. He shouted in anger, then threw his hands up before leaving and saying, “Close the gates!”

As soon as First Elder said that, a surprised feminine voice called out from not far away. “Oh, so many people are here. What's happening?”

Everyone turned in the direction of that voice and saw a pale, beardless man dressed in official attire. He was definitely from the palace!

The crowd parted to make a path for him.

That man approached curiously. Finally, he saw Chu Liuyue, First Elder, and the others at the gate.

He was suddenly happy. “My goodness, isn't this Big Chu Missy? His Majesty is so pleased to hear that you've been accepted into Tian Lu Academy!”

Chu Liuyue smiled and bowed. “Eunuch Min, you're too kind. I will be sure to head to the palace to thank His Majesty personally another day.”

Eunuch Min was a popular person by His Majesty's side. His status was more prestigious compared to the average courtiers. Nobody should offend him.

First Elder coughed, quickly adjusted his expression, and forced a smile onto his face. "Eunuch Min, what brings you here? Does His Majesty need something?"

"Oh! I'm here to announce the good news! It's a double blessing for your family today!"

"Double blessings? May I know what you are talking about?"

Eunuch Min gave a joyous smile, gesturing with his thumb and middle finger joined while extending the rest of his fingers. "Naturally, the first blessing is that your Big Missy has been admitted into Tian Lu Academy. She also did exceptionally well, taking second place in the Xuan Master assessment and first place for the warrior assessment.

"The second blessing is that Lord Chu Ning has successfully broken through to become a stage-five warrior after recovering from his old injuries! His Majesty is so pleased that he has appointed Lord Chu Ning to be the imperial guards' Commander in Chief! I'm here to give you these two pieces of good news! Two good things have happened to your family. It has caused many to be envious!"

Chapter 70: They Have Nothing to do with This

After Eunuch Min finished talking, a strange silence fell over the street.

There was no joy on First Elder's and the others' faces. Instead, they looked like they had swallowed a fly!

Eunuch Min's smile faded slightly, sensing something was amiss. "T-This... What's wrong with you people?"

First Elder came back to his senses, looked at Eunuch Min, and tried to say something. However, there seemed to be a blockage in his throat, and he couldn't utter a single word.

"How can this be? He suffered severe trauma back then. Several heavenly doctors diagnosed him and declared that the probability of him recovering in his lifetime was slim to none! How did he recover so abruptly and even break through to become a stage-five warrior?" Chu Yan shouted, stunned.

I don't believe it! This can't be true!

Eunuch Min narrowed his eyes, his smile cold. "What is this? Lord Chu Yan, are you suspecting me of falsely passing on an imperial decree?"

Chu Yan froze. "No, no! I didn't mean that! I was... I was simply in shock. This... There was no news of this at all before! H-how can..."

Eunuch Min dusted himself. He was well aware of this matter. Chu Ning and his daughter had suffered some years back. Their position in the Chu family had been awkward, and they had been ostracized.

It was normal that Chu Ning hadn't told them about his recovery and his breakthrough as a stage-five warrior.

After all, some people in the Chu family would be anxious once they got wind of this news. Wasn't that how Chu Yan had just reacted?

Chu Ning's rise would be Chu Yan's greatest threat, so he certainly wouldn't accept it!

Nevertheless, Eunuch Min didn't bother to expose the elder. He smiled. "Not to mention you, even His Majesty has also just been informed today. His Majesty has been brooding about Lord Chu Ning's injuries. When he heard that Lord Chu Ning broke through and became a stage-five warrior, he was overjoyed. Coincidentally, the position of the imperial guards' Commander in Chief is vacant. Lord Chu Ning would be the perfect candidate for the job! His Majesty has also said he's keeping the lord in the palace tonight for a late chat!"

Chu Yan closed his eyes. Eunuch Min's words were clearly a warning to him.

Even His Majesty didn't know about it. So what was the big deal that he hadn't been informed?

This only meant that His Majesty was the first person Chu Ning had told because none of them knew about it! What better way to show one's loyalty than that?

His Majesty would just trust Chu Ning more!

What else could he say?

The Commander in Chief of the imperial guards was a powerful position.

The only people who had ever held this position were those with outstanding capability and favored by His Majesty! Even Chu Ning—who was in the limelight back then—had only been a small captain in the imperial guards.

Chu Ning actually skipped a few levels after his recovery and was directly promoted to the imperial guards' Commander in Chief! From now on, he would surely be the most popular person in the Imperial City!

“By His Majesty’s grace, this is a big deal. First Elder, the whole family should be rejoicing, right?” Eunuch Min continued.

First Elder opened his mouth and forced a smile on his face. He looked worse than when crying. “Y-you have a point...”

Chu Liuyue stepped forward with a smile and interrupted First Elder by saying, “Eunuch Min, thank you for making this trip. This is indeed a great joy. We will definitely throw a banquet to celebrate when Father returns tomorrow. Eunuch Min, no matter what, please grace us with your presence and come for the banquet when the time comes!”

Chu Liuyue had spoken appropriately. Eunuch Min liked her even more after he saw her behaving so sensibly. “Big Chu Missy, you are too humble! Lord Chu Ning and yourself are both persons that possess great ability! You only make me admire you more! I’ll be sure to congratulate you in person then. Look at the doorstep. From now on, I’m afraid there’s going to be a crowd at your door!”

Chu Liuyue shook her head and cast a meaningful look at First Elder and the others. “The step is too high. I’m worried it’ll wear you out. Let’s move to another place. Oh, you might not know that I have just severed my ties with the Chu family. From today onwards, my father and I have nothing to do with the Chu family!”

Although Eunuch Min was used to seeing all sorts of occasions, he, too, was shocked by Chu Liuyue's words. "What?"

Chu Liuyue smiled nonchalantly. "In other words, the two joyous pieces of news have nothing to do with the Chu family and these people! You only have to offer your congratulations to me!"

These people had bullied her in the past. Now, she refused to let them get a piece of the glory!