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## Chapter 90.2

### Strong Affection (Part 1)

After Shang Xiao ran out, there was only Shang Jun and Qin Xiu Zhi in the tent. Although Shang Jun was in so much pain that he wanted to faint, he still turned his head to look at the pensive Qin Xiu Zhi and said, "Xiu Zhi, do you have anything that you want to tell me?"

In the Imperial City, he had never experienced any friendship between brothers and sisters like this. Upon seeing Shang Jun's smiling face and Shang Xiao's sorrow, his heart also felt tightened up for no reason. Looking at his haggard face, he actually wanted to stroke his cheek lightly and tell him not to smile anymore. And so, he actually did it.

When his fingers touched Shang Jun's cold cheek, both of them were stunned. Shang Jun opened his eyes wide and stared at the elegant man in front of him. He, he, he... what the heck was he doing?! Shang Jun should have pushed him away, but he felt as if his body was nailed down and he was unable to move at all.

Facing Shang Jun's wide eyes, Qin Xiu Zhi sighed bitterly; he was frightened? Yes ah, Shang Jun should be frightened. He (QXZ) should not use this kind of feeling to blaspheme his beauty, so Qin Xiu Zhi slowly retracted his hand and softly said, "You take a good rest." After he finished speaking, he got up to leave.

The lonely back in front of him left rather sadly and Shang Jun did not understand why his heart was throbbing with pain. He only felt his blood vessels rushing up as his throat became sweet, when dark red blood spurted out from the corners of his mouth.

Hearing a noise behind him, Qin Xiu Zhi turned his head and saw blood on Shang Jun's lips and clothes. "Shang Jun?!" Qin Xiu Zhi was shocked as he supported his body that was gasping for air. Qin Xiu Zhi was at a loss; what was going on, how could he vomit blood?!

Right at this moment, Pei Che's clear, and loud voice came over from outside of the tent, "Master Shang, I would like to consult about the matter of breaking the formation. Is it convenient for you now?"

"Don't call anyone." Qin Xiu Zhi was just about to open his mouth to call for someone, but Shang Jun was gripping his sleeve tightly, while wiping the blood on his lips. With great difficulty, Shang Jun said, "I don't want him to know about my injury, I... (cough, cough, cough) ..." He was interrupted by the stifling cough, so he could not continue to say anything further.

Even though he could not speak, Shang Jun still sat up, so Qin Xiu Zhi pressed his shoulders to have him lean on the bedside as he said, "Leave it to me." He did not know why Shang Jun did not want others to know that he was injured, but that was his business so he would not look on without helping him.

As he lifted open the tent curtain, Qin Xiu Zhi saw Pei Che standing in front of the tent with a smile on his face, so he smiled generously in return and said, "Military Counselor Pei."

He just saw Shu Qing under the plum tree who was not together with Shang Jun, so he was about to come and explore the real situation. Unexpectedly, Qin Xiu Zhi met him here, so Pei Che cupped his hands and said with a smile, "So it is Gentleman Qin ah. I am looking for Master Shang to discuss breaking the formation with him."

Qin Xiu Zhi was blocking the front of the tent and did not move out of the way at all as he said with a composed smile, "Whatever needed to be discussed was already discussed earlier by Master Shang. He is still thinking hard about a better way to do it, but there has been no new progress to report at this moment. There must be a lot of matters in the army that require Military Counselor Pei's attention right now. If Master Shang thinks of a better way to break the formation, he will naturally discuss this with all the other generals."

He (QXZ) obviously did not plan to let him inside! This Qin Xiu Zhi seemed to have a leisurely relationship with Murong Shu Qing and Shang Jun. Before he knew his (QXZ) identity, he still needed to be cautious, so Pei Che nodded his head and smiled to say, "Alright then." Out of the corner of his eye, he swept over Qin Xiu Zhi's clothing as something flashed through Pei Che's eyes. He pretended to be surprised as he asked, "Gentleman Qin, how come the front of your jacket has some bloodstains?"

Qin Xiu Zhi was slightly startled; bowing his head to look down, indeed there were a couple drops of red bloodstains on his clothes. It would have accidentally been stained when he was helping Shang Jun just now. Pei Che has such sharp eyesight that he actually noticed a couple drops of blood like this. No wonder he has already become a military counselor even though he is still young.

Knowing that Pei Che is an outstanding person, Qin Xiu Zhi calmly patted the corner of his jacket and freely said, "Is it here? It is just some cinnabar. When I woke up this morning, I drew several paintings. I didn't know if I accidentally got it on my clothes and caused the Military Counselor to mock me."

Cinnabar? It could be, but his intuition said that it was blood, so secretly observing Qin Xiu Zhi, Pei Che smilingly said, "Gentleman Qin is so refined and elegant; it is indeed very rare. What kind of masterpiece did the Gentleman paint?"

Qin Xiu Zhi acted as if he met a close friend, so he spiritedly smiled and said, "Only several peony tree paintings; is the Military Counselor interested? How about we go to my tent so we can study it?"

There was no weak point on his face at all; could it be that he guessed wrongly? Seeing as through Qin Xiu Zhi was about to drag him to go back to his tent, Pei Che waved his hand and answered, "No need, I don't want to study any painting. I will not disturb any longer."

Qin Xiu Zhi slightly frowned before he smiled regretfully and said, "So we can only drop the topic, please leave."

Pei Che returned his greeting and turned around to leave.

After watching Pei Che walk a few meters away, Qin Xiu Zhi let out a long sigh of relief. When did he have time to paint?! From last night until now, he has always been thinking about Shang

Jun's matter and he hasn't done anything. He was betting a moment ago and fortunately, he won.

Entering the tent again, he watched as Shang Jun was weakly leaning on the bedside, so Qin Xiu Zhi walked over to his side and anxiously asked, "I will help you get Shu Qing to come over, alright?"

After the blood congestion in his chest had come out, Shang Jun felt a little more comfortable, so he shook his head and answered, "I am really alright and will just take a rest."

"You still call this alright?!" Qin Xiu Zhi's gentle voice suddenly changed into a cold one, "I know that you have your own reasons, but I can't look at you being so careless with your own body like this. Do you know how your complexion looks right now?!" Anyone who sees him, will not believe that he is alright!

Shang Jun was taken aback and mumbled his answer, "Xiu Zhi... I am really alright."

Being anxious and angry in his heart, Qin Xiu Zhi did not care about his excuses anymore, as he said without any leeway, "I will find Shu Qing, or I will find a doctor for you. You choose it on your own."

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Sian's notes:

My eyes are wide open to see how good Qin Xiu Zhi can lie smoothly. Lol...

Awww... the gentle & refined QXZ can also be angry when dealing with a stubborn SJ. I like this personality of his!!