

ANCIENT CHINA

By Nastya

QIN DYNASTY

(中国古代秦朝)

Sept 3. 221 B.C.

Dear diary,

Today I was being promoted as the new royal helper of the emperor 秦始皇 (Qín Shǐ Huang). I am really glad to get this job because I've spent years trying to go this far. My first day was great! I had to design a meeting for the emperor and other important people about what to do with all the thieves on the silk road, and what is the best way to get rid of them.

Oct 7. 221 B.C.

Dear diary,

The work is not easy, but I'm pleased to help the king.

It's awesome living in a palace so, I wanted to talk about it. Living here is better than I imagined! I have a giant room, all to myself! There is a jacuzzi, three balconies, a kitchen, and two bedrooms. Also, I can eat at any time I want. Anytime, and anything.

Nov 21. 221 B.C.

Dear Diary,

I haven't written in a long time because 秦 gives me too much work. I don't sleep, and even if I do, only for a few hours. Life is still wonderful, but I really need more sleep.

April 19. 220 B.C.

Dear Diary,

I started thinking that working for Qin is not a good idea. It's not a good idea at all. He treats me with respect but still acts like he rules the world! UNFAIR.

July 29 220 B.C.

Hi diary,

The past few months were horrible! 秦始皇 made me research and explore the empire's fields, caves, forests, plains, seas, and mountains just in order to find something that would make him immortal.

Aug 25 220 B.C.

Hey diary,

This is getting on my nerves. I thought it was great, but no one pays respect to me! I AM THE ROYAL HELPER NOT SOME PIECE OF JUNK!

But I know what I'll do...

Here are my plans:

Since I started working for Qin Shi Huang he was always acting very selfish. He always wanted to be the most famous leader, with the biggest empire, and he as you can realize from my latest report he always, I repeat always, wanted to live forever.....

which brings me to an idea... A very very cruel but great idea.

If the emperor dies, I will be the new emperor because I'm his "royal helper"!!!!

Sept 13 220 B.C.

Dear diary,

The last few days I've been thinking only about how to poison the emperor. But I know what to do. I'll go exploring. I have to find something that looks great, and is shiny and attractive, but also very poisonous...

Nov 24 220 B.C. 11:45

DIARY!!!!

When I was hiking in the Himalayas I was looking for a cave in which I could sleep, because it was really cold outside. After a few hours of searching I found what I needed. A large cosy cave in which I made a fire for warmth and went to sleep.

I was awoken by the shining rays that lit up the whole cave. And guess what I found??? There was something very shiny in the middle of the cave. I was not sure what that was at the time, but when I came back to the palace, I figured out that was just what I needed. A shiny, poisonous liquid metal, that no one knew about! Now I have everything for poisoning Qui!

The only thing that was left to do was to heat the metal before the king came in my laboratory. I was hoping to make him think that the shiny potion I made was an immortality elixir. But the last part is easy - if the emperor sees something shiny "it's M-I-N-E it's MINE!" he used to say.

But the emperor never comes in my lab, so what do I do? - Maybe I'll just call him in the lab and tell him I found a way to make him immortal? Maybe.

But what if people think I poisoned Qin? I want to be the new emperor not end up in jail. What if..... I'LL SNEAK INTO THE KITCHEN AND ADD POISON IN QIN SHI HUANG'S SOUP!!! AND THEN EVERYONE WILL BLAME THE COOK!!! YEPPPPP thats exactly what I'll do. Time to get that metal boiling!

NOV 24 220 B.C. 15:12

Dear diary,

Right now, I'm standing near the door to the kitchen, the liquid metal in a bottle in my pocket. To say the truth, I'm scared, because if someone sees me, I'm, in real trouble. Thats why some time ago I took all the beetroots outside, so the cook goes to get them, while I have time to add the poison. That's exactly what happened, because the king loved beetroot soup. The cook went outside, and I slipped into the kitchen.

The kitchen is giant, but it's not my first time in here. I have very little time, so I have to act fast. I search for the largest pot (the emperor eats a lot) and find it in the farthest corner of the room. I raced there, got the metal out and poured all of the poisonous elixir into the not yet finished beetroot soup.

Job done!! I thought as i dashed out of the kitchen. I ran as fast as my legs could carry me, and stopped running only when I got to my room.

"That was stressful!" I sighed and plopped into my bed. After some time I was able to convince myself that everything was ok, and nobody saw me, I decided that in order to relax I needed to go to the jacuzzi, because this was my first time in life doing something this bad for power.

After I relaxed fully, I returned to the cruel thought of becoming emperor, and wonderd if my plan had worked. When later that day I went for a walk into the

great hall of the palace, I realized that it did. The emperor lay dead on the floor. His servants were running around his body, trying to work out what exactly happened.

- "There was something in his soup!" Someone called
- "Call the cook!" Another shouted

The cook came running seconds later. People started asking her what she had put in the meal, but she protested - saying she put nothing but beetroots, carrots, and onion. But of course, no one believed her.

Then, they saw me. A shiver came all over my body. But I knew that they did not know - they couldn't know it was me who poisoned the emperor.

- "You know what this means?" They asked, still looking worried.
- "Yes....." I answered

- *Liu Bang, the new emperor of China!*

My plan had worked, and now I am the new emperor of China