

Pill Maker 1041

Chapter 1041 - Glad You Are Worth Some Money

"Hi, Miss Huo." Chen Ming nodded and said softly, "I did not tell anyone about yesterday."

Huo Yao's cheeks twitched slightly. Moments later, she said, "...It's okay."

Chen Ming scratched his head. "Oh yes. We have already found out who was out to get your second older brother."

He briefly explained that Li Zhensheng was already apprehended by the authorities.

Huo Yao was completely unsurprised. She simply acknowledged him softly.

Chen Ming glanced at Huo Yao and noticed the calmness on her face. It seemed as though she had known about this ages ago. He could not help feeling puzzled inside.

Huo Yao disregarded the look in Chen Ming's eyes. She suddenly recalled a matter and asked. "Does this mean my brother can expect work injury compensation now that they have been nabbed?"

Chen Ming could not believe his ears.

Huo Yao looked at Chen Ming solemnly as she told him to take care of the compensation. Then, she went back into the hospital ward.

Huo Tingrui had yet to fall asleep. Although his ears were not the sharpest, he could clearly hear them talking about compensation. The moment Huo Yao entered the room, he glared at her.

Huo Yao raised her brow and sat back in the chair. "Since you come with high compensation, this means you are a really good lawyer."

Huo Tingrui went quiet. He felt she was glad that he was worth some money.

Huo Tingrui glanced at his little sister once more indignantly. She should really stop denying she was squeezing every dime she could from the incident!

Huo Yao cleared her throat.

She took out her phone, tapped on WeChat, and sent out a text message: [Remember the analysis solution by the National Academy of Medicine you were talking about? Can I have a vial?]

Lei Xiao had just arrived at the research institute. The moment he heard the customized ringtone, he happily took out his phone.

After looking at the text message, he scratched his head quizzically and replied in bewilderment: [Didn't you say things that go against nature will come to no good end?]

Lei Xiao could keenly remember telling her about the analysis solution. When he had told her about it, she unexpectedly exploded and gave him the scare of his life. For the last two days, he was unable to eat or sleep well. He was so afraid that Huo Yao would ignore him from now on.

Huo Yao typed back: [So, can you get it or not?]

Lei Xiao swiped his security card and entered the office.

After sitting down at his desk, he contemplated and replied: [I will have to find out. The analysis solution is still in its experimental stages, so I am sure they will be keeping a close eye on it.]

His department was in charge of viral research. Although he often partnered with the National Academy of Medicine to do research, it was genuinely difficult to obtain the final product of their work.

The final product was only accessible internally by members of the research team.

Since Huo Yao asked for help, he had to get his hands on a vial.

After ending the conversation with Huo Yao, Lei Xiao contemplated briefly. He opened his drawer to retrieve a report and went over to the section chief's office.

Lei Xiao asked casually after he was done talking shop. "Oh yes. The National Academy of Medicine just created a new analysis solution. Why don't we request for some sample?"

The section chief's hands paused as he looked at Lei Xiao. "You are certainly well informed."

Lei Xiao laughed. "Their research is always higher profile, so it is hard for me to miss it."

"The Research Institute has no use for the analysis solution. Since the National Academy of Medicine did not produce a lot to begin with, you can forget about it. I suggest you focus on your work instead," said the section chief mildly.

Lei Xiao did not keep harping on the subject. He stood up from the chair. "Got it. In that case, I am going back to work."

"Uh huh," acknowledged the section chief.

Just as Lei Xiao was about to open the door and leave, the section chief added.. "Oh yes. Have you been researching radiation?"

Chapter 1042 - Chairman Wang Loses Composure

Lei Xiao's heart skipped a beat upon hearing the question. He promptly turned to look at the section chief calmly. "Aren't we banned from doing it? Why did you suddenly bring this up?"

"Nothing. Just asking. I'm glad you didn't do it." The section chief waved his hand and did not continue with the subject.

"I definitely didn't do it. I am the most honest employee here," promised Lei Xiao. Since he felt guilty inside, he quickly left the room.

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After Fang Chen learned of Huo Tingrui's predicament, he came over to the hospital to visit in the afternoon.

After chatting for over ten minutes, he did not continue disturbing the patient and bade him farewell.

Huo Yao walked Fang Chen out of the hospital ward.

"Don't worry about your brother. The procuratorate is already investigating the case internally. Once I have the results, I will notify you right away," said Fang Chen as he stood in front of the door.

Huo Yao nodded and thanked him. There was a profound look in her eyes. It did not really matter. Even if Li Zhensheng was gone, for now, more people like him would show up.

Her second older brother just had to take a case against No. 1 Pharmaceutical Group.

Huo Yao gathered her thoughts. She thought about Li Fang and asked. "Oh yes. We should meet soon in a couple of days. I will need to treat your teacher again."

"Sure." Fang Chen nodded and thanked her repeatedly. Just as he was about to leave, he asked again.

"My teacher's friend, the chairman of the Apothecaries' Association still insists upon meeting you."

Huo Yao was stunned. She automatically wanted to say no, but she changed her mind and nodded. "Will do."

Fang Chen did not expect Huo Yao to agree so readily this time. When he snapped out of his surprise, he said, "Can you make it in the afternoon the day after?"

"That works for me." Huo Yao raised her brow and nodded.

Before long, Fang Chen left the hospital. He gave Chairman Wang a call to confirm the meeting time and date.

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Time flew by quickly.

When Huo Yao was due to give Li Fang a second treatment, she took leave from school in the afternoon and did not go to the laboratory.

After class, Lin Shuwen came over to pick her up from school.

Wang was already waiting at the Li residence. Since Huo Yao was not there yet, he kept looking at the door repeatedly to check. He usually had a stern demeanor while he was at work, but it was nowhere to be seen at this moment.

Li Fang watched as Wang waited anxiously and could not help making fun of him. "Why does it look as though you are the one waiting for treatment?"

Wang was walking around the living room with his hands behind him when he heard this. He promptly looked at Li Fang. The man simply did not get it.

If it were ordinary A grade or S grade medication, he would not have taken notice of them. They were important because they were created using ancient prescriptions!

After researching ancient prescriptions for dozens of years, he only had a 10 to 20% level of understanding. Ancient prescriptions did not come by easily to begin with. Moreover, it did not help that it was very difficult to master the dosage.

Now, he had finally encountered an apothecary who knew how to use ancient prescriptions. How could he keep his cool?

Moreover, the apothecary was highly skilled in using ancient prescriptions. This was simply incredible!

Meanwhile, the doorbell rang.

Wang inhaled deeply to contain his excitement. He lowered his head to check his clothing. He was afraid he would make a bad first impression on the apothecary. Wang and Li Fang went out into the front yard and answered the door together.

Lin Shuwen stood right in front when the door opened. He almost lost it when he saw Wang standing beside Li Fang.

It was such a once-in-a-lifetime honor for the chairman of the Apothecaries' Association to open the door for him. He would never forget it.

Lin Shuwen nodded politely to Li Fang and Wang. "Hello, Mr. Li and Mr. Wang."

Before Li Fang was able to speak, Chairman Wang waved his hand and looked behind Lin Shuwen. "Where is she?"

Lin Shuwen moved aside slightly and made way for Huo Yao behind him. He made the introduction politely.. "This is Miss Huo."

Chapter 1043 - The Acupuncture Technique Was A Lost Art

Huo Yao was dressed in a khaki-colored sweater and jeans with her sleeves rolled up to her wrists. She was clearly a university student.

Even though Wang had already learned from Li Fang that the apothecary was only a university student, it was different for him to see her with his own eyes.

She was genuinely very young!

Even his granddaughter was older than her.

Huo Yao nodded calmly as Wang scrutinized her. Then, she greeted Li Fang, "Hi, Mr. Li."

Huo Yao had exquisite features and looked confident and dignified as usual. Li Fang smiled and greeted her before he pointed at Wang standing beside him. "This is Wang. He is the chairman of the Apothecaries' Association."

"How do you do?" greeted Huo Yao courteously. There wasn't the slightest change in her demeanor even though he was the chairman of the Apothecaries' Association.

It felt as though she was treating him like any other elderly gentleman.

Wang could not help feeling surprised. He had encountered all walks of people in his life. Most people would show reverence or ingratiate themselves the moment they found out his true identity. Only a handful of people were able to react as calmly as her.

Li Fang cleared his throat and interrupted Wang's staring. "Let's talk inside."

He led everyone into the house.

Wang felt somewhat emotional. He stood aside and let Huo Yao enter first before slowly following behind her. Every now and then, he would look up at her from behind.

Did she really prepare Li Fang's prescription?

Everyone went into the living room and sat down.

Huo Yao wasted no time and took Li Fang's pulse.

Li Fang's physical condition was just as Huo Yao had anticipated. The active virus had already been contained in one place. She pulled her hand back and retrieved her sheepskin roll.

It contained her needles.

Wang was holding a teacup in his hand. Even though there was tea in his mouth, all his attention was on Huo Yao. The moment he saw the long slender gold thread, he went into a daze.

Huo Yao failed to notice Wang's expression. After disinfecting the gold thread and silver needles, she told Li Fang to lie flat on the couch. She twined a few rounds of gold thread on her fingers before she looked at him and said, "Now, I am going to perform acupuncture on you. The process might be a little painful."

Li Fang undid his shirt buttons. "That's fine. I can take it."

Huo Yao glanced at Li Fang. She pressed a few acupuncture points on his body before sealing them with silver needles. Even though the gold thread twined on her fingers looked like fine hair, it was able to pierce through skin effortlessly.

With a gentle touch, the goldthread passed through his skin into his blood vessels bit by bit and the arteries near his heart. The medicine he took earlier had the toxins under control and she was going to force them out of his system through his shoulder.

Huo Yao was very good at it. After the gold thread had entered his heart, there wasn't the slightest tremble or pause. Also, the arteries around the heart were very complicated. If her action was too hard, the gold thread would break. She could not perform acupuncture either if she was not firm enough.

Wang was an acupuncture expert, so he was blown away at this sight.

He had never seen such an unusual way to perform acupuncture.

In ancient times, there were records of using gold thread to perform acupuncture. However, it was very difficult and it was almost a completely lost art. Most of the acupuncture techniques that were passed down through time usually used silver needles.

Wang was not sure if she was using the long-lost Gold Thread Technique.. Just looking at the girl's acupuncture skills, she was surely unsurpassable.

Chapter 1044 - Huo Yao, Who Is Your Master?

Wang had a complicated expression on his face. She was hardly an adult, yet she was capable of such mind-blowing acupuncture skills. He genuinely felt ashamed in comparison.

No wonder she made no effort to hide the treatment process from him. There was nothing for her to worry about since it was impossible for him to learn it easily.

After letting the gold thread run its course through the arteries near Li Fang's heart, Huo Yao finished the acupuncture before long. The removal step was no easy feat and was much harder than the application process.

Huo Yao removed the last needle ten minutes later. "All done."

Her face was a little pale. Sweat was trickling down the corners of her forehead down to her collar. She disinfected the needles before pulling up a chair and sitting down.

Li Fang was also very sweaty. When the gold needles were applied to his body, the intense pain from the needles nearly made him cave in and lose it.

Wang handed him a towel and helped him up. He excitedly took Li Fang's pulse.

Li Fang's pulse was strong. How... how could it have gone back to normal?

Wang inhaled deeply. After taking his pulse again, the results were the same. He hastily raised his head and looked at Huo Yao. "Is he cured?"

Huo Yao took water from Lin Shuwen. She held up the glass and took a few sips before she said mildly, "Nope."

Wang was stunned. "But his pulse is stable. How could this be?"

Huo Yao leaned into the chair and massaged her wrists. "Everyone has varying metabolism. The same goes for the elements inside the blood. The removal of stubborn elements like toxins will only cause the dying process to speed up, especially in the elderly. Treatment for them must be done with gentler methods."

"Since his body is accustomed to these toxins, we have to create a facade and confuse them first if we want to remove them for good. After the toxins have settled in, they can be quietly removed without any side effects. This is known as Fa?ade Treatment."

Huo Yao was surprisingly generous and told him about the treatment in considerable detail.

Wang spent a few minutes taking it all in, but he could not fully grasp what she meant. "Are you performing acupuncture on him again after some time?"

Huo Yao nodded. "Probably in a week or so."

"In a week, will he recover fully then?" asked Wang again.

Huo Yao raised her brow. "If he can physically endure it, the treatment can commence five days from now if he wishes."

The more Wang found out about the girl, the more depressed he felt about his skills.

Wang pulled over a chair and sat down beside Huo Yao. "Oh yes. Did you refine the medication on your own?"

Huo Yao tilted her head sideways and looked at Wang. "What medication?"

"The medication you gave Li Fang." Although Wang had a keen interest in acupuncture, he was even more intrigued by ancient prescriptions.

He looked at Huo Yao with his eyes burning.

Huo Yao turned her fingers slightly and admitted candidly. "Yes, I did."

Even though Wang had already known the truth, he was incapable of controlling his expression when he heard it straight from the horse's mouth.

This 20 something year old girl was a S level apothecary!

Were all kids these days so insanely talented?

Wang spent a couple of minutes composing himself until he suddenly asked. "Do you know how to use ancient prescriptions?"

Huo Yao looked at Wang's face. She went quiet briefly before she answered modestly. "Just a little.

"Do you mind telling me who your master is?" asked Wang earnestly. He really wanted to know.

Even though the medication looked coarsely made on the surface, he noticed something familiar about the refinement technique.

Every apothecary had their own way of refining medication. Even though it was the same prescription, the end products' grades varied depending on the technique.

Chapter 1045 - Invitation To Join The Apothecaries' Association

Huo Yao made eye contact with Wang and promptly knew what he wanted to ask. She said, "I can't tell you."

The moment Wang heard this, he looked disappointed. "Can't you tell me?"

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes and shook her head. "Sorry. Why do you ask anyway?"

Wang sat in the chair wearily. Oh yes. Why did he want to know?

His master had already disappeared for years. How could his master possibly know this young woman?

Even if their technique was similar, it was probably pure coincidence.

Wang sighed as he pondered. He raised his hand, waved it, and said softly, "Nothing."

Huo Yao raised her brow.

Before long, Wang composed himself. He looked at Huo Yao and said, "The Apothecaries' Association is always interested in new talent. Would you like to join us?"

He could forget about taking her in as his disciple. Even though he was the chairman, she could run circles around him with her acupuncture skills. If he could convince her to join the association, she would be a key member.

Huo Yao shook her head. "Not interested."

Lin Shuwen cleared his throat when Huo Yao rejected the offer to join the Apothecaries' Association. He wanted to secretly remind her how hard it was to become a member there.

Moreover, she was joining the association at Chairman Wang's recommendation.

However, Wang was unsurprised by the rejection. He could tell that the girl did not like to get held back. After all, she was a true master, so she did not care about joining associations.

Still, she was a master of ancient prescriptions. Just this alone was incredibly enticing to Wang.

Wang contemplated briefly and said, "If you join the association, I can make you honorary deputy chairman. What do you say?"

Lin Shuwen quickly raised his head and glanced at Wang with his face filled with shock on hearing this.

The deputy chairman...

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes. The deputy chairman did not sound half bad. However, was she the sort of person who cared about things like reputation?

"Sorry. I am busy studying, so I don't have time to help. Thank you for the offer."

Huo Yao did not care about making a name at all. People like her were rare and had a special glow.

Huo Yao felt impressed by herself.

Wang instantly said, "Don't worry about how much time you can contribute. An honorary deputy chairman does not have to show up at the association daily. The title doesn't come with any constraints. You just need to refine some S grade medication every month for the association."

Wang paused and continued. "You will have full access to the Chinese herbs at the association. Every month, you will also receive an allowance. Since you are just an honorary deputy chairman, you can't expect as much money as the actual deputy chairman, so we are talking about just \$200 000 to \$300 000."

\$200 000 to \$300 000... Did it sound like a meager sum?

Was she the only poor person around? Everyone kept acting as though money was not important.

Huo Yao looked at the ceiling before turning to look at Chairman Wang. "I reconsidered it. I think I can make some time for the association after all."

Wang was still trying to come up with more perks to induce Huo Yao to join the association when he was stunned to hear what she said. He quickly snapped out of his shock. Was she going to join the association?

"Are you joining us then?" asked Wang to be sure.

Huo Yao nodded. She could get a monthly allowance and free Chinese herbs. The association was clearly a charitable organization.

No normal human being would say no to the offer.

Wang slammed the table hurriedly. "Okay. In that case, the deputy chairman's ID needs to be prepared. Once it is ready, I will send it to you."

"Okay." Huo Yao paused before she added. "I might need some Chinese herbs very soon."

Before she could finish her sentence, Wang interrupted her. "No problem. I will send you my assistant's number. You can tell him what herbs you want."

Huo Yao did not know what to say.

They were such nice people.

Chapter 1046: Keep Her Identity A Secret

Huo Yao and Chairman Wang exchanged contact information before she left the Li residence.

Before long, Wang left as well and hurried back to the Apothecaries' Association.

He told his assistant to work overtime to prepare Huo Yao's ID. Then he sent Huo Yao's number to the assistant. "Call her later to confirm her details."

After absorbing Wang's words, the assistant looked at the phone number he had just received on his phone. He asked quizzically. "Deputy chairman?"

There was already one chairman and two deputy chairmen running the association. Now, there was going to be a third one.

Moreover, the new deputy chairman was not an internal promotion.

Wang stroked his beard as he sat on the office chair with a mysterious look on his face. He simply said, "It is someone very talented."

"Better than Mr. He?" asked the assistant curiously.

Wang simply shook his head and said profoundly, "They are not on the same level."

Initially, Li Fang had no hope of getting cured. Since she was capable of treating him completely, she was really different.

Moreover, she was a master at using ancient prescriptions.

The assistant was startled to hear the chairman say this. Considering Huo Yao's incredible talent, why hadn't anyone heard of her before?

"Are we going to have a meeting and tell everyone about the new honorary deputy chairman?" asked the assistant.

Wang sighed. He raised his hand. "Never mind. Do your best to keep this a secret."

He wished he could share the joy with the others, but the young woman expressly requested to keep a low profile.

Now that he had finally convinced her to join the association, he was not allowed to say it. Just the thought made him itch uncomfortably.

The assistant glanced at Wang. Although the assistant did not understand the need for secrecy, he nodded. "Got it. In that case, I will go prepare the new ID card."

"Okay." Wang waved his hand.

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After receiving a call from Wang's assistant, Huo Yao saved his number and sent him the list of Chinese herbs she needed.

The Apothecaries' Association owned Chinese herb farms. Other than rare herbs, they had a strong supply of herbs.

Huo Yao agreed to join the association more so because of this.

After chatting with Wang's assistant, Huo Yao went back to the hospital.

Huo Tingrui had more or less recovered within the past two days. However, he had to stay under observation at the hospital for an entire week.

When Huo Yao got to the hospital ward door, he was talking to his assistant about the case. She halted briefly and stood outside the door for a few minutes before entering the room.

Huo Tingrui stopped talking about work when she got there. He closed his documents and handed them to the assistant. "Have you finished your business?"

"Uh huh." Huo Yao walked over and took his pulse as usual.

Huo Tingrui noticed she would come by and do this almost every day. Even though he felt cocky that his little sister was showing him concern, he pretended to comfort her. "Yao, I am fine. Didn't the doctor's report already say I am okay?"

Huo Yao let go of his hand. She raised her head and asked expressionlessly. "I was just wondering how much time you were planning to stay in the hospital and how much the hospital bills would stack up to."

Huo Tingrui was flabbergasted.

He thought she loved him but he was mistaken.

The assistant nearly laughed out loud. The boss's little sister was undoubtedly humorous.

Huo Yao pulled a chair over and sat down. She leaned against her chin, glanced at the documents in his hands, and asked casually.. "You are already hospitalized. Do you really have to work? Didn't the authorities already catch the culprit?"

Chapter 1047 - The Highest Tech And The Dirtiest Secrets

A serious look appeared on Huo Tingrui's face at the mention of this. He waved his hand and told the assistant to leave first before he shrugged. "If I don't work, how am I supposed to pay for the hospital bills?"

Huo Yao glanced at him sideways. She wondered if the sight would be too bloody if she were to rip her own brother to shreds.

Huo Tingrui went quiet when he suddenly detected a murderous aura radiating from her.

Huo Yao kicked the floor gently. She was wearing white school shoes with skull graffiti drawing on the sides, making them have a lot of character. She tilted his head sideways and said, "Brother Tingrui, I am starting to think that you are not strong enough. Why don't you undergo some training with Uncle Ming?"

The moment Huo Tingrui heard what she said, his face looked anxious. Chen Ming was Uncle Changfeng's best subordinate. Huo Tingrui had the honor of witnessing the real damage he could cause. "Yao, you must be joking. I am perfectly fine."

Training was out of the question.

Huo Yao said gently, "But I already told him about it."

Huo Tingrui was flabbergasted.

Then why did she bother asking him?

Huo Yao disregarded the resentment in his eyes. She retrieved her laptop from her school bag, turned it on, and clicked on a translucent water drop-shaped application.

A pop-up instantly appeared on this screen requesting for her to log in. She entered her ID and password and clicked enter.

The image on the screen changed and she was sent to Cloud Realm's homepage.

Huo Yao navigated through the webpage using the sensor pad, but there was nothing interesting, so she clicked on another special section.

The assignment page was used to post and accept missions. People could post anything as long as they paid enough for it.

Huo Yao's fingers moved slightly and clicked to post a new mission.

Before long, a mission with a hundred million reward appeared at the top of the page.

The moment she made the post, it quickly gained a lot of clicks. Huo Yao looked at the computer screen thoughtfully without the slightest warmth in her eyes.

Meanwhile, the private message icon was flashing.

Huo Yao glanced at the notification and clicked on her private chats.

Cool Autumn: [Are you crazy? Why did you post a mission regarding Mirage Base?]

Cool Autumn: [That place contains the best tech in the world. Who would dare to take the assignment?]

Cool Autumn: [Why did you suddenly post this mission?]

Huo Yao glanced at the screen before she replied: [Because I am loaded.]

Cool Autumn: [...]

Fine. So what if she was rich?

Huo Yao contemplated after glancing at Cool Autumn's private messages. She proceeded to ask: [Why do you know they have the best tech? Have you ever been there?]

Liang Qiu looked up at the virtual camera hanging overhead and sighed: [Whatever it is, no good will come by getting involved with the place.]

Huo Yao pursed her lips as her thoughts drifted. After some time, she replied: [Uh huh. You are right.]

It was a repulsive place.

Cool Autumn: [Did someone from there piss you off?]

Huo Yao leaned into the chair lazily holding her laptop as she tapped on the keyboard gently: [I just don't like them.]

Liang Qiu's face twitched. From the moment he met Huo Yao, he could tell she had a willful personality. Over time, he could guess that she had character.

What kind of research was the medical division of Mirage Base conducting recently?

Huo Yao minimized the dialog box and looked at the assignment. She raised her head lazily and glanced at the person lying on the sickbed.

Huo Tingrui inexplicably felt a draft flow in the room.

Chapter 1048 - Was It Easy To Earn Money?

Huo Yulin walked in from outside with Huo Tingrui's food in his hands. After placing it on the small table, he carried the table to the bedside. When he went past Huo Yao, he glanced at her laptop screen. She happened to turn off Cloud Realm's webpage at the time.

Huo Yao raised her head and greeted her third older brother. She turned off the laptop, closed it, and put it aside.

Huo Yulin acknowledged her softly. He veered his eyes from the laptop and placed the small table on the bed.

Huo Tingrui saw the small bowl of porridge sitting on the small table. He raised his hand and rubbed his brows. "Can you order something with more flavor next time?"

He had been eating this every day. It was so bland that he had lost all taste in his mouth.

Huo Yulin wanted to agree initially, but Huo Yao said with a straight face, "The doctor said you should only eat plain porridge for now.

Was it easy to make money?

Huo Yulin quietly glanced at his little sister. From the medical perspective, Huo Tingrui had been recuperating for several days, so it was perfectly fine for him to eat something more normal.

However, he did not expose her.

Huo Tingrui scratched his hair and picked up the spoon grudgingly.

Huo Yao stood up and looked at the time before she said to Huo Yulin, "Let's go, Brother Yulin. Uncle Changfeng has booked a table at a nice restaurant."

Huo Tingrui had just eaten some porridge and could not believe his ears.

She must be a monster, right?

Huo Yulin cleared his throat and smiled slightly. "Okay."

Before long, the two of them left the hospital ward one after another. They walked out of the room coolly with the door closing behind them mercilessly.

Huo Tingrui cursed uncontrollably.

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When they got to the restaurant, Huo Changfeng was already waiting in the private room. The moment they arrived, the kitchen immediately sent the food over. Just as the staff was about to leave, they took second glances at Huo Yao.

Huo Yao could not help touching her face quizzically. For a moment, she suspected there was something on it.

After they were more or less done eating, the waiter came in with a big cake box.

Huo Yao was caught by surprise. She turned to look at Uncle Changfeng sitting across from them. "Is it your birthday today?"

Both her and Huo Yulin's birthdays were already over.

Huo Changfeng touched his wooden bead bracelet and said somewhat awkwardly, "Uh huh."

Huo Yao retrieved her phone from her pocket. "Sorry. Uncle Changfeng, I didn't know it was your birthday, so I didn't prepare a gift..."

She had already tapped on WeChat to send him a red packet.

Huo Yulin was never in the habit of remembering birthdays himself. He watched as his little sister sent Uncle Changfeng a red packet, so he pondered before taking out his phone to do the same.

Huo Changfeng laughed. "Don't worry about it. It is just a birthday."

His phone was sitting in his pocket and had rung twice in a row. He looked at Huo Yulin and Huo Yao both holding their phones before he retrieved his phone as well.

Huo Changfeng tapped on WeChat and saw the red packets they had just sent.

Huo Changfeng paused briefly. First, he tapped on Huo Yao's chat group to see a red packet icon accompanied with a happy birthday GIF. He automatically smiled after seeing this.

He did not have any children and his wife had died young from illness, so he spent almost every birthday alone each year. Even though a lot of people would send him wishes and gifts, he inexplicably felt very moved when he received the red packet from Miss Huo.

Huo Changfeng did not open the red packet. Instead, he raised his head and looked at Huo Yao and spoke softly. "Thanks. I won't accept the red packet. I am happy that you are around to spend my birthday with me as it is."

Just her?

Huo Yulin went speechless.

Was he invisible or something?

Chapter 1049 - A Chance Encounter

Huo Yao rubbed her phone screen after hearing this. She checked the time and asked. "Is there anything you want to do today?"

Huo Changfeng was stunned. He simply shook his head as he answered. "Not really..." However, he changed his statement mid-sentence. "...I haven't gone car racing in a long time. Why don't you go for a spin with me?"

Huo Yao raised her brow. Chen Ming had mentioned Uncle Changfeng's love of car racing to her. She nodded and agreed. "Sure."

Huo Yulin's face twitched. He turned to look at his little sister. "You only got your license less than 6 months ago."

He could not believe how this was turning out. Uncle Changfeng had just asked a newbie driver to go car racing.

Huo Yao touched his nose with her eyes lowered slightly. "Well, I need the practice."

Huo Yulin went quiet.

Huo Yulin said nothing, but Huo Changfeng cleared his throat. "Now that she has a driver's license, she undoubtedly needs practice. After dinner, I will go off with your little sister first."

Huo Yulin went speechless. "?"

Was his presence redundant around here now?

Huo Changfeng automatically disregarded the look in Huo Yulin's eyes. He wanted to call Chen Ming so that he could prepare the car.

After he unlocked his phone, WeChat showed up on his screen again. Huo Changfeng tapped on Huo Yulin's chat group and saw the red packet from Huo Yulin. He raised his head and glanced at him.

He proceeded to tap on the icon and accepted the money.

After collecting the money, Huo Changfeng swiped down to Chen Ming's phone number.

Huo Yulin heard his phone chiming, so he lowered his head. He took a look, and promptly remained silent.

Huo Yao had already opened the cake box and lit the candles. She walked over to the light switch and turned off the light in the private room.

Since Huo Changfeng was an elder, they had to celebrate it properly.

After eating the cake, Huo Yao got up and went to the bathroom.

The bathroom was located on the left at the end of the corridor. Huo Yao found her way to the bathroom following the signs. When she got to the door, someone came out of the bathroom. Since the person was answering the phone, she did not pay attention while she was walking and nearly walked into Huo Yao.

Fortunately, Huo Yao had quick reflexes and swiftly stood aside.

After the girl realized her mistake, she hurriedly looked at Huo Yao and said somewhat apologetically, "Oh. Sorry! I didn't see you."

"It's fine." Huo Yao looked at her mildly without taking the incident to heart. She proceeded to enter the bathroom.

Ji Ya looked at Huo Yao from behind and got distracted. The girl was certainly gorgeous.

Ji Ya veered her eyes after looking at her briefly. She carried on talking on the phone as she walked away. When she got to the private room, she hung up the phone.

She opened the door to enter the room.

There was a family gathering today.

Song Zhi felt a lot better after recuperating for over half a month. He raised his head and looked at Song Qi sitting beside him when he received the hospital notification. "The hospital president says that we have a matching bone marrow."

Other members of the Song family were sitting at the round table. The moment they heard the news, a variety of expressions appeared on their faces.

Song Qi instantly looked delighted. "Finally."

Song Zhi glanced at his cousins and said, "That's right. Mr. Fu from the Apothecaries' Association was able to help stabilize Dad's condition long enough for the hospital to carry out the bone marrow transplant. I won't be surprised if he can live for a few more decades."

Ever since Old Master Song had taken ill, the Song family was plagued with internal discord. Everyone was just waiting for him to die before the year was through. All of them wanted to become the next family head.

Ji Ya happened to walk in and heard what Song Zhi said. She quickly walked over. "Uncle Zhi, is it true? Did the hospital say when they can perform the operation?"

Song Zhi raised his head and looked at his niece and smiled. He said in a slightly louder tone, "The hospital president will make arrangements to do the operation in a couple of days.. Thanks to you, we were able to get introduced to someone from the Apothecaries' Association."

Chapter 1050 - An Insignificant Person

The rest of the Song family had caught wind that Song Zhi was acquainted with someone from the Apothecaries' Association. The apothecary even helped to treat Old Master Song. Song Zhi kept bragging among the family all this time.

No one would have thought that it was Ji Ya who had introduced them.

In an instant, some people looked at Ji Ya with complicated expressions on their faces.

Ji Ya noticed her uncles' expressions and frowned slightly.

She honestly did not like it when Uncle Zhi brought up the reference of the member of the Apothecaries' Association. Since they were surrounded by relatives today, she did not show it on her face.

She sat down beside her mother and said softly, "It's no big deal. The important thing was to treat Grandpa."

Song Zhi felt gleeful on seeing his cousins' reactions. He said, "He will definitely be fine. The hospital director already said the rate of success is very high."

Ji Ya took a sip of tea. She acknowledged him softly without continuing to talk.

"Fortunately, we managed to find suitable bone marrow. Otherwise, god knows what would happen to Dad. After all, my oldest sister is a cold-blooded creature and her daughter is equally unfilial..." Song Qi blurted accidentally.

In comparison, her daughter was the best.

The moment Song Zhi heard Song Qi talking about Song Ning's daughter, he frowned slightly.

Till date, he was unable to learn the whole truth from Butler Wang and Dr. Hu about the incident involving Song Ning's daughter.

It was simply a mystery.

Ji Ya raised her head, looked at her mother, and asked quizzically. "Which oldest sister? Which daughter?"

Song Qi had unintentionally blurted this earlier and she finally realized her mistake. She cleared her throat and said, "They are just some insignificant people."

Song Zhi looked at Song Qi and instinctively asked. "Didn't you tell your daughter she has an eldest aunt?"

"I felt it was unnecessary," said Song Qi as she kicked Song Zhi. She glanced at him deeply and hinted for him to stop talking about it.

Song Zhi laughed a couple of times and stopped talking about it. Instead, he stood up and walked over to press the bell for service so that they could send in the food.

Ji Ya asked quizzically. "Eldest aunt? Do I have another aunt?"

Song Qi poured her some tea. "We haven't been in touch for a long time. When your grandfather fell ill, I wanted to get her family to do a blood test. They ended up refusing to see us. Aren't they being cold-blooded?"

Ji Ya frowned on hearing this. "Well, it is really up to them. I can understand if they do not want to do it."

Song Qi glanced at her daughter and shook her head slightly. Her daughter was everything she could wish for, but she was simply too inflexible and honest for her own good.

Song Qi did not continue with the subject.

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After Huo Yao came back from the bathroom, they sat briefly before leaving together.

When she was on her way downstairs, she encountered Butler Wang coming upstairs with a paper bag. He bumped into Huo Yao and Huo Changfeng at the stairs when he turned.

Butler Wang was unacquainted with Huo Changfeng and Huo Yulin, but he had a deep memory of Huo Yao.

His things nearly fell onto the ground when he got startled.

He certainly did not expect to encounter Song Ning's scary daughter here.

Butler Wang looked at Huo Yao in shock. His eyes were clearly filled with fear as he stood on the staircase without daring to budge.

Huo Changfeng and Huo Yulin both caught the butler's unusual reaction and glanced at him quizzically.