

## **Pill Maker 1211**

### **Chapter 1211: Meet Again**

Jiang Mingyue tightened her grip on the books in her arms and unknowingly scratched them with her fingernails. She stood where she was without saying a word.

Mu Qing did not know about Huo Yao's conflict with Jiang Mingyue. He simply turned to look at Jiang Mingyue and said, "The principal told us to help take care of her, but I was busy working on my research project and did not have time to chat with her much. Since you are in the same faculty as her, I am sure you are much closer."

When Jiang Mingyue looked into Mu Qing's eyes, she nearly lost it. She pursed her lips and said, "We do not talk much. Even though we are in the same faculty, we hardly run into each other."

Mu Qing nodded. "Makes sense. Oh yes. Did you check out the school forum?"

Jiang Mingyue felt annoyed, but she did her utmost to sound calm. She said softly, "Nope. What about it?"

Ever since she was publicly embarrassed by Huo Yao, she threw all her time into studying and did not even dare to look at the forum. She had stolen Huo Yao's research and was terrified that she might see a post about it appearing online.

"The institute wants to use one of the Bioinformatics division's research projects. You should take a look at the forum yourself," replied Mu Qing.

He did not usually pay attention to the school forum. He had been paying attention to Huo Yao for some other reasons.

Jiang Mingyue noticed that Mu Qing was very impressed by Huo Yao and could not help feeling annoyed inside. She nodded her head patronizingly and replied. "Okay. Why don't you go say hi to her? I won't be going over. I have a test this afternoon, so I need to focus on revising."

She patted the books in her arms as she spoke.

Mu Qing glanced at her and did not insist. "Uh huh. Let me just go over and say hello."

"Sure thing." Jiang Mingyue walked over to an empty seat and sat down.

Mu Qing looked in Huo Yao's direction with his eyes narrowed briefly before he quickly walked over.

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Yuan Xi was playing with her phone. The moment she raised her head, she saw a legendary young man walking over. She could not help tightening her grip on the phone as she elbowed Huo Yao excitedly.

Huo Yao looked sideways at Yuan Xi when she nudged her. She noticed the excitement on her face and looked in the same direction as Yuan Xi.

Mu Qing was already nearby. He stopped in front of Huo Yao and took a seat. He smiled genially at Yuan Xi and Huo Yao. He looked at Huo Yao and nodded. "Hi, Huo Yao."

"Hi, Mu Qing." Huo Yao nodded politely. She casually placed her arm on the book to block its contents.

Mu Qing paid no attention to this minor detail. He simply chatted in a casual tone. "Congratulations. I hear that the institute wants to work with your division. You should be proud of yourself."

Huo Yao pursed her lips. She replied unhurriedly. "It was pure luck."

Mu Qing smiled. "You are being modest. I know your Math is good. I am sure hardly anyone in school is as good as you."

He recalled the comments which Yuan Huan had for Huo Yao. Her brain was on a whole different level than ordinary people, so even Yuan Huan could not tell exactly how much she could accomplish.

Huo Yao simply smiled gently.

Mu Qing could tell that Huo Yao was not much of a talker. After chatting briefly, he left her in peace. When he stood up, he noticed the book Huo Yao was reading.

Although she had covered most of its contents, he could tell what the book was about just by looking at the professional language.

He asked her curiously. "Are you reading a Physics book?"

## **Chapter 1212: He Would Live To Regret This**

Huo Yao remained composed. She kept her hand on the page and simply said, "There are a lot of different branches of specialty in Science, but they are also very closely related, so it helps me if I learn as much as I can."

Yuan Xi quietly glanced at Huo Yao after she spouted some nonsense.

If she did not know about Huo Yao's plans to do a second major, she might have fallen for Huo Yao's confident sounding excuse as well.

Mu Qing looked at Huo Yao and suddenly smiled. "That makes absolute sense."

Huo Yao didn't react but Mu Qing did not take it to heart and quickly left from there.

After he was gone, Yuan Xi finally came closer to Huo Yao's book and took a look at it. "The Physics books you are reading are getting harder and harder to understand."

Yuan Xi could still understand a little bit of the previous books which Huo Yao was reading, but not anymore.

Yuan Xi sighed and said in a defeated voice, "Is this what it is like to be a true genius?"

Huo Yao rubbed Yuan Xi's head.

Yuan Xi sighed deeply.

Huo Yao shook her head before veering her eyes. She could feel her phone vibrating in her pocket.

She took out her phone and noticed a new text message.

Chairman Wang had written: [It's the Apothecaries' exam tomorrow. Are you really not coming?]

It was not Chairman Wang's first time telling Huo Yao about the exam. She quickly composed a reply: [I have exams at school, so I can't make it tomorrow.]

Even if she was free, she was not interested in going over.

Chairman Wang replied: [The exam is held only once a year. If you miss it, the next one is happening next year, okay?]

Huo Yao's cheeks twitched. She typed: [If I miss my school exam, I can't say for sure if I can retake it next year.]

Chairman Wang sighed yet again. He quickly told the assistant to compose a reply: [That's too bad then.]

Huo Yao replied: [Uh huh.]

The assistant looked at Chairman Wang and said, "Perhaps she is genuinely not free. If she does not show up for the exam and comes back with a zero, she might not be able to graduate on time."

Chairman Wang waved his hand. He picked up the teacup and took a sip. He suddenly said, "Oh yes. Can you ask Huo Yao if He Shu has spoken to her?"

The assistant nodded.

Chairman Wang sat on the mahogany chair rubbing the tea cup in his hand. "Oh yes. What has He Shu been up to lately?"

"I think he has been busy working in the pharmaceutical laboratory. He even caused the medicine maker to explode.

It was normal for an apothecary to encounter medicine maker explosions. However, it usually only happened to rookies. Chairman Wang said, "Is he trying to come up with some new medicine?"

The assistant was not sure himself. "I did not ask him."

Chairman Wang's phone pinged in the assistant's hand. He tapped on it to check the message before showing it to Chairman Wang.

Huo Yao had sent a screenshot.

It was a screenshot of the chat she had with He Shu previously.

Chairman Wang saw a screenshot of his disciple proudly telling Huo Yao that he did not need her help. He rubbed his forehead.

He put down his hand and said angrily, "I introduced him to a professional and this is how he repays me? No wonder his medicine maker exploded. It's karma I tell you."

He deserved it.

The assistant cleared his throat. "He has always been a proud man. Perhaps he simply wants to create medicine by himself."

Chairman Wang shook his head. "Just look at him. He will live to regret this."

The assistant quietly glanced at Chairman Wang. It was not the first time Chairman Wang had spoken so highly of Huo Yao.

### **Chapter 1213: He Would Be Nothing**

Chairman Wang contemplated before he told his assistant, "Call He Shu and tell him to come and see me."

"Yes, Chairman Wang."

The assistant looked at Chairman Wang and said softly, "He Shu says it's the Apothecaries' exam tomorrow, so he says it is inappropriate to see you now since you are the main examiner."

For a moment, Chairman Wang was unsure if he should feel proud of his disciple for having strong principles. Perhaps he should feel annoyed by his inflexibility.

"Never mind. I can't be bothered with him." Chairman Wang waved his hand.

Each year when it was time for the main exam, He Shu would act this way, so he was accustomed to this.

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After hanging up the phone, He Shu looked at the charred medicinal herb dregs and could not resist scratching his already disheveled hair.

For the Nth time today, he poured the dregs into the trash can by his feet.

After he was done cleaning up the medicine maker, He Shu decided to try again. However, he realized that there were hardly any more ingredients left on the table, so he pressed his forehead and left the pharmaceutical laboratory.

Before long, he headed to the Chinese herb storage room and gave the inventory manager a list of the herbs which he required.

He stood there for some time waiting for his Chinese herbs. His eyes were badly sunken and bloodshot. There was a lot of stubble on his chin. Judging from the way he looked, it seemed as though he had yet to sleep in days.

He Shu kept thinking about the medicine. He lowered his gaze and his eyes had a glazed look. He failed to notice when someone else came over.

Fu Cheng had entered the room with Pei Rong following him.

Fu Cheng did not expect to encounter He Shu. Fu Cheng pursed his lips when he saw the disheveled state He Shu was in. He smiled and took the initiative to greet He Shu for once. "This is quite the coincidence. He Shu, are you here to get more Chinese herbs?"

After a minute, He Shu finally snapped out of his daze and raised his head. "Fu Cheng, Pei Rong, when did you get here?"

Fu Cheng went speechless.

Pei Rong glanced at Fu Cheng. He knew that Fu Cheng never liked He Shu, so Pei Rong cleared his throat and smiled as he made small talk and broke the ice. "We just got here. You were thinking deeply, so you did not realize we were here."

He Shu nodded. "It's true. I was preoccupied."

Fu Cheng could tell that He Shu was patronizing them, so he felt irritated. However, Fu Cheng did not show it on his face and simply said, "Are you all set for the Apothecaries' exam?"

"I'm good." He Shu did not look at Fu Cheng as he replied. He kept thinking about what he should do to improve the results. Perhaps he should adjust the order of adding the Chinese herbs or their dosage.

Fu Cheng did not like it when He Shu got cocky. He kept acting as though he was the best apothecary in the association.

If not for the chairman, he would be nothing.

Tomorrow, Fu Cheng was determined to defeat He Shu and prove that he was the true genius once and for all.

Fu Cheng veered his eyes without saying a word.

Before long, the inventory manager came out with He Shu's Chinese herbs and handed them to him.

He Shu took the Chinese herbs and nodded to Fu Cheng and Pei Rong before leaving quickly.

After he was gone, Pei Rong handed the inventory manager his list. He said to Fu Cheng, "I hear He Shu has reached a bottleneck. He has been unable to create S grade medicine in a while."

S grade medicine was hard to create, but He Shu was an advanced apothecary, so it meant his skills were deteriorating if he was unable to make them any more.

Fu Cheng was astonished by the news. He was preoccupied thinking about Old Master Song, so he did not have time to pay attention to other association matters. "Oh really? I doubt it is as serious as you make it sound, right?"

## **Chapter 1214: Apothecaries' Exam**

Pei Rong shrugged and answered. "I heard he caused a medicine maker to explode recently."

Fu Cheng recalled He Shu looking very disheveled. He probably looked that way because he had been burning the midnight oil. He scoffed gently and said, "Things can't go as he wishes forever."

Pei Rong lowered his eyes and smiled. He chimed in. "It's true. Sometimes, it really comes down to pure talent."

Fu Cheng liked hearing what Pei Rong said, so he felt better. "After we are done with the exam we should hang out more and talk about Chinese medicine."

Pei Rong had every intention of getting close to Fu Cheng. After all, he was the deputy chairman's disciple. He nodded and said, "Perfect. I had questions to ask you anyway."

Fu Cheng acknowledged gently with his hands behind his back.

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The next day, at the Apothecaries' Association exam.

Each year, the apothecaries' exam was held to grade each apothecary. Since it was very important, each participant would prepare diligently.

The apothecaries had to use the designated Chinese herbs, but they were not restricted with regards to the medicinal pills they wished to produce. In a way, there was quite a degree of flexibility.

It was just like cooking. A variety of dishes could be created using the same ingredients.

The deputy chairman had single handedly taken care of organizing the Apothecaries' exam this year. Chairman Wang had been busy handling the Chinese herb farm, so he had left the exam preparation to the deputy chairman.

Dozens of medicine makers were placed on a large empty square. Also, Chinese herbs and other tools were also prepared.

The exam would take place in batches.

"The preliminary Apothecaries' exam will commence now," explained Chairman Wang softly to Mi Wei when they got to the square. "The advanced exam will take place later."

Mi Wei acknowledged softly. He raised his head and looked at the apothecaries preparing for the test. They seemed well prepared.

The deputy chairman was standing nearby. When he saw Chairman Wang, he headed toward him. The moment he caught sight of Mi Wei, he frowned.

The Apothecaries' exam was a serious matter. How could the chairman bring the farmer over?

Was he joking?

"Hi, Chairman Wang." The deputy director walked over to Chairman Wang. Even though he did not like Chairman Wang's style, he did not show his displeasure.

Chairman Wang nodded. "Thank you for your hard work."

The deputy chairman pursed his lips and smiled. "I was just doing my job." He looked at Mi Wei and asked casually. "Oh yes. Chairman Wang, did you manage to save the mi orchid saplings?"

Chairman Wang stroked his beard and acknowledged. "Uh huh. We have Mr. Mi to thank for it. If not for him, the losses would have been inestimable."

"I did not expect Mr. Mi to be so well versed in cultivating Chinese herbs." The deputy chairman paused before he continued. "Do you also refine medicine?"

"Nope." Mi Wei shook his head as he looked at the apothecaries refining medicine.

Mi Wei pursed his lips as he watched them work. He recalled that the people in his clan were not using such complicated methods to refine medicine.

Chairman Wang could tell what the deputy chairman was driving at. He glanced at the deputy chairman and explained. "I brought Mr. Mi to check out the exam. He has never seen it before, so he was curious."

The deputy chairman pursed his lips. He caught Chairman Wang's drift. "Okay then. I shall go and check on the apothecaries."

"Uh huh. Go ahead." Chairman Wang waved his hand. After the deputy chairman was gone, he looked at Mi Wei and asked. "Mi Wei?"

## **Chapter 1215: Determined To Get Number One**

Mi Wei touched his chin. He simply said without turning to look at Chairman Wang, "Do all apothecaries refine pills this way?"

Chairman Wang was caught by surprise. He nodded and asked in return. "Is there something wrong?"

"Well, I wouldn't say it's wrong." Mi Wei contemplated. "It just looks a little complicated to me."

Chairman Wang smiled and explained. "We refine medicinal pills using ancient prescriptions. This allows the medicine to be purer and more effective than other Chinese or Western medicine in the market."

Mi Wei instantly went quiet when he heard Chairman Wang talking about ancient prescriptions. He felt that there was something wrong with the teaching methods here.

After watching the apothecary's work, Mi Wei quickly lost interest.

He had booked his air ticket for 7:00 pm. He had come over to the association to tell Chairman Wang he was leaving for a few days. Since it happened to be the Apothecaries' exam, Chairman Wang had invited him to check it out since he still had some time before his flight.

Although he had lost interest in watching the apothecary's work, he did not leave halfway.

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The exam was taking place at 2:00 pm.

There were only five advanced apothecaries in the association. Two intermediate apothecaries wanted to try for the advanced level this year, so a total of seven people were taking this advanced apothecaries' exam.

He Shu rushed over when it was almost time for the exam. He was still dressed in the same outfit which he had been wearing the previous day. He had dark eye circles and his hair was in a mess. He clearly looked a lot worse than yesterday.

Fu Cheng pursed his lips and glanced at He Shu. He was exhausted. How could He Shu come for the exam in such a state? It was very tiring to refine pills.

He quickly veered his eyes and rolled his sleeves up unhurriedly as he went through the Chinese herbs on the small table beside him.

Fu Cheng contemplated as he looked at the Chinese herbs.

He was determined to suppress He Shu overwhelmingly in the exam.

Before long, the Apothecaries' exam commenced.

Fu Cheng wasted no time. He quickly took the Chinese herbs and placed them in the mortar and ground them to powder. In comparison, the other apothecaries were still thinking about what they should make today, but Fu Cheng worked decisively.

It seemed as though he already knew what he wanted to make.

He Shu was right beside him and he had yet to begin. He looked at the Chinese herbs and contemplated for over 15 minutes before he started processing his first Chinese herb.

There were hardly any rare Chinese herbs for this exam. Most of them were commonly found.

No fixed Chinese herbs were used for this test, but the type of Chinese herbs provided for each exam vastly restricted the apothecaries. It was even more challenging for advanced apothecaries to make medicinal pills above A grade with this variety of Chinese herbs.

Other than Fu Cheng, the rest of the apothecaries including He Shu looked a little worried.

The deputy director was standing nearby, watching He Shu and Fu Cheng as they worked. He Shu was slow and cautious and could not compare to Fu Cheng's confidence.

The deputy director smiled. He turned sideways slightly and said to Chairman Wang, "He Shu does not seem in good shape today. What happened?"

Chairman Wang remained completely calm, but he was scolding his disciple to no end, inside.

He cleared his throat and replied. "He probably has not rested in two days since he was preparing for the exam."

The deputy director pretended to be surprised. "Oh really? I am sure he is confident about the test this time."

Considering how hard He Shu was working, he ought to be very confident about ranking as number one in the exam.

## **Chapter 1216: The Result**

Chairman Wang waved his hand and said, "Just look at him. He does not seem like he is in good shape at all. He can count himself lucky if he does not pass out."

His voice was filled with disdain as he spoke.

"Don't say that. He Shu is a very good apothecary," said the deputy director.

Chairman Wang shook his head. "Everyone is just flattering him and being nice."

The deputy director pursed his lips without saying a word. He simply raised his head and looked at Fu Cheng.

His disciple had come to his office earlier and told him that he was confident about attaining the number one rank this year.

The deputy director looked forward to seeing Fu Cheng nab the spot.

Time passed quickly. Two hours passed in the blink of an eye.

The exam was about to be over.

Fu Cheng turned off the fire and put on a pair of gloves before removing the medicine maker. A few minutes later, he opened the medicine maker. The moment he saw the dregs, he narrowed his eyes.

He Shu turned off the fire as well. He cautiously took out his medicinal pills without looking anywhere else.

He had only produced two pills and they looked bright and smooth.

He Shu frowned as he looked at the pills. Since he was already exhausted, he looked even worse when he looked worried.

He had only managed to produce two medicinal pills.

Fu Cheng tilted his head sideways and watched as He Shu placed the pills in a box expressionlessly. He narrowed his eyes smugly. Did He Shu only manage to refine two pills?

Fu Cheng pursed his lips as he pondered. Then again, considering the bad state He Shu was in, he was lucky to produce two pills.

He veered his eyes and turned to look at the pillbox in his hand and tightened his grip on it. He had to rank number one this year.

Before long, the other apothecaries were done refining the medicinal pills. After they were placed in boxes, they were taken away.

All seven boxes were placed in front of Chairman Wang and the other leaders of the association. The names of the creators were not provided, but special labels were used in place of them, so they would not get mixed up.

This was to prevent favoritism.

When they were waiting for the results, everyone stood around the chairman and the other leaders of the association nervously.

Fu Cheng stood with his back straight with one hand in his pants pocket. He was holding onto a pill bottle in his pocket, rubbing it confidently.

Time passed second by second. The leaders of the association in charge of the Apothecaries' exam were almost done inspecting the pills. When they got to the last box of medicinal pills, the same look appeared on their faces.

They were stunned and amazed by the end product.

"This is S grade medication. I would say its quality is very high. Also, this is good for your organs," remarked one of the leaders of the association.

"I am sure everyone agrees this is the best medicinal pill, right?"

"Well, the chairman has the final say."

Chairman Wang put down the box he was inspecting and wrote the scores before he picked up the next box of pills.

As he opened the box, he smiled and said, "Since all of you think so highly of the medicine, I am sure it will come in number..."

Before Chairman Wang was able to finish his sentence, his face froze and he stopped abruptly. He quickly picked up one of the pills and scrutinized it.

He frowned deeply after looking at it.

When everyone saw the look on Chairman Wang's face, they glanced at each other and did not quite understand why he had reacted this way.

#### **Chapter 1217: Flatter Him All They Wanted For Now**

Fu Cheng noticed the strange expression on Chairman Wang's face, so he could not help feeling worried. He knew that the chairman was inspecting his work.

Also, he did not make those medicinal pills.

Fu Cheng squeezed his hands and kept looking at Chairman Wang without moving his eyes.

The deputy director asked quizzically. "Chairman Wang?"

Chairman Wang composed himself. He picked up a pill and inspected it before placing it back in the box where there were three other pills. He remarked. "This is good. I think these are the best medicinal pills of the lot."

Fu Cheng released his fists in relief instantly. He was glad that everything was okay.

He had probably overreacted. After all, these were S grade medicinal pills. How could Chairman Wang have anything bad to say about them?

Even if Chairman Wang had seen something similar in the past, it was completely normal. Also, Fu Ya had assured him no other pills were produced by the apothecary. He was very confident about using them.

"I just knew it was the best," said one of the leaders of the association.

"Did He Shu make those?" asked another leader of the association. He also automatically thought that it was He Shu's work.

The three leaders of the association raised their heads to glance at He Shu and nodded.

Everyone knew what He Shu was capable of. No one had the slightest doubt and felt he must have produced these medicinal pills.

Since they were speaking in a normal tone, Fu Cheng could hear the entire conversation and he found it jarring to the ear.

He Shu again! Why did they keep thinking it was him?

He Shu and Fu Cheng were both advanced apothecaries, but no one thought highly of him. Every time someone was able to refine high-quality medicinal pills, everyone assumed it was He Shu's work.

This time was no different. Fu Cheng exhaled inwardly as he scoffed to himself.

They were welcome to flatter He Shu for all they wanted. In a minute, he would prove that they were blind.

Fu Cheng's master was Deputy Director Qin. He contemplated after glancing at the marking by the side of the box. He said, "How could you be so sure? A total of seven people have taken the advanced apothecaries' exam. Any one of them could have made this."

The moment the leaders of the association heard what Deputy Chairman Qin said, they agreed.

"He is right. It could be anyone."

Deputy Director Qin pursed his lips. He looked at the person in charge of consolidating the scores. "Announce the result."

"Yes, Deputy Director Qin."

Before long, the scorekeeper produced labels and marked each box accordingly.

When the scorekeeper announced the results, Chairman Wang finally broke his silence and waved his assistant over.

The assistant came over and lowered his head to Chairman Wang's shoulder.

Chairman Wang said a few words softly to the assistant, leaving him briefly stunned. He promptly nodded and quickly left the square without drawing any attention.

The scorekeeper had pasted the names of the corresponding apothecaries on each of the boxes.

One of the medicinal pillboxes was labeled number one. When they saw the name of the apothecary appearing on it, everyone was astonished to see that it was Fu Cheng.

"I can't believe He Shu did not make it!"

"I had my money on He Shu as well! I can't believe it was Fu Cheng. Fu Cheng has improved in leaps and bounds in just one year!"

"I used to think that He Shu was a natural apothecary and overlooked Fu Cheng's performance. After all, the medicinal pill he produced today is of far higher quality than any other S grade medicine."

### **Chapter 1218: Admit Defeat**

The leaders of the association turned to gaze at Fu Cheng, looking impressed.

In their impression, Fu Cheng was a talented apothecary, but he was never considered to be at the genius level. Most people treated him with respect simply because he was Deputy Chairman Qin's disciple.

Today, he had proven himself by making these pills.

The leaders looked at Fu Cheng before looking at He Shu's box of pills. It was S grade as well, but Fu Cheng's pills had surpassed those overwhelmingly.

If Fu Cheng was not taking part in the exam, He Shu's pills would definitely rank as number one. After all, they were very well made.

"Deputy Chairman Qin, your disciple has been keeping such a low profile. No one would have guessed that it was his work. If we did not see these pills with our own eyes, no one would have thought that it was him."

"I am very impressed."

Deputy Chairman Qin lapped in the praise. Despite the humble smile on his face, he was clearly smiling and delighted. He cleared his throat and said, "To be honest, I did not realize how good Fu Cheng was becoming. This time, he even outdid He Shu."

He looked at Chairman Wang casually hoping to catch the chairman looking awkward.

After all, He Shu always came out on top at each exam. For once, he finally performed poorly, so he was bound to feel upset.

Deputy Chairman Qin kept looking at Chairman Wang, but he did not notice anything amiss. He pursed his lips sternly.

Chairman Wang was undoubtedly a very composed man. After all, he had been chairman of the association for years. Despite the overwhelming defeat, he remained calm.

He Shu was standing nearby, but he quickly walked over and looked at the box of medicine Fu Cheng had concocted. He said hoarsely, "Mind if I take a look at the medicinal pills?"

He Shu did not care about what the people were saying about his lackluster performance. He was simply interested in medicine.

Since Chairman Wang agreed that Fu Cheng's pills were excellent, they must be pretty good.

Deputy Chairman Qin glanced at He Shu. He leaned against the seat backrest and said graciously, "Be my guest. It is important to share knowledge if we want the trade to flourish."

Chairman Wang frowned without saying a word. He took out his phone and sent Huo Yao a text message.

He Shu nodded courteously and opened the box. His face looked exhausted but his eyes instantly lit up when he saw the medicinal pills.

The pills were undoubtedly far better than his work. Considering their quality, the apothecary had already learned everything he could and was ready to graduate.

After studying them briefly, He Shu reluctantly put them back inside the box.

Deputy Chairman Qin assumed He Shu was reacting this way because he felt defeated. He smiled even more deeply. "He Shu, don't be sad. You are also very gifted."

He Shu remained calm. He seemed oblivious about Deputy Chairman Qin's efforts to belittle him. Instead, he shook his head. "Fu Cheng is far better than me. I wholly admit defeat!"

Even if He Shu worked hard for a few more years, he could never produce medicinal pills of Fu Cheng's caliber.

Chairman Wang had yet to hear back from Huo Yao. He simply glanced at his disciple and shook his head. Why was He Shu so stubborn? Did the medicine maker explosion make him dumb or something?

Deputy Chairman Qin's cheek twitched when He Shu graciously admitted defeat. For a moment, he did not know what to say.

## **Chapter 1219: The Medicinal Pills Were Made By The Same Person**

People usually had trouble accepting defeat. No one had ever seen anyone accept it so willingly.

Deputy Chairman Qin cleared his throat. Since He Shu had voluntarily admitted defeat, it seemed rude for him to mock him now.

He turned to look at Chairman Wang. "From the looks of it, the winner is out. Fu Cheng is the winner this year. Chairman Wang, you have seen his work as well. I am sure you agree he is the best, right?"

Chairman Wang nodded. "The pill is undoubtedly the best. I just have one question..."

He paused before he raised his head and looked at Fu Cheng. He asked. "Did you really make these pills?"

Fu Cheng was smiling as he lapped up the praise, but his face instantly froze upon hearing the accusation.

What was the meaning of this?

Was Chairman Wang suspecting him of cheating?

Fu Cheng's palms sweated as he looked at Chairman Wang. He quickly composed himself and said politely, "What do you mean, Chairman Wang? Everyone saw me making those pills. Who else could have made them?"

Deputy Chairman Qin turned to look at Chairman Wang angrily. Before Chairman Wang could go on, Deputy Chairman Qin said, "Chairman Wang, are you taking it out on Fu Cheng and accusing him of cheating because He Shu did not get the number one position this year?"

Deputy Chairman Qin was surprised by his student's performance, but whatever it was, Fu Cheng had talent.

Chairman Wang glanced at Deputy Chairman Qin. He did not get mad at Deputy Chairman Qin for being rude. He raised his hand at him. "Hang on."

Deputy Chairman Qin frowned even harder. "What are you waiting for?"

Fu Cheng looked at Chairman Wang quizzically. He did not get it. What was Chairman Wang trying to do? As time passed, he could not help feeling uneasy.

Chairman Wang finally veered his eyes when the assistant returned. He turned to answer Deputy Chairman Qin's question. "Let me show you something first. You will understand where I am coming from once you have seen it."

The moment he finished his sentence, the assistant came toward him, gasping. He handed Chairman Wang the medicinal pill bottle.

Chairman Wang opened the bottle and took a whiff of its contents. Anyone with medical knowledge could determine the medicine just by smelling it.

After checking the medicine, he just knew that his hunch was spot on.

Chairman Wang shook his head and handed the medicine bottle to Deputy Chairman Qin.

Deputy Chairman Qin hesitated briefly before pouring a medicinal pill from the bottle. He was stunned when he smelled it and realized it was just like Fu Cheng's medicinal pill. "Where did you get these pills from?"

Chairman Wang pursed his lips and said mildly, "What do you think? Do you agree it was made by the same person?"

Fu Cheng raised his head suddenly and looked at the medicine bottle in the deputy chairman's hands.

Were those pills exactly the same as his?

How could this happen?

The other leaders of the association took the medicinal pill from Deputy Chairman Qin's hand and compared it with Fu Cheng's work.

In less than a minute, all of them came to the same conclusion.

They were undoubtedly created by the same person.

“Chairman Wang, where did you get these from?” asked one of the leaders of the association.

“A friend of mine gave them to me.” Chairman Wang contemplated and decided not to mention that Huo Yao was the new honorary deputy director of the association just yet.

“That is odd. Does this mean Fu Cheng’s pills are...” One of the leaders of the association looked at Fu Cheng without finishing his sentence.

All eyes turned to look at Fu Cheng in unison as they waited for him to explain himself.

## **Chapter 1220: Insist He Made The Medicinal Pills**

Fu Cheng could sense everyone looking at him. He clenched his fists before relaxing them.

Before anyone was able to come to any conclusions, he had already come up with a response. “I have genuinely made these medicinal pills. I do not know where Chairman Wang’s pills came from. However, my cousin did ask for some of my medicinal pills previously and I know she gave them to someone else.”

It would make much more sense if the pills were made by the same apothecary.

Fu Cheng made up his mind to say this when Chairman Wang said that the pills were given by his friend.

He could only hope that Chairman Wang’s friend did not personally make those pills.

Deputy Chairman Qin glanced at Fu Cheng and noticed his anxiety. He recalled Fu Cheng asking him about the Chinese herbs used during the exam. He paused before he made up his mind and looked at Chairman Wang. “Even if Fu Cheng wanted to win, he would never have cheated.”

Chairman Wang’s phone chimed. He did not answer Deputy Chairman Qin right away. Instead, he checked his text message first.

Huo Yao had sent it.

[Uh huh. I gave my friend a few of those medicinal pills. What’s wrong?]

When Chairman Wang saw the reply, he raised his head and said, “My friend mentioned she personally made those medicinal pills and happened to give her friend a few of them.”

Fu Cheng instantly turned worried. He had already started with a lie and everyone was watching him. It was impossible for him to admit he had cheated. Moreover, he was not entirely sure if Chairman Wang was just making this up to test him.

Fu Cheng paused before he said firmly, “I really made the pills myself. Also, everyone saw me making them. How could I cheat?”

“That is true. How could he have gotten away with it right in front of us?” One of the association leaders nodded. “Perhaps this is just a pure misunderstanding.”

After all, Fu Cheng was Deputy Chairman Qin's disciple and people had a great impression of him. They automatically felt that he was a trustworthy man.

"Do all of you feel Fu Cheng made those pills himself?" asked Chairman Wang calmly.

Deputy Chairman Qin pursed his lips. "Fu Cheng made this without a doubt." He paused as he glanced at He Shu before he continued. "Chairman Wang, I know you are protective of your disciple. I get it. However, you have to be fair, right?"

Fu Cheng felt slightly more relieved when his master took his side.

Fu Cheng could only insist the pills were his work.

Deputy Chairman Qin glanced at Chairman Wang's phone. He could not allow them to continue harping on the subject. He simply said, "I am sure this is probably a misunderstanding. In that case, let's announce the scores for the Apothecaries' exam."

The scorekeeper looked at Deputy Chairman Qin before glancing at Chairman Wang. Something was clearly fishy, but he could not afford to offend either of them. He stood where he was and hesitated.

Chairman Wang laughed when Deputy Chairman Qin brought up fairness. He nodded and looked at him. "Do you want fairness? Fine. I will show you what it means to be fair so that we do not malign anyone who is innocent."

The moment he finished his sentence, he called Huo Yao.

Deputy Chairman Qin frowned upon seeing this.