

Pill Maker 1291

Chapter 1291: Taken An Interest In His Talent

Chairman Wang had snatched Deputy Chairman Qin's phone, but Deputy Chairman Qin left the office without taking his phone back.

Judging from the way he stormed out, he was determined to take the Chinese herb from Mi Wei.

After he had disappeared through the door, Chairman Wang finally bent over, touching his chest slightly. His face had turned a little pale.

"Chairman Wang, are you alright?" asked Assistant Wang as he helped Chairman Wang to sit down. He poured a glass of water for Chairman Wang before retrieving medication from the drawer for him.

After Chairman Wang had taken the medication, he leaned against the seat backrest for some time before he finally looked better. He waved his hand and said, "I'm fine now."

Assistant Wang felt relieved. He looked at the chairman worriedly. "Deputy Chairman Qin is really..."

Chairman Wang rested his eyes and said, "Give Mr. Mi a call and tell him we don't need him back at the farming facility. Since someone in his family has taken ill, he can take as much time off as he needs."

The association had previously done business with the client. Most of the time, Deputy Chairman Qin was the main point of contact, so Chairman Wang did not know who he was.

Judging from Deputy Chairman Qin's attitude today, he could not help feeling suspicious about the client.

If they only wanted to cultivate the herb in small numbers, they could always give the herb to some other Chinese herb cultivator to give it a shot. Why did it have to be Mi Wei? Also, Deputy Chairman Qin even mentioned handing Mi Wei over to the client. Chairman Wang could not help feeling that something was amiss.

Chairman Wang frowned hard with his eyes lowered.

His assistant hesitated briefly before he looked at Chairman Wang and said softly, "Even though Deputy Chairman Qin reacted very strongly, he does make some sense. After all, Mi Wei is employed by the association. It is completely within the scope of his work if we want him to cultivate the herb."

Chairman Wang shook his head. "Just think about it. This probably sounds like a completely innocent request. We have just lost Chinese herbs to a fire, but our customer suddenly compromised and agreed to accept something else instead. Doesn't the timing seem strangely coincidental?"

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Also, why did he happen to want Mi Wei's herb? It was hard for him not to feel suspicious about this.

Chairman Wang was the leader of the Apothecaries' Association, so he could naturally see things at a much deeper level.

“Do you mean the client is interested in Mr. Mi and not the herb?” said Assistant Wang in surprise when the notion dawned on him.

Chairman Wang looked at the door with a serious look on his face. “Perhaps.”

Assistant Wang glanced at Chairman Wang and asked quizzically. “Isn’t Mr. Mi from the countryside? Why would they take interest in him?”

“They’ve probably taken an interest in him due to his talents. Chairman Wang could only tell the assistant to inform Mi Wei not to come back just yet.

No matter what Deputy Chairman Qin had promised the client, this was an internal matter, so he did not want to implicate an innocent man.

“Okay then. I’ll give Mr. Mi a call in a minute,” said Assistant Wang as he nodded.

“Okay,” acknowledged Chairman Wang softly. He handed Deputy Chairman Qin’s phone to his assistant and told him to send it back to him.

He thought about the trouble he had in contacting Mi Wei, so he told the assistant before he left, “Oh yes. If you have trouble reaching Mr. Mi over the phone, send him a text message instead.”

The assistant glanced at the chairman and acknowledged him.

Chapter 1292: Relax

The assistant went to Deputy Chairman Qin’s office with his phone.

“Don’t you think your boss is starting to lose his edge? He isn’t decisive enough anymore,” remarked Deputy Chairman Qin randomly as he took the phone from Assistant Wang.

Assistant Wang lowered his head. He remained silent and did not respond to Deputy Chairman Qin.

Deputy Chairman Qin smiled and continued. “Chairman Wang is getting on his age, so he won’t stay in his position for long.”

“He is still the chairman now,” replied Assistant Wang finally.

“We should always plan ahead, right?” said Deputy Chairman Qin airily as though he did not hear what Assistant Wang had said.

Assistant Wang tightened his fists. He knew exactly what Deputy Chairman Qin was implying. He paused and said, “You make sense.”

Deputy Chairman Qin raised his brow. “I’ve always been impressed by your work.”

“I appreciate it, Deputy Chairman Qin.” Assistant Wang smiled politely.

“Oh yes. I recall the herb farmer is called Mi Wei, right? How did you learn of him?” Deputy Chairman Qin changed the subject. He already knew that Assistant Wang was the one who found Mi Wei.

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"I found out about him online. Since we needed to hire a new herb cultivator, we hired him," explained Assistant Wang candidly.

Deputy Chairman Qin nodded. He pondered and asked again. "Where's his hometown?"

Assistant Wang shook his head. "Sorry, I don't know. We never talked about it before."

Deputy Chairman Qin glanced at Assistant Wang and dropped the subject. Instead, he said, "Tell your boss to call Mi Wei and get him to come back. Otherwise, how are we going to answer the client?"

He paused and added. "We can't afford to offend the client. Even if Chairman Wang doesn't care, you should remind him."

Assistant Wang acknowledged with his head lowered without speaking further.

Deputy Chairman Qin dropped the subject and let Assistant Wang leave. He proceeded to call his foreign contact and told him to relax and wait.

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When Huo Yao went to class on Monday, the seat beside her was empty. Yuan Xi was not there for class.

She felt a little puzzled, so she sent Yuan Xi a text message asking where she had gone. However, she did not hear back from Yuan Xi all morning.

When it was lunchtime, Huo Yao called Yuan Xi over the phone.

The phone rang for a long time before someone finally answered it. It was Yuan Xi's mother who came on the line.

"She has a bad cold, so she won't be able to go to school." Mrs Yuan clearly sounded worried.

Huo Yao recalled Yuan Xi texting her on Saturday and mentioning that she was still on campus, so she asked casually. "Has she been home all day on Saturday then?"

Mrs Yuan watched as her daughter slept soundly on the bed. She said softly, "That's right. She came back on Friday and hasn't left the house ever since. She didn't look good when she came back. Since you're her friend, can you tell me if anything happened at school?"

Was Yuan Xi in bad shape?

Huo Yao felt Yuan Xi seemed completely normal at school.

Huo Yao contemplated and replied. "Nope. She has been working hard at school and she didn't mention any problems to me."

Mrs Yuan sighed and said, "Perhaps I'm imagining things then. Anyway, thanks for checking in on her. I'll let her know you called the moment she wakes up so that she can text you."

Huo Yao thanked Mrs Yuan and hung up the phone.

Chapter 1293: Determined To Add People To The Research Project

Huo Yao did not continue thinking about Yuan Xi after hanging up the phone and headed straight to the canteen for lunch.

After lunch, she planned on going to the library to do some reading but Zhao Lian texted her, asking to see her in his office.

Huo Yao was on her way to the library, but she went to Zhao Lian's office instead.

Other than Prof Zhao, there was a new face in the office.

"Prof Zhao, did you want to see me?" Huo Yao took a quick glance before veering her eyes and nodding to Zhao Lian.

Zhao Lian acknowledged her before pointing at the person in the office. "This is Prof Liu. He's a fellow of the department. I don't think you've met yet."

Most of the fellows and important professors did not have to give lessons, so the students rarely had the opportunity to interact with them up close during all the years they spent at their university.

Huo Yao looked at the man and greeted him politely.

Prof Liu waved his hand. He was a serious man, so he rarely smiled. The moment he saw Huo Yao, the sternness on his face dissipated slightly. "I hear that the research project by the Bioinformatics division was very well received."

Huo Yao replied with composure. "Our teacher did a good job leading us."

"Your teacher's Liu Qian, right?" Prof Liu nodded as he pondered. "He was a diamond in the rough."

Huo Yao smiled without answering.

"The institute is very happy with your work. Mr. Wei even called to commend you for your work. Keep it up. Try to finish it as soon as possible," said Prof Liu as he put down the teacup.

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Zhao Lian looked at Prof Liu. "Is this project very urgent?"

"Perhaps." Prof Liu paused before he looked at Huo Yao and asked. "How many people do you have on the team?"

Huo Yao frowned slightly upon hearing this before she answered Prof Liu.

"Even if we include your teacher, it is just a six-man team. I agree that you are understaffed." Prof Liu shook his head. It was no wonder they were progressing slowly. "How about this? Why don't we pick more people from other divisions in the department to help?"

"I doubt it would work. Those people don't even know how to run the computer software," said Zhao Lian.

"The core part of the system can be done by students from the Bioinformatics division while the other students help with managing the data. If we split up the work, the end product will be even better. This way, we can finish the project as soon as possible," replied Prof Liu mildly.

"I think it's unnecessary. After all, the database..." Before Zhao Lian was able to finish his sentence, Prof Liu interrupted him.

"The institute wants our project. Don't you see what a rare opportunity it is? We have to take it seriously and do our best to complete it. What's wrong with adding a few more to the headcount?" Prof Liu spoke firmly.

He clearly did this intentionally.

Zhao Lian frowned.

"I have an appointment with the university director, so I have to go now." Prof Liu stood up before Zhao Lian could say his piece. He strode out of the office without so much as looking at Huo Yao.

After he had left, Zhao Lian continued frowning. He finally realized why Prof Liu wanted to see Huo Yao. He had already made up his mind to add people to the research team before he came over.

Zhao Lian pressed his brow. He told Huo Yao to take a seat first. He paused and said, "Don't worry. I will speak to Prof Liu about this. I won't let him add people to the team."

Huo Yao looked at him. She felt that he would probably be able to handle this problem well, so she was unworried. "Thanks, Prof Zhao."

Zhao Lian shook his head. "After all, it is the fruit of your division's labor."

Chapter 1294: No One Else Was Joining

Huo Yao sat up straight with her hands on her knees. After chatting briefly, she looked at Prof Zhao's face and asked. "Have you been burning the midnight oil recently?"

"Is it that obvious?" Zhao Lian touched his face.

"Staying up late is bad for your organs. Didn't I tell you to go to the hospital for a physical examination? I bet you didn't go, right?" said Huo Yao as she raised her brow.

Zhao Lian recalled her saying this. He smiled and said, "I'm perfectly fine."

"I mean it. It won't take a lot of time." Huo Yao was insistent about it and sounded very serious.

Zhao Lian knew that the young woman meant well, so he nodded. "Fine. I will make time for it."

Ever since the National Academy of Medicine encountered a break-in and lost all its archives, he had been very busy.

He had to help in redoing the archives.

Since Zhao Lian was finally taking her seriously, Huo Yao did not continue with the subject. She made a mental note to make some medicine for him.

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Huo Yao went over to the laboratory after school in the afternoon.

When she got to the laboratory, she saw Dai Jie, and the others in there looking annoyed.

Huo Yao put down her bag and looked at them quizzically. "What's wrong?"

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Dai Jie adjusted his spectacles and said, "I heard that more people are joining our research project."

"The new joiners are all Mr. Qi's students," said Wang Jing annoyingly.

"I can't believe how shameless they are. Now that we have shown some results, they desperately want to add more people to our team. They clearly want to steal the credit from us." Tang Jun was no longer in the mood to continue coding and looked very depressed.

Huo Yao did not expect them to know about it already. As she turned on the computer, she said, "Don't worry. No one else will be joining our team."

Wang Jing looked at her. "What makes you so sure?"

Huo Yao tilted her head sideways. Her white turtleneck sweater brought out her flawless complexion. She blinked and replied nonchalantly. "I will stop working on the project if they do."

Wang Jing's lips twitched. Huo Yao was unable to make her feel better.

Huo Yao raised her brow and added. "I'm not joking. I won't let anyone else join the research team."

Even if Prof Zhao could not stop them, she would figure out something.

She was capable of coming up with this system, so she could destroy it just as easily. Even if they wanted to steal the credit, they should have thought twice about picking on them.

Everyone suddenly felt better when they heard what Huo Yao said.

None of them wanted random people to be stuffed into their team halfway through the research project.

Even though they were all older than Huo Yao, they had unknowingly treated Huo Yao as their leader. They believed every word she said.

After calming down, everyone continued working.

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Before long, Yuan Huan came over to the laboratory as well.

When Huo Yao saw Yuan Huan, she suddenly recalled Min Yu mentioning the archives that the National Academy of Medicine had lost on the day Huo Yulin broke in.

When Huo Yulin broke into the institute and fought Yuan Huan, she could tell that Yuan Huan had been trained to fight.

He was a proficient fighter and he also knew the details of the National Academy of Medicine very well. He could probably have taken the archives effortlessly.

Huo Yao mulled over it.

Chapter 1295: Yuan Huan Wanted Something From Her

Huo Yao gathered her thoughts and said, "Yuan Xi is your younger sister, right?"

Yuan Huan glanced at the data on Huo Yao's computer as he gently turned the black ring on his finger with his hands behind him.

He said, "I think something's bothering her lately and she seems stressed out. I wonder if something might have happened in school, but she didn't talk about it."

Mrs Yuan had mentioned this to Huo Yao during lunchtime as well.

Huo Yao paused and said, "I don't know either. You should really check with her roommates."

Yuan Huan smiled. "I thought you might know since she often brings you up."

Huo Yao shook her head as she tapped on the keyboard and did not answer Yuan Huan.

He did not continue with the subject. Based on his interaction with Huo Yao, she was not the talkative type.

She was an introvert, cautious by nature, and tended to keep a low profile.

Considering her personality, she would just end up disliking him if he continued speaking to her.

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Since Yuan Xi was very protective of Huo Yao, this meant they were very close, but he should not push it.

Yuan Huan turned to leave.

Huo Yao did not even turn to look and simply kept her eyes on the computer monitor.

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She went back home for dinner after she was done at the laboratory. Just when she was waiting for dinner to start, she received a call from Yuan Xi.

Yuan Xi's voice sounded nasal over the phone and she was clearly sick. "I'll be fine in a few days. Don't worry."

Huo Yao sat on the couch cross-legged with a book on her knee. She leaned into the couch's backrest and said, "You sound weak. Why did you suddenly fall sick anyway?"

Yuan Xi shrank into the blanket. Her lips were very pale and her eyes looked listless. She sniffled and replied. "I must have stayed up gaming too much. Also, I forgot to close the window."

Mrs Yuan and Yuan Huan had already mentioned Yuan Xi's condition but Yuan Xi's answer was quite different. Huo Yao pondered and said, "Your older brother asked me if anything bad happened to you at school."

Yuan Xi's hand paused and her phone fell under the blanket, but she quickly retrieved it and placed it by her ear. She asked anxiously. "Why is he talking to you about this? What else did he say? Did he ask you to visit?"

Huo Yao raised her brow when she heard Yuan Xi reacting so strongly. "Well, he didn't say much."

Previously, Yuan Xi had warned her countless times not to interact with her older brother, but she did not mention why.

From the looks of it, Yuan Huan wanted something from her.

Huo Yao could not wrap her mind around it. What would Yuan Huan want from her?

Huo Yao was working on a university research project for the National Research Institute of Science and Technology and he was from the National Academy of Medicine. The two were undoubtedly unrelated.

Huo Yao found this puzzling.

Yuan Xi felt bewildered when Yuan Huan did not try to get Huo Yao to come over. This was not his style. She squeezed her phone for some time before she finally said, "No matter what he says, just ignore him. The guy's just bad news."

Yuan Xi wanted to speak further, but she paused briefly, and knocking could be heard coming from the door. She turned sideways slightly looking at the door.

When the door opened, Mrs Yuan entered the room with Yuan Huan following behind her.

Yuan Xi felt nervous. She moved her hands slightly and hung up the phone without warning. Soon after, she stuffed it under the blanket.

Chapter 1296: Results From The Investigation

Mrs Yuan failed to notice anything amiss with her daughter. She was holding water and medicine in her hands. She walked over and sat down by the bed and asked her daughter in concern. "Are you feeling better?"

Yuan Xi pulled the blanket up and did not feel like looking at Yuan Huan. Only her listless eyes were visible. "I'm still sick. I just want to be alone."

Mrs Yuan put down the water and touched Yuan Xi's forehead. Since she did not have a fever, Mrs Yuan felt better. "If you continue to feel unwell, we should go to the hospital for a checkup. Who knows? It might be something more serious."

"I'm fine. It's just a cold." Yuan Xi closed her eyes and was in no mood to talk.

Mrs Yuan sighed. She pointed at Yuan Huan and said, "Your older brother found out you were sick, so he especially came over to check on you after work."

A look of contempt swept across Yuan Xi's face. She knew that her mother adored Yuan Huan and thought he was perfect, so Yuan Xi simply acknowledged her patronizingly after hearing this.

She proceeded to pull the blanket up to cover her head entirely.

Mrs Yuan looked at Yuan Huan and felt a little awkward. She could not wrap her mind around it. When her daughter was younger, she loved being around her older brother. Why did she suddenly start hating him in recent years?

She cleared her throat. Since it was awkward to discuss it with Yuan Huan around, she did not bring up the subject. Instead, she glanced at the special medication Yuan Huan had taken from the National Academy of Medicine. She pulled Yuan Xi's blanket and said, "Eat your meds."

Yuan Xi turned sideways without moving, so Mrs Yuan pushed her again.

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Yuan Huan was also in the room. Even though Yuan Xi was lying with her back facing him, she could detect him looking at her, so she felt very annoyed.

After a few seconds, Yuan Xi got up, took the medication and water from the bedside table, and quickly took them. When she was done, she lay back down in bed.

Mrs Yuan watched as Yuan Xi lay in bed with the blanket covering her head. She sat for some time before she tucked Yuan Xi in, got up, and left the room with Yuan Huan.

After closing the door, Mrs Yuan smiled sadly and said to Yuan Huan, "Don't take it to heart."

"It's fine. I probably wasn't a good brother to her." Yuan Huan continued speaking politely.

Mrs Yuan did not know what to say about her daughter. She finally said, "When she grows out of this, I'm sure she will realize what a good older brother you are."

Yuan Huan acknowledged softly. He raised his hand to check the time and said, "I have to go."

"Aren't you staying for dinner?" Mrs Yuan was puzzled.

"No, thanks. I have a lot of work waiting for me at the institute," replied Yuan Huan calmly.

Mrs Yuan did not insist.

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After Yuan Xi hung up the phone halfway through the conversation, Huo Yao did not send any text messages to check on her.

She wanted to go back early after dinner and ran into Zhuo Yun on his way over to her villa.

Min Yu had given the order to investigate the seller of the medicine. Since he had made a little headway, he came over to report it to Min Yu. When he saw Huo Yao in the villa, he was completely unsurprised.

"I spoke to someone from Cloud Realm. The staff didn't confirm the seller's name, but I did get a name," Zhuo Yun spoke succinctly.

Huo Yao was curled up on the couch. The moment she heard what he said, she was a little surprised. She looked up at Min Yu in astonishment. She did not expect him to order an investigation.

Min Yu detected Huo Yao looking at him. He simply tilted his head sideways and explained. "I was just curious."

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Did he investigate out of pure curiosity?

"I see," acknowledged Huo Yao without exposing him for using a lousy excuse.

Chapter 1297: Shangguan Yu

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Min Yu smiled and looked at Zhuo Yun. "What's his name?"

"Shangguan Yu," replied Zhuo Yun quickly.

Huo Yao's face twitched the moment she heard the name.

"Shangguan Yu?" Min Yu leaned against the couch with his arms crossed. A few seconds later, he replied. "Sounds familiar."

Zhuo Yun glanced at Huo Yao and explained. "When you were unwell, we searched high and low for good doctors. We found out Shangguan Yu might be a descendant of the Shangguan clan. Since Miss Huo was able to treat you, we stopped searching for this person after that."

More importantly, they were unable to get anywhere with the investigation of Shangguan Yu. Also, Huo Yao had found a way to treat Min Yu, so it made no sense to continue finding Shangguan Yu especially since no one knew if the person was real or fiction.

If Min Yu did not order the investigation, Zhuo Yun would have forgotten the name by now.

Min Yu finally recalled where he had heard the name. "Does this mean that the person genuinely exists?"

"Since Cloud Realm has confirmed the name, Shangguan Yu definitely exists." Zhuo Yun nodded. "I am yet to make any headway in finding Shangguan Yu."

Min Yu narrowed his eyes and said mildly, "Since he comes from a secretive family, it's no surprise that you can't find him."

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"Even then, it still sounds weird. If Shangguan Yu doesn't want anyone to find him, why would he put the medicine on auction? He even volunteered details of his background. Why would he do that?" said Zhuo Yun as he contemplated.

Something was clearly wrong.

"Perhaps someone is just pretending to be him?" said Huo Yao as she shrugged.

Zhuo Yun and Min Yu looked sideways at her.

Huo Yao blinked and replied. "Just a suggestion."

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She looked completely calm.

Zhuo Yun felt Huo Yao made sense as well. He nodded. "Well, it's certainly possible. After all, no one is able to confirm the existence of Shangguan Yu."

Since Shangguan Yu had never appeared publicly before, anyone could pretend to be him and get away with it.

Min Yu contemplated before glancing at Huo Yao.

Huo Yao said someone was pretending to be Shangguan Yu. From the looks of it, she knew something about the family.

Perhaps she might even know the real Shangguan Yu.

Min Yu rapped his fingers gently on his knee for some time before he said to Zhuo Yun. "Continue investigating."

"Okay then." Zhuo Yun nodded. He glanced at Huo Yao and Min Yu and noticed he was being the third wheel. He said, "In that case, I'll be on my way."

It would not kill Zhuo Yun if he played gooseberry, but it was considered a double kill to hang around since he happened to be a singleton.

Min Yu said nothing. Huo Yao yawned and stood up from the couch. "Can you give me a ride back? It's time for me to go back as well."

Zhuo Yun automatically looked at his boss and waited for him to approve.

Min Yu looked at Huo Yao and replied. "Sure."

Huo Yao nodded. She took the books from the coffee table and left the villa with Zhuo Yun before long.

Zhuo Yun had driven over. Min Yu and Huo Yao's villas were relatively close, so it was just a two minute drive over.

After getting out of the car, Huo Yao turned her head and asked. "You mentioned that someone working for Cloud Realm gave you the intel. Who was it?"

Zhuo Yun still had his hand on the steering wheel. He was caught by surprise when he heard Huo Yao's question. When he snapped out of his surprise, he automatically gave her a name.

Chapter 1298: Even God Can't Save Him

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Zhuo Yun paused briefly before he looked at her and asked. "Do you know about Cloud Realm?"

“Randomly heard about it before.” Huo Yao nodded without giving any explanation and got out of the car.

Zhuo Yun looked out of the car window and watched Huo Yao leave. He finally veered his eyes when she disappeared into the villa entrance.

He did not expect her to ask him about Cloud Realm.

No wonder she seemed completely unsurprised when he mentioned Cloud Realm to the boss.

Zhuo Yun gathered his thoughts, started the car engine, and drove off.

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The next day, Chen Ming informed Huo Yao that Huo Yulin was back from the medical conference.

After leaving the airport, they did not go home right away. Instead, they went over to the university to pick her up first since it was on the way.

When Huo Yao got into the car, she turned to look at Huo Yulin and asked. “Brother Yulin, are you finally back?”

After all, Huo Yulin had just suffered from a fatal injury. Even though a week had already passed and he was recovering, Huo Yulin still looked pale. Since his complexion was already very fair, his condition was almost unnoticeable.

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Huo Yulin nodded in response. He leaned into the seat backrest. “Like I said, I was sent abroad to attend a medical conference last minute, but it’s all done now.”

Huo Yao acknowledged and acted along with him. “You look good. Since you’re done with the conference, you should take some time off and rest at home.”

“Sure.” Huo Yulin leaned against the car window with his eyes lowered and did his utmost to act normal.

Chen Ming furtively glanced into the rearview mirror. Huo Yulin was pretending that everything was normal and Huo Yao was acting along. He had to say that their performance was worthy of an Oscar award.

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Before long, Huo Yulin’s phone rang in his pocket.

It was from the institute. He narrowed his eyes slightly before answering the phone.

“Uh huh. Now? Okay. On my way back now.”

After hanging up the phone, Huo Yulin pondered worriedly before putting away the phone. He looked at Huo Yao and said, “I have to go to the institute. Uncle Ming will send you back on your own.”

The moment he finished his sentence, he told Chen Ming to drop him by the roadside so that he could hail a cab.

Huo Yao frowned and said, "I'm not doing anything special tonight. We can drop you at the institute first before sending me home. It really doesn't make a difference to me."

Chen Ming promptly chimed in and agreed. "Miss Huo is right. We're only 30 minutes away from the institute, so it's very convenient."

Huo Yulin glanced at Chen Ming sitting in the driver's seat. He knew Chen Ming was worried about his physical condition. He paused briefly and stopped insisting on going there by himself. "Okay then."

"Brother Yulin, you just got back. Why do they need you at the institute?" Huo Yao asked curiously with her arm leaning against the car window.

Huo Yulin thought about the call he had just received from the section chief and said, "They need my help to conduct a surgery."

Huo Yao frowned even harder after hearing this.

If Huo Yulin was just going back to handle something minor, his body could probably take it. Unfortunately, he was going back to help with the surgery. He needed to be mentally and physically strong in order to conduct surgery.

Considering his condition, he could probably conduct the operation for 30 minutes. If the surgery went on for too long, his wounds might split open.

The moment the injuries split open, Huo Yulin would become a prime suspect for breaking into the institute. More importantly, his life was at risk and even gods could not save him.

Huo Yao felt annoyed. She said sternly, "You just got back home. Do you have the energy to conduct surgery?"

Chapter 1299: Can't Let Him Kill Himself

Huo Yao was not alone in thinking this. Even Chen Ming felt very worried about letting Huo Yulin conduct surgery.

Huo Yulin was abroad attending a medical conference for a couple of days, but he was barely able to make it through the day. Now, he had just gotten back from a long-haul flight. Since he was still exhausted, he probably could not even stand for long.

Huo Yulin straightened his jacket without so much as a frown. "It's okay. It's just a tiny surgery. I'll be fine."

Huo Yao looked sideways at him. How could he act like nothing was happening? Didn't he know his condition best?

"Young Master Yulin..." Chen Ming wanted to suggest otherwise. He loosened his foot on the pedal and wanted to pull up by the roadside. He wished he could stop Huo Yulin from going to the institute.

Huo Yulin looked straight ahead and butted in. "I'm just a low-level researcher. Even though it's a surgery, I'm just the assistant."

Experience meant everything in the working world. Even if Huo Yulin was a world-renowned scientist from a highly regarded institute, the same rules applied to him. Since he was new at the institute, he had to start from the bottom of the hierarchy.

Chen Ming parted his lips and looked into the rearview mirror. He finally sighed and stepped on the gas.

Chen Ming knew Young Master Yulin's personality all too well. He was a stubborn man and there was no stopping him once he had made up his mind.

Huo Yao stopped trying to talk her brother out of this and simply said, "Come back soon."

She lowered her head and played with her phone as though everything was completely normal.

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Huo Yulin felt relieved. He leaned against his seat backrest and rested his eyes.

Chen Ming pulled up at the institute entrance 30 minutes later. His car was not permitted entry, so he got out of the car, went over to the back seat, and opened the door for Huo Yulin.

Chen Ming closed the car door after Huo Yulin got off the vehicle. He made sure Huo Yao was not looking before he raised his head and looked at Huo Yulin. "Young Master Yulin, don't overdo it, okay?"

Huo Yulin acknowledged and said, "Got it."

"Take care of yourself. After I send Miss Huo home, I will come back here to wait for you. Call me if you need me." Chen Ming reminded Huo Yulin in concern.

Huo Yulin nodded slightly.

Before long, he entered the institute.

Chen Ming finally got into the car when Huo Yulin was out of sight. He looked into the rearview mirror as he started the engine. "Miss Huo, let me send you home first."

Huo Yao put away her phone and looked ahead. "No. Find a spot somewhere so that we can wait for him."

Chen Ming was caught by surprise. He asked. "Are we waiting for Young Master Yulin?"

"Uh huh. I can't let him kill himself, right?" said Huo Yao mildly.

Chen Ming touched his nose and automatically defended Huo Yulin. "I'm sure Young Master Yulin knows what to do."

"Sure. I agree. He should know better." Huo Yao smiled and nodded.

He could have made an excuse to avoid the surgery, but he insisted upon coming.

Chen Ming went speechless.

The smile on Miss Huo's face suddenly felt creepy to him.

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After Huo Yulin entered the institute, he went to the research building beside the main building and took the lift to the fifth floor.

When he got to the section chief's office, he inadvertently glanced at the window on the right side. It had already been replaced.

Huo Yulin veered his eyes calmly and pressed the office doorbell.

A few minutes later, he could hear the door opening automatically. He opened the door and entered the office.

Other than the section chief, two of his colleagues were also there.

"Hi, Huo Yulin." The section chief put down the report and looked at the pale young man.

Chapter 1300: You Were Lucky

Huo Yulin greeted the section chief before saying hello to his colleagues politely.

The section chief checked the time on his watch. He handed the report to Huo Yulin without making any small talk. He said, "Research team 3 has come up with new medicine and they are ready to perform human testing. The first batch consists of ten subjects. Two of them are showing varying degrees of side effects."

As the section chief spoke, a serious look swept across his face. He paused before he continued. "We need to conduct an analysis on the research subjects later and analyze them. You'll be assisting us. Since you have experience working at T5 Research Institute, I'm sure you'll fit right in."

Huo Yulin frowned. He had already personally destroyed the analysis solution. What went wrong?"

Were they hiding more analysis solutions somewhere else?

The section chief's office line suddenly rang. He stopped talking to Huo Yulin and turned to answer the phone.

"Prof Gao is rushing us. Let's go over there now." The section chief put down the phone and headed to the door.

Huo Yulin was preoccupied thinking about the analysis solution and stood where he was without moving. When his colleague patted him on the shoulder, he finally snapped out of his daze.

"Huo Yulin?" His colleague glanced at him. "You don't look good today."

Huo Yulin smiled. "I'm probably a little tired after taking a long-haul flight"

"Can you perform surgery?" asked his colleague in concern.

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Huo Yulin went quiet briefly and shook his head. "I'll be fine."

"Uh huh. That's good. This will probably be a long surgery," muttered his colleague as he walked.

Huo Yulin clutched his heart as he followed behind his colleague. When he was in the car, it was already starting to hurt.

“When you were out attending the conference, something happened at the institute. Important research archives were stolen from us. It was terrible.” His colleague shared the gossip.

A look of surprise swept across his eyes as Huo Yulin raised his head and glanced at him.

He thought about the person who helped him that fateful night.

Did he steal the research archives?

“I thought the institute had great security.” Huo Yulin spoke quizzically. “Why did the archives get stolen?”

“It was probably an inside job.” His colleague shrugged. “If it wasn’t an insider, how could they enter? You should count your lucky stars when you were sent abroad to attend a medical conference. Otherwise, you would have ended up being a suspect.”

Huo Yulin narrowed his eyes. “What do you mean?”

“Someone from the institute encountered the culprit and fought with him, so he helped with the investigation. He came up with a list of suspects through elimination,” explained his colleague.

Huo Yulin already saw this coming. “Was I one of the suspects?”

“That’s right.” His colleague nodded. “You should consider yourself lucky for being abroad. The five suspects are still under detention and are probably having a hard time.”

Huo Yulin instantly went quiet. He naturally knew the severity of his deeds.

The research archives were years of hard work and very important to the institute. If they got sold to another country, the consequences were unimaginable. It might even end up being catastrophic.

If the intel got sold to a foreign government, the five suspects would suffer more than just detention. In fact, detention would seem minor in comparison.