

## Pill Maker 1321

### Chapter 1321: Something Amiss

Min Yu had already scooped some porridge into a bowl when he looked up and caught the young woman frowning. He raised his brow. "Shall I feed you the porridge?"

Huo Yao promptly extended her hand and took the bowl from him. She picked up the spoon and proceeded to eat.

Min Yu shook his head gently and sat down beside her.

When she was almost done eating, Min Yu finally said, "Oh yes!. You received a call from your grandmother yesterday."

Huo Yao's hand paused briefly before she ate the last mouthful of porridge and asked Min Yu. "What did you tell her?"

"I told her you were busy working on your research project and that you would call back when you were free." Min Yu handed her a piece of tissue.

Huo Yao took the tissue, wiped her mouth, and nodded. "Okay. Hand me the phone so I can call her back."

"Okay." Min Yu stood up and retrieved her phone from the bedside table.

Huo Yao thanked him before lowering her head to swipe down to her grandmother's number.

Min Yu glanced at her and proceeded to clean up the table.

He lowered his eyes and thought about his call with Huo Yao's grandmother last night.

Old Madam Yang had mentioned that Huo Yao might seem a little different when she regained consciousness.

Other than the slightly puzzled look on her face today, he did not notice anything strange about her.

Before long, Huo Yao's call got through.

Huo Yao chatted with Old Madam Yang as usual. She made no mention of the incident she had encountered and acted completely normal. Old Madam Yang did the same.

The two of them simply chatted randomly.

Since Huo Yao had not done a video chat with Old Madam Yang for some time now, she said, "Hang on. Let me switch to video call mode."

The moment Old Madam Yang heard what she said, she seemed worried and spoke anxiously. "Maybe some other time. I'm outside and on the move, so it's inconvenient for me to do a video call."

Was she outside? Was it a bad time?

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes. If her grandmother was outdoors now, why was it so quiet?

"Where are you?" asked Huo Yao.

"I'm just chatting with Old Madam Huang at the store, so it's inconvenient," answered Old Madam Yang calmly.

Huo Yao rubbed her phone with her fingertips before she acknowledged her grandmother and said, "Okay then. Maybe next time."

Old Madam Yang finally felt relieved and replied. "Next time then."

Just as she was about to hang up the phone, Huo Yao said, "Oh yes. I plan on bringing you over here to spend the Chinese New Year holidays this year."

Old Madam Yang's throat felt dry and her eyes turned watery on hearing this. She wiped the tears from her eyes and said, "Sure thing."

"Uh huh. It's a deal. I will book tickets to go over and bring you here," said Huo Yao as she made arrangements.

Old Madam Yang raised her head. Even though she knew Huo Yao could not see her, she smiled and replied. "Okay. I'll come over."

Before long, they ended the conversation. Huo Yao frowned as she leaned against the seat backrest gently with her phone in her hand.

Something did not seem right about Old Madam Yang.

Firstly, she refused to do a video call with her. Secondly, she seemed unusually eager about coming over.

In the past, it was impossible to convince her to come over no matter how hard she tried.

"What's on your mind?" Min Yu noticed the look on her face after ending the call with Old Madam Yang, so he probed her.

Huo Yao turned her phone as she looked at Min Yu with her head tilted. "When you answered the call yesterday, did you notice anything wrong with her?"

"Something wrong?" Min Yu contemplated briefly. He recalled Old Madam Yang reminding him to tell Huo Yao to take care of herself, rest everything sounded normal to him. He shook his head and said, "Nope. What's wrong? What did she say to you?"

"Nothing much. I just can't put my finger on it but something seems off." Huo Yao pondered as she spoke.

## **Chapter 1322: Come Home With Me**

"Perhaps you're overthinking it," suggested Min Yu.

Huo Yao nodded. "Maybe."

She did not continue mulling over it. After all, the school break was only half a month away. When the time came, she would immediately go back for her grandmother.

Min Yu could not help raising his brow after overhearing Huo Yao's phone conversation. He asked her. "Are you going straight home once the term break starts?"

"Uh huh," answered Huo Yao without so much as raising her head.

Min Yu raised his hand to touch her slightly wavy hair. "Don't you have any other plans?"

Huo Yao turned her head sideways and dodged his hand. She said succinctly, "Nope."

Min Yu tutted softly. "You're heartless."

Huo Yao placed her phone back into her pocket and asked him. "Do you want to come home with me?"

Min Yu looked at Huo Yao and thought about her older brothers and instantly looked sad. "I think I might run out of HP before I even make it into your house."

Huo Yao raised her hand and patted him on the shoulder encouragingly. "Even my father likes you, so I'm sure you can handle my older brothers."

Min Yu sighed the moment she mentioned this. He grabbed Huo Yao's hand from his shoulder and said, "Don't you know? Older people always know what they're doing. Are you so sure your father is an easy target?"

Even though her father seemed nice on the surface, he would never let anyone try anything funny on his daughter.

From the looks of it, his path to marriage was fraught with danger.

Huo Yao thought about Huo Tingrui. Even though her second older brother was a cunning man, he could never get what he wanted from their father. She could not help nodding in agreement with Min Yu.

It was impossible for her father to be a docile lamb. If anything, he was a wolf in sheep's clothing.

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Meanwhile, at the National Academy of Medicine.

An emergency meeting was held at the academy.

They wanted to find out more about the person who had broken into the academy.

The academy had lost a lot of important research archives. The scale of the problem was serious, so it was impossible not to report it. When they learned about an intruder the next day, the government had already assigned the Ministry of National Security to investigate the incident.

Today, the Ministry of National Security had finally started to make some headway, so a meeting was held at the academy.

The academy president, President Cao, looked at Director Xi from the Ministry of National Security quizzically. "Do you think you made a mistake? He has neither the time nor the motive."

Director Xi removed his hat from his head and set it aside. He was in his 40s and he had a squarish face. The man had the most powerful aura in the room. He tilted his head sideways and looked at the man standing beside him.

The man retrieved a briefcase from under his arm, took out some documents, and handed it to President Cao.

"As I understand, Huo Yulin was abroad attending a medical conference, but he only showed his face on the last day and no one knew of his whereabouts during the first four days. Four days is enough for him to go to the academy to steal the archives before heading back to the conference," said Director Xi mildly.

President Cao raised his head after he was done reading the file. Even though Director Xi made complete sense, the president disagreed. "If he had returned to the country, wouldn't the immigration department have records of his exit and entry? I don't recall seeing this in your file."

President Cao did not have blind faith in Huo Yulin, but the ministry could not pin the blame on Huo Yulin without enough evidence to support it. By doing this, they were just giving the true culprit the chance to get away with it.

After all, it was not easy for the academy to find talent.

"I have checked Huo Yulin's files. He was from T5 Research Institute and has been living abroad previously. If he is working as a foreign spy, it would make complete sense that he can enter and exit a country without leaving any records. Moreover, he can always falsify information." Director Xi pursed his lips.

### **Chapter 1323: Huo Yulin Was A Suspect**

President Cao went quiet briefly. He handed the file to the other people sitting in front of the desk so that they could have a look at it as well.

A couple of minutes later, President Cao glanced at the other professors and the vice president and asked. "What is your opinion?"

They looked at each other briefly before Huo Yulin's boss spoke up. "I think it can't be Huo Yulin. If he had stolen the research archives, he should have just disappeared. Why would he bother to come back and wait for us to catch him?"

Huo Yulin was usually busy working in the academy and hardly interacted with members from other teams, so people did not know him well enough to make a comment.

"Section Chief Shen makes sense. Since this is a matter of national security, everyone is a suspect until proven innocent," said the academy vice president.

"Oh yes. Yuan Huan, you even fought the guy. What's your opinion?"

Yuan Huan was not involved in the meeting. Since he was a witness, the academy president had invited him over.

Yuan Huan was looking at the files. When they asked for his opinion, he raised his head unhurriedly and replied. "In terms of physical traits, I agree Huo Yulin is a potential suspect."

Yuan Huan paused before he added. "I agree with Section Chief Shen as well. If he was the culprit, he didn't have to come back. Moreover, I think he's injured, so it might be hard for him to do it."

"Was he injured?" The academy president narrowed his eyes quizzically.

On the day the archives were stolen, the security guard captain fired a shot at the thief. Even though the security guard captain had hit the target, they were unable to apprehend him eventually.

If the culprit survived, he would have a gunshot wound on his chest.

Yuan Huan lowered his eyes. He nodded and replied to President Cao. "That's right. During the surgery, I noticed his hands were a little unsteady, so I reckon he is hurt in the chest."

Since he was a medical researcher, he could tell where people were injured.

The moment he heard what he said, President Cao recalled seeing Huo Yulin looking pale as well. Since someone from the Virus Research Institute needed his help, he did not probe the matter.

Director Xi noticed something amiss with President Cao. He raised his brow and asked. "Do you have any suspicions?"

President Cao shook his head without saying anything.

If the culprit suffered a gunshot wound in the chest near the heart, it seemed unlikely for him to be able to take flights after undergoing a three-hour surgery.

Since Yuan Huan had claimed that Huo Yulin had injured his chest, he could not help feeling suspicious.

Moreover, the security team concluded that it was probably a team effort. Someone was sent to distract them while another team stole the research archives.

The research archives were very valuable and it would spell catastrophe if they fell into foreign hands.

They would rather hand the suspects over to the Ministry of National Security than make any mistakes about this.

President Cao narrowed his eyes. He excused himself before he went over to the internal phone nearby and made a call.

Yuan Huan lowered his eyes and pursed his lips.

Before long, the security guard captain appeared in President Cao's office. President Cao pulled out Huo Yulin's records and looked at his photo.

"Didn't you shoot the culprit the other night? Can you look at this photo and think hard? Was he the guy?" President Cao pointed at the photo as he spoke.

## Chapter 1324: Capture

The security guard captain nodded before looking at the computer monitor. He narrowed his eyes looking at the image. When they found the culprit, the security guard captain had shone his flashlight on him and the culprit happened to look over. The security guard captain tried looking at the picture from a different angle.

Everyone in the meeting room looked at the security guard captain hoping he could say something conclusive about the suspect.

Two minutes later, the security guard captain was unable to make any headway. He turned to look at President Cao and finally responded. "Kind of, but not entirely."

President Cao narrowed his eyes.

The security guard captain hurriedly explained., "It happened late at night. Also, he was very far away and came in disguise. I can't be sure about it. If this is really the culprit I'm sure he has a penetrating gunshot wound on his chest."

He gestured to his heart as he spoke.

President Cao paused before he asked. "Do you think the guy has any chances of survival after you fired a shot at him?"

Since the security guard captain was hired by the academy, no one had any doubts about his abilities.

The security guard captain pondered briefly. "Very unlikely. Unless he has some kind of special physical condition causing his heart to be on the left side of his chest, it is unlikely he survived."

However, it was very hard to come across someone with this condition.

Director Xi was sitting nearby as he said, "I think we shouldn't bother making wild guesses. You can call him back now for questioning. No, wait. We shouldn't alert him to our investigation. Give me his address. I will make arrangements and keep an eye on him so that he can't run away."

Director Xi retrieved his phone from his pocket the moment he finished his sentence. Since there were signal jammers in the academy, he could only put away his phone.

President Cao looked at Director Xi and agreed with his plans. He opened his drawer and retrieved a pen and paper to write Huo Yulin's address on it.

Before long, Director Xi handed it to his subordinate and left.

The security guard captain also left the office. Just as he was about to leave through the door, he suddenly turned back and said, "President Cao, two months ago, someone broke into the medical supply store. We have made some headway."

Before President Cao was able to respond, Prof Gao suddenly stood up from the side and walked up in front of him. "Who did it?"

"The culprit doesn't belong to the academy." The security guard captain retrieved his phone from his pocket and blew up an image. "It was him."

The moment Prof Gao saw the photo, he recognized the face, but simply could not put a name to it.

He said, "I think he's from the Virus Research Institute, right? What is he doing with my team's medical solution?"

He recalled making the analysis solution just two months ago. Since it was produced on a small scale, they only had a few vials. When they discovered that one vial was missing, they requested an investigation to find the culprit.

During this time, the academy had also lost its research archives, so the matter slipped Prof Gao's mind.

President Cao frowned when he heard the culprit was from the Virus Research Institute. He told the security guard captain to show him the photo.

It was none other than Lei Xiao.

"How could it be him?" President Cao was puzzled.

Prof Gao raised his head and looked at President Cao. "Sir?"

President Cao raised his hand without saying a word. He kept looking at the picture at a loss.

A couple of days ago, Lei Xiao and the deputy director of the Virus Research Institute came over requesting help urgently.

The person whom they asked for was none other than Huo Yulin.

## **Chapter 1325: Serious Implications**

President Cao narrowed his eyes. After contemplating, he raised his head and asked the security guard captain, "Are you absolutely certain?"

The security guard captain nodded. "We've investigated this repeatedly looking for the culprit. We finally found some hair and confirmed the identity of the intruder."

President Cao suddenly raised his hand and rubbed his brow. Why was the Virus Research Institute involved in this?

Prof Gao thought about the solution belonging to research team 3 that got destroyed and suddenly opened his eyes wide. "Do you think it was the same guy who stole all our research archives?"

Yuan Huan raised his brow and looked at Prof Gao. He glanced at the security guard captain's phone and recalled losing a vial of analysis solution shortly after they had created a small batch.

Huo Yulin was taken away by someone from the Virus Research Institute. Yuan Huan lowered his eyes as he contemplated. Things were starting to get interesting.

These people had inadvertently cleared Yuan Huan of any suspicion.

Just excellent!

President Cao wasted no time. Without answering Prof Gao, he raised his head and said to Director Xi, "Director Xi, can you make arrangements to apprehend someone?"

He did not care what the Virus Research Institute was trying here. Now that they had trespassed on his territory, he was not going to let it slide.

Director Xi was in charge of investigating the missing research archives at the National Academy of Medicine, so he naturally had to bring in all suspects. He promptly gave the order to capture Lei Xiao the moment he received the request.

Before long, Director Xi left the office.

Since the matter had serious implications, President Cao said nothing. After Director Xi was gone, he told Prof Gao and the academy vice president to stay behind in his office.

Prof Gao could no longer suppress his suspicions. He said, "Does this mean someone from the Virus Research Institute took our archives?"

President Cao leaned into his seat backrest with a serious look on his face. He paused for a couple of minutes before he replied. "Perhaps."

Without ironclad evidence, anything was possible.

"Why do they want our archives? Are they secretly doing some kind of research?" The vice president felt puzzled.

The academy's most top secret research revolved around mutation. Was the Virus Research Institute interested in the subject too?

"I'm not sure either. I'm going to the Virus Research Institute now." President Cao pondered and answered.

No one knew if a single person or if the entire Virus Research Institute was behind this, so President Cao had to still figure this out.

"Shall I come along with you?" The academy vice president looked at President Cao.

"Okay then. We can't go public with this until we confirm the truth. Prof Gao, you have to keep it a secret first," reminded President Cao as he stood up.

Prof Gao nodded. "Got it."

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Meanwhile, at the Virus Research Institute.

Director Xi was a quick worker. The moment he received the intel, he went to the Virus Research Institute promptly.



Meanwhile, Lei Xiao was still in the laboratory.

After the Ministry of National Security officials explained the reason they were doing here, everyone was at a loss.

The deputy director had just visited the academy a few days ago with Lei Xiao. He scratched his head quizzically as he looked at the ministry official. "Something must be wrong. How could he be guilty of stealing the academy's research archives?"

"If you want to prove his innocence, he has to come to the Ministry of National Security. I'm sure we'll learn the truth after some interrogation." A serious look appeared on the law enforcement officer's face when he replied.

### **Chapter 1326: Lei Xiao Scapegoated**

The director and deputy director looked at each other. They knew what it meant to get interrogated by the Ministry of National Security. The suspects would undergo the cruelest tortures and even the innocent could end up getting blamed for crimes they did not commit.

Everyone knew Lei Xiao's personality well. The ministry officials were accusing him of stealing academy research archives but it made no sense at all.

The Ministry of National Security was directly involved in the investigation. The director of the Virus Research Institute suspected that they were unable to find the true culprit within the academy, so they turned their eyes towards them hoping to find a scapegoat.

Lei Xiao was the perfect fall guy.

He was a researcher at the Virus Research Institute. The moment Lei Xiao was found guilty, the implications would be very serious and it would affect the entire institute. The institute would become a laughingstock.

"Without iron-clad evidence, how can the ministry arrest him?" The director disregarded the law enforcement officer's attitude and spoke calmly.

People from the Ministry of National Security were proud people, so the law enforcement officer simply pursed his lips, removed his phone from his pocket, and said, "If it's evidence you want, I'm happy to show it to you."

The law enforcement officer tapped on the evidence gathered by the academy's security guard captain and showed it to the director.

As the director and deputy director went through the investigation results, the law enforcement officer walked up in front of the window unhurriedly. He stood with his back facing them as he raised his hand to tap on the mike at his collar and said coldly, "Take him."

Despite standing with his back against the director, the law enforcement officer's voice could be heard clearly. As he spoke, the director and deputy director raised their heads to look at him.

The law enforcement officer did not turn around. He was dressed in a dark green uniform and looked untouchable.

The director and deputy director knew that it was impossible to change their fates now.

Meanwhile, another law enforcement officer entered the room with an institute researcher behind him.

“Sir, we have just questioned a witness.”

The law enforcement team leader finally turned after hearing what his subordinate said.

The moment the director and deputy director saw the researcher entering the room, they frowned in annoyance.

“Sun, what did you say to them?” asked the director.

Sun was a junior researcher at the institute. He looked at the director distractedly as he spoke in an evasive tone. “Nothing much. When they asked me about Lei Xiao, I thought they found out he was researching radiation, so I told them everything I knew.”

Radiation was officially banned for research at the Virus Research Institute and all other government-related research establishments.

Sun expected a promotion last year, but Lei Xiao had stolen the opportunity from him. When the Ministry of National Security started investigating the matter, he could not resist bringing this up.

The director felt very annoyed upon hearing about this. Regardless of the truth, the Ministry of National Security would now have an excuse to take suspects from the Virus Research Institute.

Someone had stolen the National Academy of Medicine’s research archives. Now, someone was caught researching a banned subject. Things were undoubtedly in chaos.

The director felt Sun was as dumb as a pig. He wanted the promotion so badly that he did not consider the implications of these accusations.

How could Sun mention this to the Ministry of National Security?

The law enforcement team leader glanced at Sun before looking at Director Wang.

He said airily, “Did someone try to do radiation research? I didn’t know you had it in you.”

## **Chapter 1327: A Friend Of Mine**

Director Wang tensed up and answered. “We have already destroyed all the material related to radiation research. I’m sure Sun made a mistake.”

“Another mistake? Director Wang, do you think I’m a fool?” asked the law enforcement team leader as he smiled and responded.

The director promptly said, “You’re mistaken. That was not what I meant.”

The law enforcement team leader was starting to lose his patience and did not want to waste time talking to them. He raised his head and interrupted the director. "Say no more. I have to take him today. He's now suspected of stealing academy research archives and conducting radiation research. Both of them are punishable by the law. This is a completely reasonable request."

Sun finally realized the severity of the problem. He did not know about the theft of academy research archives. He paused briefly before he explained. "Then again, maybe I was mistaken."

The law enforcement team leader glanced at Sun before instructing his subordinate. "Take this guy as well along with the evidence."

"Yes, Sir." His subordinate nodded. Before Sun was able to say a word, he was forcibly taken out of the office.

Director Wang and the deputy director looked at the door worriedly as they left.

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Meanwhile, at the laboratory.

Lei Xiao walked away from the microscope rubbing his brow. He went over to a square table by the side and flipped through a mountain of drafts. Since he was a little frustrated, he crushed the paper into a ball and tossed it into the trash can.

When his colleague saw Lei Xiao's reaction, he shook his head. He set aside his work, walked to the side, and retrieved a piece of tissue for Lei Xiao. "It is naturally hard to isolate the virus. Patience, my friend."

Lei Xiao thanked him for the tissue and wiped the sweat from his forehead. He said, "It is not about patience. The virus is simply too strong. Shortly after the molecular structure has been isolated, it will synthesize into a new virus. This is the first time I have ever seen this happen."

His colleague looked at him solemnly. "I agree. If it is not handled appropriately, it might bring about catastrophe. Oh yes. Did you ask your friend? What did he say?"

Lei Xiao cleared his throat and replied. "My friend's a little busy, but promised to get back to me as soon as possible after looking at the data."

His colleague nodded. "In that case, let's wait for him to call..."

Before he was able to finish his sentence, the laboratory door opened interrupting him.

His colleague automatically stopped talking. The two of them raised their heads and looked at the entrance.

Lei Xiao frowned when they saw a few unfamiliar faces standing at the door. He turned back to check the virus samples stored in airtight isolators. He finally turned to look at the men at the entrance and asked. "Who are you? This is the lab. Don't you know we're handling dangerous things? How could you just enter without telling us first?"

The law enforcement officer at the lead held up his pass. "I'm from the Ministry of National Security. Are you Lei Xiao?"

What was an officer from the Ministry of National Security doing here?

Lei Xiao paused briefly before taking a couple of steps forward. "I'm Lei Xiao. Why do you want to see me?"

"You will find out soon enough after you come with me." The moment he finished his sentence, the law enforcement officer stepped forward and grabbed Lei Xiao by the arm without giving him a chance to speak.

Since Lei Xiao was a researcher, it was useless for him to put up a struggle against Ministry of National Security officials. He did not even have the time to shout for help before they apprehended him. In a matter of minutes, he was taken away in a black-modified car.

They also cuffed him without so much as letting him change out of his special protective gear.

Lei Xiao's colleague hurriedly went looking for the director. After speaking to the director, he finally found out why Lei Xiao was taken away.

## **Chapter 1328: Help**

"This is hilarious. Why would Lei Xiao steal the academy's research archives?" said the employee of the Virus Research Institute the moment he heard what Director Wang had said.

He had been partners with Lei Xiao for years, so he knew Lei Xiao well.

Director Wang pressed his brow before he asked, "Do you know that he has been conducting radiation research?"

"Radiation? Aren't we banned from doing such research? Why would he conduct radiation research?" His colleague felt that it was nonsense.

"Sun said he saw Lei Xiao going through radiation research files," explained Director Wang.

The colleagues scoffed the moment he heard Sun's name. "Last year, he did not get selected for promotion, and kept thinking that Lei Xiao stole his promotion. He's a narrow-minded man. How could you trust someone like him?"

Sun was just using the opportunity to get back at Lei Xiao.

Director Wang smiled sadly. "Sun and Lei Xiao have both been taken back to the ministry. Even if Sun was trying to cause trouble, Lei Xiao will probably take the fall for it."

In the adult world, power was everything. Without power, lots of terrible things could happen to you.

"What should we do now? Lei Xiao and I are in the middle of researching a special virus. I can't go on without him. Also, Lei Xiao has a brilliant friend helping us. If something happens to him now, it is as good as losing two good researchers for the institute."

The Virus Research Institute seriously lacked talent. Lei Xiao's friend had helped them avoid catastrophe with one of their projects, and that's how Lei Xiao got promoted in the process.

Moreover, Lei Xiao was good at his job.

Director Wang felt even more worried the moment his subordinate brought up Lei Xiao's mysterious friend. "Do you know the real reason he was arrested?"

Lei Xiao's colleague looked at Director Wang quizzically.

"Lei Xiao was implicated by his friend." Director Wang had just learned from the deputy director that Lei Xiao's friend was from the National Academy of Medicine.

Lei Xiao's colleague froze briefly before he asked. "Who is this mysterious friend of his anyway?"

Director Wang parted his lips wanting to share this information when a knock sounded at the door. He promptly turned to look at the entrance and said, "Come in."

"Sir, someone from the National Academy of Medicine is here to see you."

Director Wang paused for a couple of seconds before waving at the door. "Got it. Send them to the conference room. I'll be right over."

"Yes, Director Wang."

Before long, Director Wang ended the conversation and got up. "Someone from the academy is here. I have to go see them."

Lei Xiao's colleague nodded.

Before long, he left the office sadly. He went to see the section chief to check if anything could be done to scoop Lei Xiao out of the Ministry of National Security, but the section chief was powerless as well.

Since they were taken away by the ministry, it was hard for him to ever come out.

People tended to be very practical. Lei Xiao could consider himself lucky that no one attempted to hit him while he was down, but it was unlikely anyone would help.

Lei Xiao's colleague went back to his office in the evening and headed to the changing room before leaving the institute.

After he was done changing and was putting his things in the cabinet, he could hear a phone ringing from inside the cabinet.

Lei Xiao had placed his phone with his clothing and it was ringing.

His colleague paused briefly before taking the phone out.

The caller ID appearing on the phone was showing up as 'Genius'.

Lei Xiao's colleague knew it was Lei Xiao's mysterious friend. He thought about the things Director Wang had told him earlier this afternoon. After hesitating briefly, he answered the phone.

## Chapter 1329: Conditions For Saving Him

A cold female voice could be heard over the phone the moment the call got through.

"I have sent you the formula. You mentioned how the virus keeps automatically synthesizing. I need more time to think about it. Call you back when I figure it out."

The moment Lei Xiao's colleague heard the woman's voice, he was stunned.

He had the impression it was a man.

Why was it a woman? Also, the voice sounded very young. She was clearly a young woman.

Lei Xiao's colleague's lips twitched. He did not see this coming at all.

It was simply unfathomable!

After Huo Yao was done talking, no one answered, so she asked quizzically. "Lei Xiao? Are you there?"

Lei Xiao's colleague snapped out of his thoughts and hurriedly said, "Hi. I'm not Lei Xiao. I work with him."

Was he a colleague?

Huo Yao narrowed her eyes and asked. "Is Lei Xiao busy?"

"Nope. Something happened to him." Since he had heard so much about Lei Xiao's mysterious friend all these years, Lei Xiao's colleague said candidly, "Someone from the Ministry of National Security took him in the afternoon. I don't know what happened to him."

No wonder he did not reply to Huo Yao's text message earlier.

Huo Yao was leaning against the headboard languidly. The moment she heard what he said, she was unable to relax and the atmosphere turned tense.

"Why did the ministry take him?" asked Huo Yao.

"I thought you knew about it." He thought about the things Director Wang had mentioned this afternoon.

Lei Xiao got implicated by his mysterious friend.

Huo Yao said, "Do you mean he was picked up because of the academy?"

"Uh huh. The academy lost its research archives and someone told the ministry of officials that he was secretly researching radiation, so he was taken away." Since Lei Xiao's colleague did not have all the details, he could not provide any more information.

Huo Yao promptly knew what Lei Xiao's colleague was talking about. She replied. "Thanks for letting me know."

"You are welcome. He has been taken by the ministry now and I don't know what's going to happen to him. I heard the people in there are brutal," remarked Lei Xiao's colleague as he sighed.

Huo Yao naturally knew the people in the ministry were ruthless. After all, she had the good fortune of getting taken by them before. She contemplated briefly and replied. "I will try and scoop him out of there, but I might need your help."

The moment Lei Xiao's colleague heard what she said, he responded happily. "Just tell me what you need."

"Not just you. I meant plural." Huo Yao corrected him.

Lei Xiao's colleague thought about everyone's attitude toward the situation earlier today. Everyone kept avoiding the subject including the director. He laughed sadly and said, "I can help, but I can't say the same..."

Even before he finished his sentence, Huo Yao knew what he was driving at. She looked at the door when she heard it opening. She said calmly, "I can help you analyze the virus structure."

Lei Xiao's colleague tightened his grip on the phone. Her offer was very tempting. After going quiet for half a minute, he said, "Deal. I will speak to the director about it now."

Huo Yao was confident that they would help, so she acknowledged mildly before hanging up the phone.

When Min Yu opened the door, he caught the serious look on Huo Yao's face. He took a chair and sat down by the bed. After glancing at the phone in her hand, he asked casually. "Who were you talking to?"

"Lei Xiao got taken by the Ministry of National Security," said Huo Yao candidly. She put away her phone and picked up her laptop from the bedside table.

Min Yu knew that Huo Yulin was saved by Lei Xiao. He leaned against the seat backrest gently and asked. "Was it because of your third older brother?"

"Uh huh. He was scapegoated," answered Huo Yao in a soft tone as she swiftly typed on the keyboard.

### **Chapter 1330: A Mistake To Touch Her**

Huo Yulin did not steal the academy's research archives. This meant the genuine culprit was trying to muddy the waters and get away with it.

The culprit wanted to touch her friend. He undoubtedly had a death wish.

Huo Yao quickly hacked into the academy's network and accessed the surveillance footage from the previous night.

Min Yu raised his brow watching her work. He said, "Don't worry about the ministry. I will keep an eye on it."

“Okay.”

Huo Yao did not turn down Min Yu’s offer. From her observations, she could tell the Ministry of National Security respected him a lot.

Lei Xiao would suffer less with Min Yu’s help.

Min Yu nodded. Since she was busy on the computer, he did not continue talking.

Huo Yao closed her laptop 10 minutes later. She contemplated briefly before taking out her phone to send Chen Ming a couple of text messages.

\*

Post dinner, Chen Ming came over slightly after 7:00 pm.

Min Yu was still in the hospital ward. Chen Ming greeted him before standing beside the bed looking at Huo Yao without saying a word.

Min Yu glanced at them before he got up from the couch. “You can have the room.”

Huo Yao leaned against the headboard casually. She acknowledged him and added enthusiastically. “Have an early night then.”

Min Yu raised his brow the moment he heard her tone. What was she planning to do behind his back?

Since she had no intention of telling him the truth, he simply shook his head. “Watch your back.”

Huo Yao’s eyes glinted slightly before veering her eyes and responding insistently. “What could possibly go wrong in the hospital?”

Min Yu smiled ambiguously.

Huo Yao cleared her throat awkwardly.

Before long, only Huo Yao and Chen Ming remained in the room.

Chen Ming finally said, “People from the ministry went over to Young Master Yulin’s private residence and are still waiting there.”

Huo Yao tapped her fingers nonchalantly with her legs crossed. “I see. Don’t worry about them. What about the academy?”

“Someone by the name of Yuan Huan is stirring shit. He found out Young Master Yulin was injured, so he reported it to the ministry officials,” said Chen Ming.

Huo Yao nodded with her eyes bereft of warmth. She paused briefly before she asked. “Where is he now?”

“He has been at the academy the entire time,” replied Chen Ming.

“Keep a watch on him,” said Huo Yao mildly.

Chen Ming nodded. “Got it.”



He paused before pointing next door. "What about Young Master Yulin? Are we telling him about this?"

Huo Yao waved her hand. "We can tell him after it's settled."

"Okay then. In that case, I'm heading off first. When Yuan Huan comes out, you'll be the first to know."

"Okay."

After Chen Ming left the hospital ward, Huo Yao held onto her phone without playing with it. She simply leaned against the headboard lazily. It was impossible to tell what she was thinking.

\*

Yuan Huan walked out of the laboratory at slightly past 10:00 pm. After saying goodbye to Prof Gao and the others, he headed straight to the underground parking lot.

It was very quiet in the parking lot and only a few cars were left in it.

Yuan Huan rubbed his brow as he retrieved his car keys from his pants pocket with his other hand. He had over-exerted himself today, and clearly looked exhausted.

Yuan Huan sat inside the car and rested his eyes slightly. After he was feeling better, he shook his head and started the engine.

Before long, the car drove out of the academy.

Since it was late at night, there were hardly any cars out in the streets. Yuan Huan looked outside the window before pressing the autopilot button.