

Pill Maker 1401

Chapter 1401: Deputy Chairman Qin Has Medication From The Shangguan Clan

Zhuo Yun had just dropped Old Mr. Pei at the Pei residence.

“Why don’t you come in and have a bite before going back?” asked Old Mr. Pei without getting out of the car immediately.

Zhuo Yun received a text message. He was about to retrieve his phone when he heard Old Mr. Pei’s kind offer. He turned his head back and declined the offer politely. “No thanks, Old Mr. Pei. I still have to work.”

He did not insist. “Ok then. Maybe next time.”

“Uh huh.” Zhuo Yun nodded.

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Old Mr. Pei opened the car door and got out of the vehicle.

Zhuo Yun veered his eyes after Old Mr. Pei had entered the residence. He looked at his phone and replied to Huo Yao’s text message: [Are you saying this might be Shangguan Yu?]

Perhaps Huo Yao did not have her phone with her, so she did not reply immediately. Zhuo Yun could only suppress his curiosity, started the car, and drove off.

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Pei Rong had come home after sending his father to Min Yu’s villa. Ever since Pei Rong got home, he had been waiting in the living room. When he heard the door opening, he instinctively raised his head and looked over immediately.

Old Mr. Pei walked in with a worried look on his face. Judging from the frown on his face, he was clearly very concerned.

Pei Rong could not help speculating about Min Yu’s condition. He got up and fetched Old Mr. Pei a glass of warm water. “Dad, how’s Young Master Min? Is it bad?”

Old Mr. Pei snapped out of his thoughts and looked at Pei Rong. Just as he was about to say yes, he paused briefly and changed his mind about his words. He shook his head and replied. “Nope. It’s not as bad as it sounds.”

He composed himself and took the glass of water from Pei Rong without looking at him. He simply walked up to the couch slowly and took a seat.

Pei Rong contemplated as he looked at Old Mr. Pei.

He knew Old Mr. Pei’s personality well. His father had problems keeping his feelings a secret.

If Old Mr. Pei had told Pei Rong that Min Yu was seriously ill, Pei Rong might stop to wonder if it were true. Since his father looked like he was hiding something from him, something serious must have happened to Min Yu.

Moreover, his father was an honest man, so he was not good at lying. As his son, he could instinctively tell right away that something was wrong.

Min Yu was probably extremely sick.

Pei Rong pondered as he walked over to the couch and sat down across from Old Mr. Pei. He nodded and said, "I'm glad Young Master Min is fine. I was worried that the Min family might hold us accountable since you had helped in treating the patient. I even went to ask Deputy Chairman Qin if he had any suitable medicine for this."

"I see," Old Mr. Pei replied patronizingly, holding his glass. Before long, he raised his head and looked at Pei Rong in surprise. "Does he?"

Judging from his father's reaction, Pei Rong knew that he was spot on. He narrowed his eyes and paused briefly before he replied. "I suppose you know about the Shangguan clan, right?"

Old Mr. Pei's eyes lit up the moment Pei Rong mentioned the Shangguan family.

Pei Rong veered his eyes and looked at his feet as he sat with his legs crossed. He continued softly. "Deputy Chairman Qin has meds from the Shangguan clan. As you know, they are renowned for their medical abilities, so I'm sure their meds are good. Perhaps there is hope for Young Master Min if we can get our hands on those meds."

Old Mr. Pei naturally knew about the Shangguan clan. The Min family had been searching for the Shangguan clan as well, but to no avail, so Old Mr. Pei always thought their reputation was just hearsay.

When he recently learned about the Shangguan clan's medication showing up at an underground auction in the capital, he finally decided that they were legitimate.

If they had access to medication made by the Shangguan clan, perhaps there was hope for Young Master Min.

A look of hope emerged on Old Mr. Pei's face but after a few moments, he asked candidly. "Does he really have the meds?"

Chapter 1402: Admission

Pei Rong knew that his father was bound to ask this question. He pursed his lips and nodded. "I think it's probably true. As I mentioned, Deputy Chairman Qin is a very well-connected man. Why would he lie about this?"

When Pei Rong confirmed that Qin Zheng had the medication, Old Mr. Pei was thrilled. The moment he thought about Qin Zheng's questionable integrity, he swiftly started to lose hope.

If the medication was in Qin Zheng's hands, it might not be entirely good news.

Old Mr. Pei did not forget that the news about Min Yu's condition had come from Pei Rong and his source was Deputy Chairman Qin.

After connecting the dots, he felt Deputy Chairman Qin might be plotting something.

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He suddenly raised his head and looked at Pei Rong with a solemn look on his face. "Give it to me straight. Are you involved with Qin Zheng? Did you collude with him?"

Pei Rong must have deliberately told Old Mr. Pei about Min Yu's relapse before informing him that Deputy Chairman Qin had the medication. He wanted to use him to pass the message to Min Yu to get what they wanted.

Pei Rong did not expect his father to catch onto his plot so quickly, so he instantly looked uneasy. He quickly shook his head and denied his actions. "Nope. You're overthinking it. How could anyone be capable of touching Young Master Min?"

"I might be old, but I'm not stupid, right?" Old Mr. Pei was disappointed.

Pei Rong had suddenly stopped him from going home without any reason, but it all made sense now. He was doing it to satisfy his own greed.

"I really didn't do it." Pei Rong automatically wanted to deny his actions, but when he saw the stern knowing look on his father's face, he could not bring himself to go on.

Pei Rong veered his head and went quiet for a few seconds before he finally made an admission. "Yes, I did it. You forced me into this position!"

If Old Mr. Pei had agreed to help him get the ancient prescriptions from Huo Yao, he would never have had to do this.

Old Mr. Pei was stunned. He did not expect his son to blame it on him. He asked tremblingly. "Me? When did I force you to do this?"

"You knew Deputy Chairman Qin was determined to get his hands on Huo Yao's prescriptions, but you refused to help and even warned her about it. What else could I do?" The more Pei Rong spoke, the more agitated he became.

When Old Mr. Pei heard his son blaming him, the blood vessels in his head were nearly going to explode. His mind went blank. If he was not sitting on the couch, he might have collapsed onto the ground by now.

After some time, his lips shivered and he said, "Does this mean the two of you did this so that you could get your hands on Huo Yao's prescriptions?"

Then again, what else could Deputy Chairman Qin want from Huo Yao other than her prescriptions?

Min Yu and Huo Yao were close, so he was naturally the perfect target.

Pei Rong veered his head and did not dare to look at his father's disappointed face. He said coolly, "Yes, we did. What's the big deal anyway? It won't kill her to give up the prescriptions, right?"

Was it really no big deal?

Old Mr. Pei inhaled deeply as he leaned into the seat backrest with teary eyes and looked at the ceiling sadly.

How could his son be capable of doing this? Did he have no ethics?

Old Mr. Pei squeezed his hands tightly as he looked at Pei Rong. He suppressed the pain in his chest and felt frail and powerless. "Can you listen to me this one time and just drop it?"

His voice sounded imploring as he made the statement.

Chapter 1403: No Regret

Pei Rong pursed his lips and replied without hesitation. "No way."

He had already gone against the Min family, so it was impossible for him to back out halfway. It was all too late now.

From the moment he had taken the incense from Deputy Chairman Qin, he was on the path to no return.

If he backed out now, Deputy Chairman Qin would not take it well.

Pei Rong composed himself. He did not want to continue talking to his father or listen to his accusations.

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He stood up and said candidly, "I don't want to argue with you. Don't you get it? It's useless now. If Min Yu wants the meds, Huo Yao has to give her prescriptions to Deputy Chairman Qin in exchange for them."

Pei Rong stated in a cool tone.

Old Mr. Pei parted his lips. He knew there was no talking Pei Rong out of this, so he decided to stop responding and closed his eyes.

He paused briefly before something dawned on him. He called out to Pei Rong. "I have one last question for you. Were you behind Young Master Min's relapse?"

Pei Rong clenched his fists slightly before he turned to look at Old Mr. Pei calmly. It was impossible to tell what Pei Rong was genuinely thinking. "No, I wasn't. Why would I do that? He just happened to be sick and Deputy Chairman Qin just happened to be presented with the opportunity to exchange the meds for Huo Yao's prescriptions."

Old Mr. Pei looked at the calm look on Pei Rong's face and did not know whether he should trust Pei Rong and continue lying to himself. He said sadly, "I certainly hope you won't regret doing this."

"Never." Pei Rong clenched his fists with a ruthless look on his face.

The moment he finished his sentence, he strode out of the living room.

Old Mr. Pei leaned into the couch backrest powerlessly. Even though his chest did not feel good, it could not compare to his disappointment he felt about his son.

If he did not come to the capital, perhaps Pei Rong would never have done this.

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After thinking about the matter all night, Old Mr. Pei sent a text message to Huo Yao the next morning.

He knew Huo Yao was still in class, so he simply invited her to meet at a restaurant near the campus at lunch.

Huo Yao assumed that Old Mr. Pei wanted to talk about Min Yu's illness. When it was 11:30 in the morning, she went over to meet him.

Old Mr. Pei had gotten a private room. After the waiter was gone, Huo Yao noticed that he seemed pale, so she asked. "Are you okay? Shall I take your pulse?"

Old Mr. Pei smiled and waved his hand. "I'm fine. I was just unable to sleep last night."

Huo Yao studied his face and pondered before she said, "You shouldn't keep worrying yourself over his condition."

The moment she brought up Min Yu's condition, a sad look emerged on Old Mr. Pei's face. He got straight to the point of asking to see Huo Yao today. "I heard something and it might help with Young Master Min's condition."

Huo Yao was holding her teacup, but her hand froze as she looked at Old Mr. Pei quizzically. She waited for him to go on.

"Deputy Chairman Qin from the Apothecaries' Association has some medicine which might help with Young Master Min's condition." Old Mr. Pei paused briefly before he told her about the medication from the Shangguan clan which Qin Zheng possessed.

Huo Yao looked puzzled after hearing this. She was tapping her fingers on the table, but she stopped and asked. "Old Mr Pei, do you mean Deputy Chairman Qin knows someone from the Shangguan clan?"

He thought about the look on Pei Rong's face when his son told him about it yesterday. He nodded and replied. "Probably."

Huo Yao instantly smiled. Shangguan Yu had never shown her face in the capital, but imposters kept pretending to be her.

It was starting to get intriguing.

Chapter 1404: The Mastermind

Old Mr. Pei was stunned when Huo Yao suddenly smiled.

The grin on her face undoubtedly looked strange.

Huo Yao stopped looking at Old Mr. Pei. She slowly picked up the teacup and took a sip and stopped asking about the Shangguan clan. "What does Deputy Chairman Qin want in exchange?"

Old Mr. Pei did not expect Huo Yao to catch his drift so quickly. He smiled sadly and replied. "He wants your prescriptions."

Huo Yao seemed unsurprised. She already saw this coming.

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"I'm so embarrassed by my son. How could he work for Qin Zheng? He is an unscrupulous man."

Old Mr. Pei did not know much about Qin Zheng and had only seen him in person a couple of times. Judging from his obsession with Huo Yao's prescriptions, and his unscrupulous methods, he could tell Qin Zheng was an unprincipled man.

Huo Yao looked at Old Mr. Pei calmly. "I know." She paused before she raised her head and looked at Old Mr. Pei. "If I'm not mistaken, you must have heard about Min Yu's relapse from Deputy Chairman Qin, right?"

This time, Old Mr. Pei did not hide the truth. "Uh huh."

Huo Yao nodded. Zhuo Yun had previously described the way Min Yu's illness had come back. From the looks of it, Qin Zheng must be behind this.

The culprit had to know about Min Yu's sickness. Only someone with deep medical knowledge was capable of identifying Min Yu's illness and using the right medicine against Min Yu to make him suffer a relapse.

Qin Zheng must be working for someone. Huo Yao narrowed her eyes and felt curious about the true mastermind behind all this.

Old Mr. Pei glanced at Huo Yao and noticed a serious look on her face, but he could not tell what she was thinking. After some time, he said hesitantly, "Now, only these meds made by the Shangguan clan can save Young Master Min, so you have to..."

Huo Yao gathered her thoughts and said, "If Deputy Chairman Qin genuinely knows someone from the Shangguan clan, he would have no need for my prescriptions."

Old Mr. Pei was stunned. He was preoccupied thinking about the Shangguan clan's medication, so this did not dawn on him. She was right. If Deputy Chairman Qin was connected to the Shangguan clan, it made no sense for him to want Huo Yao's prescriptions.

She was correct. It did not make sense.

“No matter what, we’re desperate.” Old Mr. Pei parted his lips hesitantly. Just as he was about to speak, the private room door opened and the waiter entered to bring in the food.

Old Mr. Pei promptly stopped talking.

After the waiter was done, he left the private room. Huo Yao naturally knew what he was getting at. She picked up her chopsticks and asked. “Old Mr. Pei, when do you plan on going back?”

Old Mr. Pei did not understand why Huo Yao was asking this. “Not yet.”

Huo Yao took some pork ribs and said, “Don’t worry about Min Yu. I will find a way to treat him. As for you, I suggest you go home as soon as you can.”

Old Mr. Pei did not pick up his chopsticks. He looked at Huo Yao and smiled sadly and shook his head. He knew exactly what Huo Yao was driving at.

Pei Rong was involved with Deputy Chairman Qin, so he naturally could not leave the capital peacefully.

But he also could not watch Pei Rong sink deeper and deeper into trouble.

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Huo Yao went back to school after lunch.

Liu Qian sent her a text message asking her to see him at the office when she got to the classroom.

“Mr. Liu, did you want to see me?” Huo Yao knocked on the office door before long.

Liu Qian raised his head and looked at the entrance. When he saw Huo Yao, he waved at her and gestured for her to enter. He turned the laptop around and showed her the screen. “I want to show you an email.”

Huo Yao came forward and glanced at him before looking at the laptop screen. “What email?”

Chapter 1405: Squeeze Money Out Of Them

Liu Qian smiled and asked. “Have you heard about DO Corporation before?”

Huo Yao took the mouse and wanted to scroll through the email. When she heard what Liu Qian said, she nearly lost grip of the mouse. She turned to look at him. “What do you mean?”

Judging from Huo Yao’s reaction, Liu Qian felt that she probably did not know about the company. He promptly explained. “DO Corporation has the most advanced AI technology in the world. They are the best in the internet trade.”

Huo Yao’s lips twitched. Sure enough, he was referring to the same company she knew about.

“They provide AI security services to the most powerful countries in the world. They’re in the middle of creating their fourth-generation AI robot, so they are very interested in our AI system, especially your database. They sent an email asking about this.”

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Liu Qian pointed at the mail the moment he finished his sentence.

As soon as Huo Yao heard about the reason for the email, she had an inkling of what the company wanted from them. Reading the email only served to confirm her thoughts.

“How did they know about our AI system research project?” asked Huo Yao after putting down the mouse.

“I’m equally puzzled. They simply mailed me out of the blue and asked me about it,” replied Liu Qian.

In reality, the email was sent a couple of days ago, but he only checked it today.

Initially, he suspected that it was a scammer. When he got to the contact information at the bottom of the email, he automatically called to check and confirmed that the email was legitimate.

It was genuinely from DO Corporation.

Huo Yao quietly glanced at Liu Qian. “What do you plan to do about it?”

“What kind of question is that?” Liu Qian was still reeling in joy from the company’s offer and did not have the opportunity to think deeper.

Huo Yao rubbed her brow and said, “We have to squeeze as much money as we can out of them.”

“Huh?” Liu Qian was caught by surprise. He promptly snapped out of his daze and could sense his face twitching.

Huo Yao had previously asked about monetary rewards for joining the research team, but he had forgotten about the incident.

“Nothing has been confirmed yet. We’re still working with the institute, so we have to at least finish that before we consider the offer. After all, we have signed a contract with them and there’s a confidentiality clause involved,” answered Liu Qian cautiously.

“Okay. Is that all then?” Huo Yao promptly lost interest in the conversation.

Liu Qian went speechless.

If anyone was in this position and received an offer from the biggest security company in the world, they would be thrilled by the prospect. Instead, Huo Yao only cared about money.

Liu Qian sighed depressingly. He stopped talking about the email and said, “The institute has used the revised system and confirms that there is no problem in using it.”

“Good.” Huo Yao nodded and seemed unsurprised.

“Even though it’s now compatible with their system, a few more minor adjustments are probably needed in the future. When that happens, you’ll have to go work in the institute,” said Liu Qian.

“Got it.”

Huo Yao thought about the institute's backward technology and felt it would take more than minor adjustments before everything could be settled.

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After her last class finished in the afternoon, Huo Yao sensed her phone vibrating in her pocket while she walked out of the building.

Min Yu was calling her.

Huo Yao answered the phone as she stepped out of the building.

A cool voice came from the phone. "Waiting for you outside your department."

Chapter 1406: A Warning

Huo Yao's brow twitched slightly and acknowledged him before hanging up the phone.

Before long, she walked out of the Biology department. She raised her head and saw the car parked by the roadside.

Min Yu was leaning against the car door lazily with his hand in his coat pocket while he spun his phone with the other. When he saw Huo Yao, he stood up straight.

"Aren't you supposed to be sick? Wouldn't you cause suspicion by showing up outside the school?" sneered Huo Yao softly as she approached him.

Min Yu put away his phone, opened the front passenger seat car door, and smiled ambiguously. "I have to make money if I want to marry you."

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Huo Yao's cheek twitched awkwardly. She got into the front passenger seat quietly.

Min Yu smiled. The smile on his face softened his features. After closing the front passenger car door, he got into the driver's seat.

Before long, he drove out of Tsing University.

"Oh yes. Old Mr. Pei came by to see me in the afternoon." Huo Yao played with the corner of her shirt nonchalantly. "He said Deputy Chairman Qin from the Apothecaries' Association has meds made by the Shangguan clan which might help with your sickness."

Min Yu paused for a couple of seconds and asked quizzically. "Why didn't Old Mr. Pei contact me directly?"

"Qin Zheng wants my prescriptions." Huo Yao shrugged and continued. "From the looks of it, someone probably made you fall sick for this reason."

Min Yu stepped on the brake since the red light was on. After the car stopped, he said, "That's not entirely true."

The culprit probably did it to give him a warning and wanted to take Huo Yao's prescriptions while they were at it.

After all, Min Yu had been searching high and low for the mastermind behind his condition. Now that the culprit suddenly resurfaced, it was clear what he wanted out of this.

Min Yu looked straight ahead with his hands on the steering wheel. "They don't want me to get involved with the Apothecaries' Association."

Huo Yao raised her brow and instantly caught his drift. "Is Qin Zheng worried you might help Chairman Wang?"

"Perhaps." Min Yu started driving once the light turned green. "Chairman Wang probably can't continue working as the chairman considering his poor health. Everyone is naturally eyeing his position."

Huo Yao nodded and looked out the car window. After chatting briefly, she realized they were not going back to the estate. She could not help turning to ask him. "Where are we going?"

"We're going for dinner," said Min Yu. His phone rang halfway as it sat nearby. He checked the caller ID before answering it.

It was a call from Zhuo Yun.

Huo Yao stopped talking.

Before long, the car pulled up at a posh restaurant. He had already reserved a private room, so the restaurant manager showed them to the room on the second floor the moment they got there.

After ordering their food, Zhuo Yun came over. He nodded and greeted Huo Yao. He disregarded her presence and spoke candidly to Min Yu. "Qin Zheng does have some special connections. He's linked to a company called Cutting Edge Group."

"Huh?" Min Yu narrowed his eyes. He pondered briefly but realized that he had never heard about the company before. "What else do you know about the company?"

Zhuo Yun handed the investigation report to Min Yu and said, "It's a headhunting company from overseas. They are involved in a lot of industries, but they keep a low profile in the market. All I know is that it's an ordinary company."

Since they were busy talking, no one noticed the look on Huo Yao's face when she heard about Cutting Edge Group.

Chapter 1407: A Lot of Family Businesses To Run

Min Yu finished reading the single-page report from Zhuo Yun and placed it on the table. He raised his head and said mildly, "If it's just an ordinary company, the intel you have found wouldn't be so clean."

Zhuo Yun nodded with a solemn look on his face. "I agree, so I sent someone to investigate them already. Sadly, the company is shrouded in secrecy, so it was hard to learn more."

"Since they exist, I'm sure it's just a matter of time before we find out the truth." Min Yu narrowed his eyes.

"Uh huh. I will get my men to keep an eye on them. Oh yes! The Apothecaries' Association is selecting a new chairman in a couple of days. Qin Zheng even invited several important names in the Chinese medicine industry over. I hear that they are going to vote and choose a new leader," said Zhuo Yun.

"Already?" Min Yu was stunned. On their way to the restaurant, Huo Yao and Min Yu were just chatting about the association.

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Huo Yao snapped out of her thoughts and raised her head to look at Zhuo Yun.

"Chairman Wang's condition is no secret in the association. I have to say, Qin Zheng is quite blatant about his intentions and his attempts to take down the current chairman. If he takes over as the chairman, god knows what the association will become," said Zhuo Yun sadly.

"In that case, we can't let him become the chairman," said Min Yu mildly.

Zhuo Yun's lips twitched. "What do you mean?"

Min Yu took a sip of tea and did not answer Zhuo Yun. Instead, he looked at Huo Yao sitting across from him. "I recall you are the deputy chairman of the Apothecaries' Association, right?"

Zhuo Yun promptly turned to look at Huo Yao inconceivably.

This was his first time hearing about this!

He had no idea that she was the deputy chairman of the Apothecaries' Association!

Huo Yao glanced at Min Yu. "Don't even think about it. I'm not interested."

Her voice was clearly filled with contempt.

"You can make money out of it." Min Yu raised his brow.

Huo Yao shrugged expressionlessly. "Do I look like a materialistic person to you?"

Zhuo Yun touched his nose quietly. He could not help feeling bewildered. "Miss Huo, are you really the deputy chairman of the Apothecaries' Association? I thought you had never gone to the association before, right?"

He recalled asking her about this when he collected the Chinese herbs for her from the association.

"Uh huh," replied Huo Yao. She explained calmly. "When you asked, it was true. I later got to know Chairman Wang, and he invited me to join the association as an honorary deputy chairman."

Complicated emotions swept through Zhuo Yun's heart. Huo Yao was now the deputy chairman of the Apothecaries' Association. He suddenly had a feeling that his boss was no longer good enough for her.

Huo Yao failed to detect the look on Zhuo Yun's face. She drank tea nonchalantly with her eyes lowered and said nothing.

Before long, the waiter entered the private room to serve the food. Since Zhuo Yun was done reporting matters to his boss, he made himself scarce and did not hang around to play the third wheel.

After Zhuo Yun was gone, Min Yu raised his head. "Are you really not interested?"

Huo Yao sighed and said powerlessly, "To be honest, I'm expected to take over a lot of family businesses and the documents are already sitting on my desk."

Min Yu felt puzzled.

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Meanwhile, at the Wang residence.

He Shu had refined pills using Huo Yao's prescriptions. He handed the end product to Chairman Wang. "Take a look at this."

Chairman Wang was a lot better now after Huo Yao had treated him, so he was able to get off the bed and walk a little. When he saw the pills, he could not help feeling impressed. "Even though they aren't as good as her pills, they are pretty decent."

He Shu replied in a reverent tone. "I could never compare to Miss Huo."

"That's true." Chairman Wang nodded.

He Shu went quiet.

Chairman Wang's phone rang, so He Shu walked over to fetch the phone. When he saw the caller ID flashing on the screen, he automatically frowned.

Chapter 1408: Responsibility

He Shu promptly rejected the call when he saw the name flashing on the phone.

"Who was that?" Chairman Wang failed to detect He Shu's actions and asked.

He Shu raised the phone in mid-air. "I think it was a scammer."

"Then just ignore it," replied Chairman Wang without a second thought.

"Uh huh. I already rejected the call." He Shu replaced the phone.

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Chairman Wang nodded. He thought about the Apothecaries' Association and asked. "Oh yes. How are things going at the association?"

He Shu felt relieved when the phone did not continue ringing. He poured Chairman Wang a glass of water and said, "Why don't you just focus on recovery and stop worrying about other things?"

Chairman Wang smiled as he shook his head. "I feel a lot better after taking Huo Yao's meds. I plan on going to the association tomorrow."

"Why do you suddenly want to go to the association?" He Shu instantly became worried.

Huo Yao had told him clearly that Chairman Wang could not afford to get agitated. The association was voting for a new chairman in a couple of days. If Chairman Wang learned what Qin Zheng had done, he would have trouble accepting it.

"To work." Chairman Wang narrowed his eyes. He was an old man and did not have much time left, so he could not leave the Apothecaries' Association in Qin Zheng's hands.

He Shu was not a good liar. After pausing briefly, he said, "If you have work to settle, you can call the other leaders of the association and get them to handle it. Why do you have to go to the association and do it personally?"

Chairman Wang finally detected something amiss with He Shu. He asked quizzically. "Are you hiding something from me?"

He Shu shook his head immediately. "Of course not. Why would I do that?"

Chairman Wang knew his disciple well. He quickly stood up and walked over to his phone.

He Shu was about to speak, but Chairman Wang had already swiped down to his assistant's phone number and dialed it.

In a few seconds, the call got through.

"Hi, Chairman Wang." Assistant Wang sounded surprised when he answered the phone.

"Uh huh," answered Chairman Wang before he asked. "Has anything happened at the association recently?"

Assistant Wang tightened his grip on the phone and hesitated.

He Shu had already warned him not to mention the upcoming voting event to Chairman Wang, but it was impossible to hide it from him. It was just a matter of time before he found out.

Assistant Wang contemplated for some time before he decided to be honest with the chairman and told him about the voting.

Assistant Wang knew how things worked in society. Since Chairman Wang was getting old, he had gradually lost value in the association. Even though Deputy Chairman Qin had offered Assistant Wang a job, he knew Deputy Chairman Qin would probably kick him aside the moment Chairman Wang's days at the association were over.

Rather than wait for Deputy Chairman Qin to get what he wanted, it was far wiser to fix the problem at its root now.

Even though Chairman Wang hardly reacted on hearing the news, he simply suppressed his emotions. He thanked Assistant Wang before hanging up the phone.

Chairman Wang stood where he was motionless after hanging up the phone. He Shu looked at Chairman Wang worriedly as he walked over and helped support him. "Are you okay?"

Chairman Wang raised his hand. "I'm fine. Qin Zheng wants to elect a new chairman. You should not have hidden it from me."

He Shu helped Chairman Wang to the couch and said, "I know they are choosing a new chairman, but I'm more concerned about your health."

Chairman Wang sighed softly. "It's my responsibility to do something about it."

He Shu did not know what to say. He paused briefly before he answered. "Qin Zheng is determined to take over your job. Even if you want to do something about it, it might not work out well for you."

Chapter 1409: Get Help

"Got it." Chairman Wang narrowed his eyes deeply and fell into contemplation. He turned to look at He Shu and said, "Call Young Master Min."

Qin Zheng's backer was not from the capital. If his backer was allowed to get involved in the matter, it was bound to tip the scales of power in the capital. This was no longer just about the Apothecaries' Association.

Since power was involved, they could not stand by and do nothing.

"I know you probably want the Min family to help." He Shu swiftly caught Chairman Wang's drift.

Chairman Wang nodded. "The Apothecaries' Association often works with the Min family. I'm sure they won't stand on the sidelines without helping us."

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"That's true, but I think Young Master Min is probably not in the position to help." He Shu sighed as he spoke.

Chairman Wang frowned. "Why not?"

"I heard that Young Master Min suffered a very bad relapse," said He Shu. He had gotten to know about this from Pei Rong. When he learned about Min Yu's situation, he changed his mind about getting the Min family to step in and help.

Chairman Wang was stunned. He knew about Min Yu's illness. "I recall he looked good when we saw him recently, right?"

"I don't know the details either. Why don't you call and ask tomorrow?" asked He Shu after pondering briefly.

Chairman Wang looked worried. "Why would he relapse at a time like this?"

If Min Yu could not get involved, Qin Zheng would definitely get his way in the association.

Chairman Wang leaned against the couch backrest quietly for some time. He checked his phone, swiped down his phone book, and looked for the numbers belonging to his peers in the Chinese medicine industry. He proceeded to call them one by one.

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The next day, at the Apothecaries' Association.

He Shu walked out of the conference room with a serious look on his face thinking about his conversation with Deputy Chairman Qin.

After reaching downstairs, he sat in the lobby. He contemplated as he held his phone tightly before finally giving Huo Yao a call.

He asked about Min Yu's condition and updated her about the situation at the Apothecaries' Association.

He Shu spoke hesitantly over the phone, but Huo Yao knew what he was trying to say. She paused and said, "I will send you Zhuo Yun's number later. He will help you."

He Shu was unacquainted with Zhuo Yun. Since Huo Yao had offered to give him Zhuo Yun's number, he was probably capable of helping, so he thanked her profusely.

Last night, Chairman Wang had spent all night calling his friends, but no one agreed to come forward.

In his time of need, his friends only cared about themselves and refused to help.

After hanging up the phone, He Shu received a text message from Huo Yao containing a number. He stared at the number for a few minutes and finally dialed it.

The call got through before long.

He Shu automatically straightened his body and said politely, "Hi, is this Mr. Zhuo? I'm Miss Huo's friend. She gave me your number."

Zhuo Yun had already received a text message from Huo Yao about this. He had planned on visiting Chairman Wang today, so he promptly agreed to help He Shu and made arrangements to meet him.

When he heard what the man said, He Shu gave him an address. "Sure, see you in 30 minutes."

After Zhuo Yun hung up the phone, He Shu finally put away his phone with a look of hope on his face. He was really dejected earlier, but felt a lot better now.

He Shu sighed and put away his phone and planned on leaving the association.

Pei Rong walked out of the lift and saw He Shu sitting in the corner of the lobby dejectedly. He paused briefly before walking toward He Shu.

Chapter 1410: She Was Not From The Shangguan Clan

He Shu stood and raised his head to see Pei Rong walking over. He frowned with a solemn look on his face promptly.

“You’re here.” Pei Rong strode over with a courteous smile on his face.

“Yes?” asked He Shu mildly.

Pei Rong did not take He Shu’s cold reaction to heart. He said in a normal tone, “I was looking for you. Why haven’t you signed the consent agreement yet?”

He Shu scoffed upon hearing this. “Chairman Wang is still the official chairman.”

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“Even if Chairman Wang hasn’t retired from office, his days are numbered.” Pei Rong sighed sadly.

“Everyone is supporting Deputy Chairman Qin’s promotion. If you go against him, you are putting your career at risk. Is it worth it?”

He Shu looked at Pei Rong coolly. “Chairman Wang is just fine.”

Pei Rong pursed his lips. He assumed that He Shu was just consoling himself and could not be bothered arguing the point any further with him. He simply smiled and said, “As a friend, I just want to warn you. Everyone is on Deputy Chairman Qin’s side. No matter who you call, no one can help you.”

He Shu’s hands were hanging from the sides of his body and he fiercely clenched his fists.

Chairman Wang had made many calls last night, but not a single person agreed to help. Qin Zheng had already gotten to those people before Chairman Wang did.

Pei Rong could tell that He Shu was suppressing his temper. He smiled and said, “You’re a smart man, so you should pick the right side.”

“No one’s going to stop you if you want to ingratiate yourself with Qin Zheng but you don’t have to shove it into my face.” He Shu relaxed his hands after mocking Pei Rong. He walked around Pei Rong and strode out.

Pei Rong watched from behind as He Shu left. He was so angry that he laughed out loud.

He Shu must be an idiot. Chairman Wang was no longer able to cover his back.

Pei Rong turned coldly and entered the lift. He took the lift and went straight to Deputy Chairman Qin’s office.

“It doesn’t matter if He Shu refuses to sign the consent agreement. It changes nothing.” Deputy Chairman Qin leaned against his chair as he spoke softly and did not take it to heart.

Pei Rong nodded. “From the looks of it, he probably couldn’t get anyone to help him.”

Deputy Chairman Qin was in a good mood. He tapped his fingers on his knee nonchalantly. “Who would dare to get involved? Not a single person in town would do it.”

Pei Rong smiled. “Even if He Shu tried to ask the Min family for help, they probably can’t do anything about it any longer.”

Deputy Chairman Qin looked at Pei Rong and raised his brow. “I have you to thank for this.”

If not for the incense, it would be hard for him to make Min Yu get a relapse.

Pei Rong spoke respectfully with his head lowered slightly. “I’m glad I could help. It was the least I could do.”

Deputy Chairman Qin liked smart men, but he could not help thinking about Huo Yao’s prescriptions and a serious look emerged on his face. “Did your father say anything?”

“My father went to see Huo Yao the other day. I doubt she will change her mind about giving you the prescriptions.” Pei Rong was worried that Deputy Chairman Qin might get angry, but he continued. “I’m concerned about Huo Yao. What if she’s able to cure Young Master Min?”

Deputy Chairman Qin narrowed his eyes and said, “Impossible.”

Pei Rong felt hesitant thinking about Huo Yao’s treatment of Fang Chen. “Just what if she could?”

“It’s simply impossible,” interrupted Deputy Chairman Qin confidently.

She was not from the Shangguan clan, so it was impossible for her to cure Min Yu.